

# Incentive Program Overview

May 2021

## Cabinet for Economic Development Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA)

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Kentucky Business Investment (KBI)	KEDFA Preliminary & Final	Manufacturing, non-retail service or technology activities, agribusiness, headquarters operations, alternative fuel, gasification, energy-efficient alternative fuels, renewable energy production, or carbon dioxide transmission pipelines in Kentucky	Minimum - 10; Job target also negotiated	\$100,000	10-15 Years (depending on location) with compliance monitoring	The approved company is required to certify that without the incentives offered, the project would likely locate outside of the Commonwealth. Wage requirements are also included.
Kentucky Enterprise Initiative Act (KEIA)	KEDFA Final	Manufacturing, non-retail service or technology activities, agribusiness, headquarters operations, alternative fuel, gasification, energy-efficient alternative fuels, renewable energy production, carbon dioxide transmission pipelines, or in operating or developing a tourism attraction	N/A	\$500,000 construction materials & building fixtures \$50,000 electronic processing equipment	Up to 7 Years with compliance monitoring	The total maximum incentive per fiscal year available for all projects is \$20 million for construction materials & building fixtures and \$5 million for R&D, electronic processing and flight simulator equipment.
Kentucky Small Business Tax Credit (KSBTC)	KEDFA Final	Eligible small businesses include for-profit entities that have fifty (50) or fewer full-time employees at the time of application	1	\$5,000	Carryforward up to 5 years	\$25,000 maximum tax credit cap per applicant for each calendar year. Performance must occur prior to submitting application.
Kentucky Angel Investment Tax Credit	KEDFA Final	A knowledge-based activity related to bioscience; environmental and energy technology; health and human development; information technology and communications; and materials science and advanced manufacturing	< 100	Cash investment of \$10,000 made by a Qualified Investor in a Qualified Small Business	Carryforward up to 15 years	Qualified Investors making Qualified Investments may be eligible for up to a forty percent (40%) tax credit.
KEDFA Direct Loan/ Grant	KEDFA Final	Agribusiness, tourism, manufacturing, or service industry	Negotiable	Negotiable	Up to 20 years with compliance monitoring	Fixed asset financing only is permissible.
Kentucky Investment Fund Act (KIFA)	KEDFA Preliminary and Final	Personal and corporate investors in approved funds.		Cash investment of \$500,000	Up to 15 years with compliance monitoring	Investors investing in approved funds may be approved for tax credits up to 40% of the cash contribution to the investment fund.  Credits may be applied against individual and corporation income taxes, limited liability income taxes, insurance taxes, and taxes on financial institutions.
Kentucky Small Business Credit Initiative (KSBCI)	KEDFA Preliminary and Final	Available to banks, federally insured credit unions, and community development financial institutions				Kentucky Collateral Support Program-provides a pledged asset (cash collateral account) to an enrolled lender of up to 20% of their loan in order to enhance coverage of a small business borrower that is otherwise qualified but unable to meet the lender's security requirements.
Kentucky Reinvestment Act – KRS 154.34	KEDFA Preliminary & Final	Any Kentucky company engaged in manufacturing and related functions at a location operating within the Commonwealth on a permanent basis for a reasonable period of time preceding the request for assistance	Retain 85%	\$2,500,000	Up to 10 Years with compliance monitoring	Eligible equipment and related costs do not include repair or replacement due to normal wear and usage. May not claim more than 20% of incentive in any year.



Kentucky Selling Farmer Tax Credit Program	Final	Farmers with less than 50 employees selling farm to a beginning farmer may be eligible to receive tax credits for up to 5% of the purchase price of qualifying agricultural assets	See program requirements	Carryforward up to 5 years.	<p>Beginning farmer has not held ownership interest in agricultural land used for farming for a period of 10 years.</p> <p>Farm equipment dealers, livestock dealers, or similar businesses engaged in selling Agricultural Assets for profit are excluded from participating in program.</p> <p>Agricultural land must be at least 10 continuous acres of land used for commercial production of agricultural products or at least 5 continuous acres in an area used for commercial production of aquaculture or horticultural products.</p>
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### Administered by Cabinet for Economic Development

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
State Trade and Expansion Program (STEP) Grant	Director, KCED International Affairs & Business Development	Small businesses participating in foreign markets		\$0	Until funding expires	<p>Kentucky was awarded approx. \$300,000 by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of International Trade to promote exporting activities.</p> <p>STEP Grants provide financial assistance to Kentucky companies for a variety of export related activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for small business participation in foreign markets</li> <li>• Subscription to services by the Department of Commerce</li> <li>• Website translation</li> <li>• Design of international market media</li> <li>• Trade show exhibitions</li> <li>• Training workshops</li> <li>• International trade certification and education</li> <li>• Other SBA approved initiatives</li> </ul>
SBIR-STTR Matching Funds Program	KY Innovation	Small businesses engaged in research and development for innovations with potential for commercialization		See program requirements		<p>Cabinet will match, on a competitive basis, phase 1 and phase 2 federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBTTR) awards received by Kentucky high-tech small businesses.</p> <p>Matches phase 1 federal awards up to \$150,000, and up to \$500,000 of federal phase 2 awards.</p>

## Education and Workforce Development Cabinet (Workforce Training - Bluegrass State Skills Corporation (BSSC)) (BSSC meets 6 times during the year)

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
On-the-Job Training (OJT)	Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet	Businesses that hire unemployed or underemployed individuals				On-the-Job Grant can reimburse up to 75% of a trainee's wages during the initial onboarding period.
KCTCS-TRAINS	Funds administered by KCTCS and available through KCTCS colleges.	Businesses investing in workforce development for their employees. Funding used to assist with the cost of providing workforce training and assessment services to current and potential employees				<p>Funds distributed on a project basis and require a company cash match of 50% plus a 10% administrative fee for use of funds.</p> <p>Companies who have not previously taken advantage of KCTCS TRAINS funding may be eligible for funding at 75% for up to 1 year and a total project cost up to \$150,000.</p>
Employers Unemployment Tax Credit	Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet	Businesses who hire unemployed Kentucky residents	Eligibility based on new hire		No carryforward	<p>One-time, nonrefundable credit of \$100 may be allowed against individual income taxes, corporation income taxes, or limited liability entity taxes.</p> <p>New hire must be classified as unemployed for at least 60 days and remain in the employ of taxpayer for at least 180 days.</p>
Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)	Federal program administered Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet	Businesses hiring specific target groups that typically face significant employment barriers	Eligibility based on new hire			<p>If an employee is eligible under the program, then the company can receive a certificate to file with the IRS for a tax credit ranging from \$1,200 to \$9,600 depending on target group.</p> <p>See <a href="http://kcc.ky.gov">kcc.ky.gov</a> for more information.</p>
Incumbent Worker Training	Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet	All businesses that are eligible for KCTCS-TRAINS funding	Employers requiring employees to learn new skills			<p>Companies are required to pay 50% of the cost ad KCTCS-TRAINS reimburses the college directly for the remaining 50%.</p> <p>Colleges work with company to identify schedule for invoicing.</p>
The Federal Bonding Program	Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet	Businesses hiring specific target groups that typically face significant employment barriers			1 year	The Federal Bonding Program has been successfully providing fidelity bonds to employers, giving them access to job seekers and opening doors of opportunity. The Federal Bonding Program is a unique hiring tool, targets individuals whose backgrounds can pose significant challenges to securing or retaining employment. Employers receive the Federal Bonding Program bonds at no cost as an incentive to hire applicants with these challenges. Each federal bond has a \$5,000 limit with \$0 deductible and covers the first six months up to year of a selected individual's employment

## Energy and Environment Cabinet

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Brownfield Redevelopment Program	Preliminary & Final	Projects locating on abandoned or underutilized sites with real or perceived environmental contamination, such as old gas stations, mine-scarred lands, factories, schools and hospitals		See program requirements	For 3 years following issuance of a no further remediation letter, the property will not be subject to local ad valorem property taxes.  State ad valorem property tax rate reduced from 31.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value to 1.5 cents per \$100.	Property owner has provided legally required notices of contaminants on the property and conducted all necessary cleanup.  Project must not be funded by any other grant program.  Qualified parties can receive up to \$150,000 worth of income tax credits for expenditures to meet cleanup requirements.
PACE Financing loan program (EPAD)		Commercial, retail, industrial, nonprofit and multi-family properties investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy building improvements		See program requirements	15-25 year loan repayment terms can be extended to match the useful life of the eligible improvement.	Program provides financing for 100% of an energy project's cost and is repaid for up to 25 years with a voluntary special assessment added to the property's tax bill.  PACE financing is solely repaid via a Special Assessment added to the property's tax bill.
Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program AND Kentucky Soil Stewardship Program	Ranking of applications performed once each year by the Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission.	Agriculture and animal waste control facilities; animal waste utilization; vegetative filter strips; integrated crop management; pesticide containment; and land and water protection and management operations		See program requirements		Approval based on a statewide ranking criteria and the availability of funds.  Cost share rates are a maximum of 75% of the actual installation cost of the practice not to exceed \$20,000 per year.
Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Pilot Program	Office for Surface Mining Lexington Field Office conducts first line review of applications	Economic and community development projects located on or in proximity with eligible AML sites	N/A	See program requirements		Federally funded program requires Energy and Environment Cabinet review, vetting from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) and a National Environmental Policy Act review from AML.
Kentucky New Energy Ventures Fund			N/A	See program requirements		Provides seed stage capital to support the development of commercialization of alternative fuel and renewable energy products, processes, and services in Kentucky.  KNEV makes grants of \$30,000 and investments ranging from \$250,000 to \$750,000+. Funds are to be used for business development activities.

## Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy (KOAP)

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund	Kentucky Agricultural Development Board	For-profit applicants may apply for funding up to 50% of the new project costs incurred after application was received  Eligible expenses limited to capital improvements and equipment		See program requirements		Projects are expected to positively affect the economic status of farmers and the targeted agricultural community.



County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP)	County Agricultural Development Councils	Agricultural producers, such as tenant farmers and landowners	See program requirements	<p>Applicants must complete eligible projects (subject to site inspection).</p> <p>Applicants must have SSN and Farm Serial Number (FSN).</p> <p>Applicants shall not receive more than \$5,000 in a program year.</p>
On-Farm Energy Efficiency Initiatives	Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy	Kentucky farm families increasing energy efficiency of existing equipment or facilities	See program requirements	<p>Applicants may receive a grant limited to 50% reimbursement for eligible expenditures not to exceed \$10,000 within program year.</p> <p>Eligible items are restricted to components and investments used solely to replace existing equipment and technology for the benefit of farming operations.</p> <p>Project must show a reduction or offset of in energy consumption to receive funding.</p>
KADF Meat Processing Development Fund	Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy	Meat processors currently or planning to become USDA certified who seek to expand processing	See program requirements	<p>Applicants may receive funding, depending on level of project, from \$20,000 to \$250,000.</p> <p>Eligible items shall be restricted to components and investments used to increase processing capacity and sale of Kentucky livestock and meat products for operations located in Kentucky.</p>
KADF Next Generation Farmer Program	Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy	Farmers ages 18-40 that have been engaged in agricultural operation for a minimum of 3 years	See program requirements	<p>Eligible farmers may receive up to \$5,000 per program year.</p> <p>Lifetime limit of \$15,000.</p> <p>Program uses the same eligible investment areas as the County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP).</p>
KADF On-Farm Water Management Program	Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy	Land-grant and regional universities, non-profits, and Kentucky farming families	See program requirements	<p>Maximum grant award is up to 50% of the total project cost depending on program:            RDD- \$250,000            PIP- \$100,000            SSG- \$10,000</p> <p>Eligible items shall be restricted to components and investments used to enhance water management, through approved best management practices, for the benefit of farming operations located in Kentucky.</p>

## Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Kentucky Proud Grant Program	Kentucky Department of Agriculture	Kentucky farmers and businesses that grow and market Kentucky grown agricultural products		See program requirements		Kentucky Proud members who have direct Kentucky farm impact may be eligible to receive up to 50% reimbursement for eligible advertising and marketing expenses.



Kentucky Grape and Wine Council's Wine Labels Cost-Share Grant Program	Kentucky Grape and Wine Council	Small farm wineries	See program requirements	Reimbursement of up to 50% of future approved label production costs for wines comprised of at least 75% Kentucky grown fruit.  Limit of \$1,000 per winery.
Farm to Fork Program	Kentucky Department of Agriculture	Host organizations increasing awareness of local food sourced by Kentucky Proud producers	See program requirements	Eligible Host Organizations may be reimbursed up to 50% (no more than \$500) of promotional expenditures branded with Kentucky Proud Logo.
Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP)	Federal Program administered by KDA	Producer groups, trade associations, nonprofits, or colleges and universities	See program requirements	Federal funding to state departments of agriculture to support specialty crop industry.  Applicants must apply through state department of agriculture.  Competitive grant process.  Interested applicants are requested to reach out to KDA.

### Kentucky Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet (Heritage Council)

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Kentucky Historic Preservation Tax Credit	The Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC) administers the program in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Revenue	Individuals or companies rehabilitating properties listed on the national registry or otherwise designated may apply to receive state income tax credits based on rehabilitation expenses.		Owner occupied buildings- \$20,000  Commercial buildings- \$20,000 or the adjusted basis of the structure, whichever is greater	Carryforward up to 7 years	Maximum tax credit for up to 20% of qualified rehabilitation expenses for income-producing properties.  Maximum tax credit for up to 30% of qualified rehabilitation expenses for owner-occupied residential properties.  24-month rehabilitation period.  Before any proposed repair or rehabilitation work to building or site can proceed, proposed work must be certified by the Kentucky Heritage Council meeting by the U.S. Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.  Eligible expenses are limited.
Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit	The Kentucky Heritage Council administers the program in partnership with the National Parks Service	Individuals or companies rehabilitating properties listed on the national registry or otherwise designated may apply to receive federal income tax credits based on rehabilitation expenses		See program requirements		Maximum tax credit for up to 20% of qualified rehabilitation expenses for income-producing properties.  Owner-occupied residences are not eligible.  24-month rehabilitation period.  Before any proposed repair or rehabilitation work to building or site can proceed, proposed work must be certified by the Kentucky Heritage Council meeting by the U.S. Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.  Eligible expenses are limited.

### Kentucky Main Street Program

The Kentucky Heritage Counsel works with participating local Main Street programs aimed at incentivizing preservation

Companies are encouraged to contact participating Main Street programs for information concerning eligible incentive packages offered by the individual locality

Incentive programs available under the Kentucky Main Street Program are administered at the local level.

## (Kentucky Tourism Development Finance Authority (KTDFFA))

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Kentucky Tourism Development Act	The Kentucky Tourism Development Finance Authority administers the program	Developers of new or expanding tourism projects in Kentucky		\$1,000,000 project development cost	Eligible tourism attraction projects - 10 years  Eligible lodging projects built on state or federal parks - 20 years	Eligible tourism attraction projects- \$1,000,000 minimum investment can recover up to 25% of development costs over 10 years.  Eligible lodging projects built on state or federal parks can recover up to 50% of development costs over 20 years.

## Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet (Department of Revenue)

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Qualified Research Facility Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	Individuals or companies constructing qualifying research facilities			Carryforward up to 10 years	Nonrefundable credit for up to 5% of the qualified costs of construction of research facilities and used against individual income taxes, corporation income taxes, and limited liability entity tax.
Recycling or Composting Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	Any taxpayer purchasing qualifying recycling or composting equipment to be exclusively used in the state for recycling or composting post-consumer waste products			Carryforward up to 30 years	Tax credit shall be an amount equal to 50% of the installed cost of the recycling or composting equipment, and may be applied against individual income taxes, corporation income taxes, or limited liability entity taxes.
Ethanol Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	Any taxpayer producing ethanol			No carryforward	Nonrefundable tax credit.  The total amount of tax credits is one dollar (\$1) per gallon produced, unless the total amount of approved credit for all taxpayers exceeds the annual cap of \$5,000,000, then the credit is prorated.
Cellulosic Ethanol Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	This credit is for any taxpayer that produces cellulosic ethanol			No carryforward	Nonrefundable credit that may be applied against individual income taxes or corporation income taxes, or limited liability entity taxes in an amount certified by the department.  The total amount of tax credit is one dollar (\$1) per cellulosic gallon produced, unless the total amount of approved credit for all taxpayers exceeds the annual cap of \$5,000,000, then the credit is prorated.



Clean Coal Incentive Tax Credit	Approved by Office of Property Valuation; Division of Minerals Taxation and GIS Services; Department of Revenue determines the amount of approved credit and issues credit certificate to taxpayer	Credit is allowed for coal purchased to be used by electric power company certified as clean coal facility		<p>Nonrefundable and nontransferable may be applied against individual income taxes, limited liability entity taxes, and public service property taxes.</p> <p>Credit is equal to \$2 per ton of eligible coal purchased unless the same coal has generate a coal incentive tax credit.</p> <p>Must be a clean coal facility certified by the Energy and Environment Cabinet.</p>
Coal Conversion Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	Business taxpayers	No carryforward	Qualifying business taxpayers that convert boilers from other fuels to Kentucky coal or that substitute Kentucky coal for other fuels in a boiler capable of burning coal and other fuels to produce energy for specific purposes.
Distilled Spirits Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	Taxpayers who pay Kentucky property tax on distilled spirits		<p>The amount of the distilled spirits credit allowed is contingent on costs associated with capital improvements at the distiller's premises.</p> <p>Credit may be applied against individual income taxes, corporation income taxes, or limited liability entity taxes.</p>
Endow Kentucky Tax Credit	Department of Revenue – Preliminary and final approval	Taxpayers making endowment gifts	Carryforward up to 5 years	<p>Nonrefundable tax credit for a taxpayer making an endowment gift to a permanent endowment fund certified under KRS 147A.325.</p> <p>Credit shall be equal to 20% of the endowment gift, not to exceed \$10,000.</p> <p>Credit may be allowed against individual income taxes, corporation income taxes, or limited liability entity taxes.</p> <p>Total \$1,000,000 cap; if the tax credit cap is exceeded for applications received, then the amount of the credit is prorated.</p> <p>Must obtain preliminary and final approval.</p>
New Markets Development Program Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	Person or entity making a qualified equity investment in a qualified community development entity	May be carried forward for subsequent years	<p>Nontransferable credit.</p> <p>Total amount of tax credits awarded by the department are capped at 10,000,000.</p> <p>Amount of the credit shall be equal to 39% of the purchase price of the qualified equity investment made by the person or entity claiming the credit.</p> <p>Qualified equity investment means any equity investment in, or long-term debt security issued by, a qualified community development entity that has at least 100% of its cash purchase used by the issuer to make qualified low-income community investments in qualified active low-income community businesses.</p>





Inventory Tax Credit	Department of Revenue	Person or business who timely pays ad valorem taxes on inventory		No carryforward	Nonrefundable and nontransferable credit that may be applied against individual income taxes, corporation income taxes, and limited liability entity tax credits.
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## Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

Program	Approval	Eligible Companies	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Employer GED Incentive Tax Credit	Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet	Employers who assist employees in completing a learning contract in which the employee agrees to obtain a high school equivalency diploma			No carryforward	<p>Credit is calculated by multiplying 50 percent of the hours an employee is released from work to study for the General Educational Development test by the employee's hourly salary.</p> <p>Credit shall not exceed \$1,250.</p> <p>Credit may be applied against individual income taxes, corporation income taxes, or limited liability entity taxes.</p>

## Other Resources/Programs

Program	Approval	Purpose of Program/Fund	Jobs	Minimum Investment	Maximum Duration	Special Provisions
Kentucky Enterprise Fund (KEF)	Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC)	Fund created to aid Kentucky based seed and early stage technology companies		See requirements	See requirements	<p>Grants or warrants up to \$30,000 for companies exploring the feasibility of technology commercialization.</p> <p>Funding up to \$250,000 for companies in the concept development phase of technology commercialization.</p> <p>Funding up to \$500,000 for companies in the post-initialization but before full commercialization.</p> <p>Funding up to \$750,000 for companies with high growth potential and clear path to commercialization.</p>
KY Innovation Hubs	Kentucky Innovation Commercialization Centers (ICCs)	<p>Program was created to engage regional entrepreneurial hubs</p> <p>Each regional umbrella encompasses and marshals the potential of successful entrepreneurs, angels and venture capitalists, private sector companies, universities, non-profits, local governments, and other organizations</p>				<p>The hubs host events, provide key resources, are responsible to fund specific programs and services within their region, work collaboratively together to manage statewide activities, represent Kentucky in regional and national organizations, and work directly with small businesses and entrepreneurs to help start, scale and, in some cases, sell their business. Each hub is subject to data reporting and collection requirements and other performance metrics.</p> <p>Vendor lists</p> <p>Central Region Innovation and Commercialization Center – Bowling Green</p> <p>Shaping Our Appalachian Region, Inc.- Appalachia</p> <p>Louisville Entrepreneurship Acceleration Partnership, Inc.- Louisville</p> <p>Awesome Center for Entrepreneurship, Inc. – Lexington</p> <p>Sprocket, Inc. – Western Kentucky</p> <p>Blue North, LLC – Northern Kentucky</p>



State Energy Program	Kentucky Office of Energy Policy	The U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program provides funding and technical assistance to enhance energy security, and maximize the benefits of decreasing energy waste	The State Energy Program emphasizes the state's role as the decision maker and administrator for program activities within the state that are tailored to their unique resources, delivery capacity, and energy goals.
Community Development Block Grant	Kentucky Department for Local Government	<p>The Department for Local Government administers the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant</p> <p>All cities and counties are eligible to apply for the funds with the exception of Ashland, Bowling Green, Covington, Elizabethtown, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Lexington-Fayette County, Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government, and Owensboro – as these communities receive funding directly from HUD</p>	The program provides assistance to communities for use in revitalizing neighborhoods, expanding affordable housing and economic opportunities, providing infrastructure and/or improving community facilities and services.