

## **CPE President's Report to KBE Board**

**June 5, 2025**

**KAA Awards Advising Mini-Grants:** Six Kentucky K-12 public high schools and area technology centers were named the recipients of grants to support postsecondary readiness advising. The grants, reimbursable up to \$10,000, were awarded by the Kentucky Advising Academy (KAA), an initiative of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) in its efforts to support postsecondary advising and improve access to postsecondary opportunities in the state. Schools and districts receiving grants are: Adair County High School, Christian County School District, Hart County High School, iLead Academy (Carrollton), McCracken County High School, and Paducah Innovation Hub.

**SHEEO Basic Needs Academy:** Kentucky was one of seven states—along with Arizona, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Minnesota, and New York—selected to participate in a three-year initiative developed by SHEEO in partnership with the ECMC Foundation. The Basic Needs Academy supports state teams seeking to expand their capacity to integrate basic needs information into state postsecondary data systems. Each team will receive a \$60,000 sub-grant and will have access to coaches and content experts from the Coleridge Initiative, The Hope Center and WestEd's Data Integration Support Center throughout the project.

**CPE Wins Opioid Abatement Grant:** CPE is receiving a grant for \$488,676 from Kentucky's Opioid Abatement Commission to work with postsecondary institutions to provide trauma-informed recovery support services to adult learners impacted by opioid use disorder and co-occurring mental health challenges. The program will begin on July 1 and run for 12 months.

**GEAR UP KY Institute for a College-Going Culture:** The final GEAR UP institute in the current grant cycle was held April 16 at the Campbell House in Lexington, Kentucky. The theme was "Passing the Torch: Sustaining Student Success," and students, participating schools/districts, partnering postsecondary institutions and GEAR UP Kentucky staff were recognized for their accomplishments over the past seven years.

**“I’m IN!” Public Service Announcement:** GEAR UP Kentucky has launched the new “I’m IN!” public service announcement (PSA), featuring Kentucky high school seniors as they open their college acceptance letters and claim their future. The PSA, which debuted on #GEARUPworks Day (May 1), is airing statewide thanks to a partnership with the Kentucky Broadcasters’ Association’s Public Education Partnership program. The spot features real-life snapshots of Kentucky high school seniors opening their college acceptance letters and represents the different post-high school pathways that GEAR UP supports, from technical programs to four-year universities.

**Futuriti Adds Information about Aerospace & Aviation Careers :** Kentuckians have a new way to learn about the emerging [high-demand careers within the Commonwealth’s aerospace and aviation industry](#). Futuriti.org, the state’s career exploration website, now features [12 aerospace and aviation careers and nearly 40 Kentucky companies](#), with each job listing including a description, salary range, required credentials and projected state employment through 2032. This new feature of Futuriti was announced during a CPE webinar aimed at explaining Kentucky’s AERO Act (SB127), which was passed by the legislature to strengthen postsecondary-workforce collaborations to strengthen the pipeline of aviation professionals in Kentucky.

**CPE Board Meeting:** The next CPE board meeting will be held on June 12 at Shaker Village in Harrodsburg at 9 a.m. On June 11, the CPE board will hold its annual retreat, also at Shaker Village.