

March 2021



Featured News





Governor's Letter to State Employees

Team Kentucky, this month, which marks one year since the COVID-19 pandemic began in our state, we are recognizing our enormous collective loss while also looking to the future with hope.

On March 6, Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman and I joined faith leaders and Kentucky families that lost loved ones to COVID-19 to honor.each.one.of.our.friends.and.neighbors taken too soon by this horrible virus – nearly 5,000 Kentuckians. While nothing can bring them back to us, we will never forget their lives and contributions to their communities.

Our state faced a new challenge this month, too: dangerous ice storms and record flooding that destroyed and damaged homes, property and local infrastructure across the commonwealth, especially in Eastern Kentucky. Worst of all, some Kentuckians lost their lives as a result of these storms. But in another dark moment for our state, we saw the spirit of Team Kentucky come through again, with neighbor helping neighbor, ensuring no one faces a loss or struggle alone.

We are applying for two federal disaster declarations to help Kentuckians impacted by storms. We are also moving full speed ahead with the rollout of three highly effective COVID-19 vaccines to help protect our people: more than 900,000 Kentuckians – 1 in 4 Kentucky adults – have received at least one dose so far. Together, we will defeat COVID-19 in 2021 and recover from the natural disasters that hurt so many of our families. Thank you, as always, for your hard work every day serving Kentuckians.



Get Started on MyPURPOSE Today!

- Access over 2,000 online training courses and webinars.
- Connect with team members virtually.
- Apply for career opportunities.



Download the app!

- Quick access to benefits, careers, pay and other employment resources.
- Receive instant notifications during emergency situations.
- Stay in the know with the latest employee
 news

COVID-19 Testing Calendar

Testing is being provided for state employees and contractors through a partnership with First Care Clinics. Employees and contractors can receive COVID-19 testing at any of the 13 First Care Clinics' testing sites throughout the state or the drive-thru testing site located at the Sower Building in Frankfort.

CLICK HERE FOR PERSONNEL EVENT CALENDAR

With supervisor prior-approval, all Executive Branch state employees will be given up to two (2) hours, with reasonable drive time, to register for and complete their test at any of the locations:

Testing Dates For State Employees and Contractors

April 20-22 May 11-13

COVID-19 Hotline (800) 722-5725

Click here to access COVID-19 Employee Resource
Guide

BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED!

Click here for Blood Donation Information





ATTENTION: Current Fraud Activity on State Employees

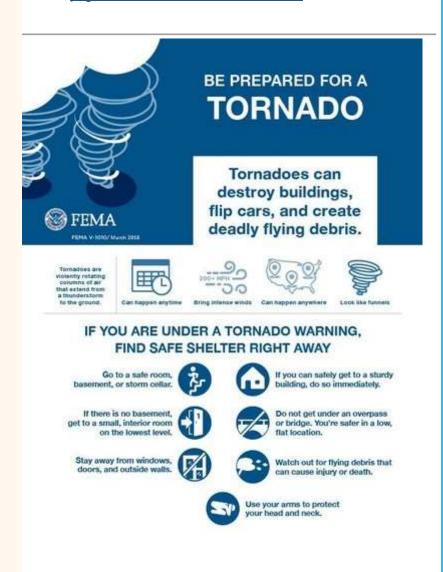
In recent weeks, the Kentucky Office of Unemployment Insurance (OUI) has seen an increase in the number of fraudulent UI claims being filed in other people's names.

If you believe your identity has been stolen as a result of receiving a notice of benefits determination or any other type of unemployment insurance notice, please notify OUI immediately by going to the Kentucky Career Center website and filling out the form. <u>Select here</u> to access.

If a state agency receives a Notice of Claim Filing and Request for Separation Information on a staff member that is employed, please have that staff member fill out the fraud form. Select here to access.

To protect yourself from identity theft, OUI is recommending:

- Monitor credit report for suspicious activity
- Select here to learn about identity theft to protecting yourself against fraud.
- Select here to visit the Kentucky Career Center UI fraud Web page for the latest information on fraud.



Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to <u>ready.gov</u> and search for **tornado**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **tornado**.

Find Emergency Safety Tips under Prepare.

stigmafree

Our workplace believes that mental health is part of overall health. The Commonwealth of Kentucky has partnered with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to promote acceptance and challenge stereotypes related to mental health conditions.

Stigma is when someone, or you yourself, views you in a negative way because you have a mental health concern. Navigating life with a mental health condition can be tough, and the isolation, blame and secrecy that is often encouraged by stigma can create huge challenges to moving forward.

Encouraging a StigmaFree organization means promoting a culture of openness, acceptance, understanding and compassion.

How can you help make state government a StigmaFree organization?

- Learn the facts about mental health
- See the person, not the condition
- Use respectful language to talk about mental health conditions
- When you have a mental health concern, reach out for assistance

Select here to watch a video, take the StigmaFree pledge or learn more.



Executive Branch Annual Training Requirement

Just a reminder, if you've been assigned the **Executive Branch Annual Training Curriculum** within MyPURPOSE, the deadline for completion is **June 30, 2021**.

Your agency HR office and the Personnel Cabinet will be monitoring for completion, so please don't delay!



Kentucky Retirement Systems (KRS) Agency Name Change

Effective April 1, 2021, the Kentucky Retirement Systems (KRS) as an agency of the Commonwealth will be known as the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority (KPPA).

In 2020, House Bill 484 established a new governance structure for KRS resulting in the agency's name change, however, our staff will remain the same. Members will not experience any changes in the services currently provided by KRS.

Our new logo and our new name will become more prominent in the coming months. As a cost savings measure, members may still see "KRS" on printed correspondence and publications during this transition period as we continue to use our remaining stock.

As KRS or KPPA, our staff is committed to providing the same great service to our members, employers and other stakeholders. Select here to read more about KPPA





About the Personnel Cabinet

The Personnel Cabinet provides leadership and guidance to: attract, develop, motivate and retain a talented, diverse workforce; foster an understanding of and adherence to regulatory requirements; and create a positive, supportive work environment that values 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.

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