



The Official Newsletter for State Employees

June 2026

Featured News



Gov. Andy Beshear invites Kentuckians to Kentucky Celebrates America250, a free, daylong celebration of American history and Kentucky heritage on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. EDT on the Kentucky Historical Society campus in historic downtown Frankfort. The event will be followed by a fireworks finale set to music.

What's in this edition?

- Kentucky Celebrates America250
- Salary Increase
- Team Kentucky Early Learning Center
- LivingWell Promise & Open Enrollment Reminder
- Governor's Leadership Program
- High Temperatures Forecast
- Mid-Year Reviews

For the event lineup and more information, visit history.ky.gov.

Attendees are encouraged to start their July 4 weekend on Friday, July 3, in downtown Frankfort at the Liberty Hall America250 Music Festival. Details are available at visitfrankfort.com.



Salary Increase: Effective July 1, 2026

Gov. Beshear is excited to announce that pursuant to House Bill (HB) 500, state employees will receive a 2% increase, effective July 1, 2026! Details are provided below.

What does the salary increase mean?

Eligible employees will receive a 2% salary increase, based on their current monthly salary or hourly rate. This is not to be confused with an annual increment.

This means that over the course of twelve months, a current annual salary of \$35,379.36 will increase by \$707.76, for a new annual salary of \$36,087.12.

When will the salary increase be received?

The salary increase is effective July 1, 2026, and it will be reflected in the pay received on Thursday, July 30, 2026 (for the pay period of July 1-15, 2026).

- Anderson Award Nominations & KyLEAD Ticket Sales
- Scheduled KHRIS Outage
- New MyPURPOSE Training
- Deferred Comp
- State Holidays
- Professional Development
- Career Counseling



Get Started on MyPURPOSE Today!

- Access over 1,200 online training courses and webinars.
- Connect with team members virtually.
- Apply for career opportunities.

Who is NOT eligible?

- Interim employees
- Day Laborers
- Employees with the Unified Prosecutorial System (UPS)
- KRS Chapter 16 employees within the Trooper and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) Officer series - These employees will receive a salary increase in compliance with KRS 16.052
- Employees whose salary is set by statute and/or legislation

Any questions pertaining to your eligibility or non-eligibility for the salary increase should be directed to your agency Human Resources (HR) office.

On behalf of Governor Beshear, we appreciate and thank you for your hard work and dedication for the services you provide to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



Team Kentucky Early Learning Center

If you missed the previous announcement, the [Team Kentucky Early Learning Center](#) (TKELC) will open on the campus of Kentucky State University on August 31 and provide discounted rates for executive branch employees.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS PERSONNEL EVENT CALENDAR](#)



BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED!

[Click here for Blood Donation Information](#)

TKELC will be operated by Community Action Council, a nonprofit organization with 61 years of experience providing award-winning early childhood education and helping children build the skills they need to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

As an Executive Branch employee, your weekly tuition rate per child will be:

- **\$187.00/week for children ages 1–2**
- **\$175.00/week for children ages 3–5**

If you have a young child or children between the ages of 1 and 5 years old, there is still time to take advantage of this opportunity for your family.

Getting started is easy. [Click this link to complete a brief eligibility application, which will take you less than three minutes.](#)

With only 92 total spaces available, don't miss your chance to enroll!



LivingWell Promise Reminder

The LivingWell Promise must be completed **by July 1** to receive the health insurance premium discount for 2027. Complete the Castlight Health Assessment for a premium

discount of up to \$480 annually (\$40 per month) for the 2027 plan year.

Register or log in to Castlight using the app or your desktop computer at <https://mycastlight.com/mybenefits>.

Open Enrollment Reminder

KEHP's annual Open Enrollment period is coming soon! This year will be a **mandatory Open Enrollment**. Everyone must make their elections. No benefit will roll over without making an active election except for life insurance coverage.

Specific Open Enrollment dates and plan information will be sent to members in the fall.



Governor's Leadership Program for Emerging Leaders

Applications are now open for the [Governor's Leadership Program for Emerging Leaders](#)! This program is built for state employees ready to grow into leadership roles, with training in communication, inclusion, leading by example, team management, self-care, and more.

Participants also gain hands-on experience through cabinet tours, mentoring, and networking opportunities across state government — and upon successful completion, earn

one year of supervisory experience credit on their state employment transcript.

To apply, you must meet the following qualifications:

- Executive Branch KRS Chapter 18A Classified Employee
- Pay Grade 12 or Higher
- Agency Leadership Approval

Your next chapter in leadership starts here.

[Click here to apply today!](#)

Applications close July 24



Gov. Beshear is warning Team Kentucky of dangerously high temperatures forecast across the state, with heat indexes expected to rise well above 100. For state employees working outside, please stay alert, hydrate often, wear light clothing and take precautions. Let's do what we can to keep each other safe.



On July 1, all KRS Chapter 18A classified employees who are performance eligible will receive a Mid-Year Interim task in MyPURPOSE. Employees are encouraged to participate; this is your opportunity to provide feedback on work accomplishments by completing your self review!

All interim review tasks will be accessible through [MyPURPOSE](#), and you will receive an email notification when your self review is ready for you to begin.

You may revisit the online tutorial, *Guide to Performance Management for Employees*, in MyPURPOSE for a refresher. For questions or assistance, please contact your agency Performance Management Administrator.



Charles W. Anderson Award Nominations

The Personnel Cabinet is now accepting nominations for the prestigious Charles W. Anderson Laureate Award! The

Kentucky Personnel Cabinet will present the Charles W. Anderson Laureate Award during the [2026 Governor's LEAD Conference](#). Click the button below to learn more about the nomination criteria.

Nomination Deadline: July 24, 2026

[Click Here to Submit a Nomination](#)



This [conference](#) is a one-of-a-kind virtual event with a powerful lineup of speakers sure to motivate participants to LEAD with confidence, kindness, and our Team Kentucky values. Whether you're currently in executive-level leadership or just beginning the journey, we're confident our conference will help you reach the next level in your professional development.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Please contact your agency's fiscal officer or HR administrator for specific information on how to register for this year's conference.

Unique Services Available to State Employees

Sign up for a State Library Account today to unlock services available only to state employees! State employees have access to online research databases and more.

[Learn More](#)



Scheduled KHRIS Outage

Beginning Tuesday, June 30 at 4:00 p.m., KHRIS, which includes, Employee Self-Service (ESS) and Manager Self-Service (MSS), will be unavailable to users due to important legislative processing. It will again be available by 8:00 a.m. on Friday, July 3, if not sooner. During this period, no one has access to KHRIS, including HR staff.

If you anticipate needing access to information such as current or past salary statements, please obtain that information now or by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30. Otherwise, your current (as of June 30th) salary and leave information will be available to you through KHRIS Quick Access which is accessible from the [Personnel Cabinet website](#), under the KHRIS drop-down.

We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you in advance for your patience while we work to complete processing.

DID YOU KNOW? While KHRIS is unavailable, you have uninterrupted access to MyPURPOSE, which is also accessible from the [Personnel Cabinet website](#).



New MyPURPOSE Training

The Personnel Cabinet has released a new training regarding system functionality within MyPURPOSE called *MyPURPOSE System Overview Training*. This course provides an overview of all MyPURPOSE features to include a quick review of basic navigation. While this course has been added to the Executive Branch Onboarding curriculum for new employees, current employees may find it helpful and are encouraged to review the course as well.



Investing in your future is always a smart play.

And when you're saving for retirement, every little bit counts.

Even a small increase in your contribution can lead to a more comfortable retirement. See the chart below:

Investing a little more can make a difference¹

An increase of 10 years	20 years	30 years
\$20 per month \$3,293	\$9,287	\$20,190

\$50 per month	\$8,234	\$23,217	\$50,476
\$100 per month	\$16,469	\$46,435	\$100,953

Use KDC's [My Income & Retirement Planner® tool](#) to see how a contribution change could impact your retirement income.

We can help you get retirement ready.

KDC's tools and services make it easy to increase contributions. If you haven't enrolled, you can do so today.



Holidays for State Personnel

State offices shall be closed and state employees shall be given a holiday on the following days:

- **Independence Day:** July 3, 2026
- **Labor Day:** September 7, 2026
- **Veterans Day:** November 11, 2026
- **Thanksgiving:** November 26–27, 2026
- **Christmas:** December 24–25, 2026
- **New Year's:** December 31, 2026–January 1, 2027



Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

View the professional development opportunities provided by the Kentucky Employees Assistance Program (KEAP) and Governmental Services Center. Employees should log in and request training in [MyPURPOSE](#) under “MyLEARNING” - “Event Calendar”

Manager approval is required.

- July 15, 10:30-11:30 a.m. EST: ***Habit, Willpower and Change**
 - July 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m. EST: ***Understanding Bullying in the Workplace**
 - August 11, 10:30-11:30 a.m. EST: **Budgeting for Healthy Eating**
 - August 25, 10:30-11:30 a.m. EST: **Time Management**
 - September 2, 10:30-11:30 a.m. EST: ***Burnout: Definitions, Diagnosis and Prevention**
 - September 9, 10:30-11:30 a.m. EST: **Boundaries: How to Set Them and How to Keep Them**
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Connect with a career counselor today!

Career Counseling for State Employees

Are you looking for the next step in your career path? Let our experts help you! Through the Personnel Cabinet's free career counseling services, you can receive customized career recommendations based on your goals, interests, education, and experience.

Please email pers.careercounseling@ky.gov to connect with our career counselors.

About the Personnel Cabinet

The Personnel Cabinet provides leadership and guidance to attract, develop, motivate, and retain a talented, diverse workforce that provides outstanding service to state agencies and citizens of the Commonwealth; foster an understanding of and adherence to legal requirements; and create a positive and inclusive work environment that supports the holistic well-being of all employees.

The Personnel Cabinet is located at 501 High Street, Frankfort, KY 40601
Normal business hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

EEO Statement

The Commonwealth of Kentucky does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy or related medical condition, marital or familial status, ancestry, political affiliation, genetic information, or veteran status in accordance with state and federal laws.

CONTACT US

¹The table above assumes a hypothetical 6% rate of return compounded monthly and contributions made at the end of each month. This illustration is hypothetical, is not guaranteed and is not intended to reflect the performance of any specific investment. There is no assurance that increasing contributions will generate investment success. In addition, these figures do not reflect taxes or any fees or charges that may be assessed by the investments. The tax-deferred investment will be subject to taxes on withdrawal. Systematic investing does not ensure a profit nor guarantee against loss. Investors should consider their financial ability to continue consistently in up as well as down markets.