

Kentucky Board of Education
December 9, 2015
Report from the Secretary
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

1. The Kentucky Work Ready Communities Program has reached a significant milestone. As of November 19, 2015, all 120 counties in the Commonwealth are now engaged in pursuing “Work Ready Community” status. Created in 2010 as part of the strategic plan of the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, the objective of the Work Ready Communities Program is to provide certification of a county’s workforce quality. It is an assurance to business and industry that the community is committed to providing a highly-skilled workforce required in today’s competitive global economy.

Kentucky has the most rigorous certification program in the nation to allow communities to demonstrate their workforce quality. The criteria include high school graduation rates, National Career Readiness Certificate holders, community commitment, educational attainment, soft skills development and Internet availability.

There are four levels of engagement with the following levels of involvement:

Certified Work Ready	25 counties
Certified Work Ready in Progress	39 counties
Letter of Intent Received	29 counties
Formative Stage	27 counties