



Association of Independent  
Kentucky Colleges and Universities

# AIKCU

## Benefits Guide



# CONTENTS

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- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Who We Are           | 5 AIKCU Members    |
| 2 What We Do           | 7 AIKCU Staff      |
| 3 Benefits at a Glance | 8 Affiliate Groups |
| 4 By the Numbers       | 9 Ways to Save     |

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# Independent colleges have the power to transform

AIKCU is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and working every day to support our member institutions through advocacy and policy work, information sharing, convenings, cost-saving initiatives, and collaborative programs.

I remain invested in this work because I believe deeply in the transformative power of independent colleges.

That belief is partly rooted in my own experiences with AIKCU institutions: as an undergrad Pell Grant recipient from a rural Kentucky high school, as an adult graduate student with a full-time job and a very full-time family, and now as a parent of children attending independent colleges.

That belief also comes from knowing the significant role AIKCU members play in Kentucky's education ecosphere, like producing one in five bachelor's degrees awarded in the state.



It comes from working with campus staff and observing how, despite challenges, they remain focused on student success. And it comes from hearing students and graduates reflect on the life-changing opportunities our members provide.

Our independent colleges and universities are changing the trajectory of individuals, families, and communities. AIKCU is proud to support these efforts.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mason Dyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop for the letter 'D'.

**Mason Dyer**  
*AIKCU President*

# WHO WE ARE

Kentucky's independent, nonprofit colleges and universities play a critical role in the commonwealth's postsecondary education system by serving 59,000 students and awarding 13,600 degrees annually. They also have a substantial impact on the state and local economies.

AIKCU's mission is to advance the interests of its 18 member institutions by promoting affordability and student success through policy advocacy, strategic partnerships, and community engagement.

## **Accreditation & Licensing**

Our 18 member colleges and universities are all accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and licensed by the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education.

## **Nonprofit Status**

AIKCU is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that combines the missions of two earlier organizations, the Kentucky Independent College Foundation (a fundraising organization established in 1952) and the policy-focused Council of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities.

# WHAT WE DO

## ADVOCATE

We serve as the voice of Kentucky's independent colleges and universities, advocating for policies that recognize the sector's critical role and help students access and afford a distinctive, high-quality education.

## CONNECT

We provide opportunities for member affiliate groups to meet in person and online to share experiences and best practices with colleagues from other institutions.

## COLLABORATE

We coordinate cost-saving agreements with businesses and vendors to save our members time and money on a wide range of goods, services, and insurance products.

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# BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

## ADVOCACY

State and federal advocacy & policy updates/analysis  
Frankfort legislative events • NAICU Hill Day  
Congressional calls • Voice on state/national groups

## BUSINESS COLLABORATIONS

Cost-saving agreements • Business Consortium  
Health Benefit Alliance • AIKCU MEP Retirement Plan  
Coalition for College Cost Savings

## DATA

Sector & higher ed data • Member surveys • Member database

## PROGRAMS & CONVENINGS

Policy meetings • Collaborative training opportunities  
Professional networks for AIKCU Affiliate Groups  
AIKCU Advancing Leaders Program  
Student scholarships • AIKCU Alumni Hall of Fame

## KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority/  
Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation  
Commonwealth Education Continuum  
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce  
Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program  
The Prichard Committee • Kentucky Nonprofit Network  
The Council of Independent Colleges • CIC State Councils  
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities  
NAICU State Executives

# BY THE NUMBERS



18

SACSCOC-accredited independent, nonprofit colleges & universities



59,000

students (33k UG)



13,600

degrees and credentials awarded



8,400

employees (5500 FT)



\$94M

"Big 3" KY Lottery-funded state aid to AIKCU students in FY24



\$37M

median endowment



\$400M+

annual institutional student aid



40%

Undergraduates receive Pell grants



# AIKCU MEMBERS

AIKCU is proud to support its 18 member colleges and universities, which play a special role in preparing students for a lifetime of learning and equipping them to contribute to their communities and the world.



Alice Lloyd College  
Pippa Passes  
Est. 1923 • [alc.edu](http://alc.edu)



**ASBURY UNIVERSITY**  
*Academic Excellence & Spiritual Vitality*

Asbury University  
Wilmore  
Est. 1890 • [asbury.edu](http://asbury.edu)



**BELLARMINI UNIVERSITY**  
IN VERITATIS AMORE

Bellarmine University  
Louisville  
Est. 1950 • [bellarmine.edu](http://bellarmine.edu)



Berea College  
Berea  
Est. 1855 • [bera.edu](http://bera.edu)



Brescia University  
Owensboro  
Est. 1925 • [brescia.edu](http://brescia.edu)



Campbellsville University  
Campbellsville  
Est. 1906 • [campbellsville.edu](http://campbellsville.edu)



Centre College  
Danville  
Est. 1819 • [centre.edu](http://centre.edu)



Georgetown College  
Georgetown  
Est. 1829 • [georgetowncollege.edu](http://georgetowncollege.edu)





Kentucky Christian University  
 Grayson  
 Est. 1919 • kcu.edu



Kentucky Wesleyan College  
 Owensboro  
 Est. 1858 • kwc.edu



Lindsey Wilson College  
 Columbia  
 Est. 1903 • lindsey.edu



Midway University  
 Midway  
 Est. 1847 • midway.edu



Spalding University  
 Louisville  
 Est. 1814 • spalding.edu



THOMAS MORE  
 UNIVERSITY  
 Thomas More University  
 Crestview Hills  
 Est. 1921 • thomasmore.edu



Transylvania University  
 Lexington  
 Est. 1780 • transy.edu



Union Commonwealth University  
 Barbourville  
 Est. 1879 • unionky.edu



University of Pikeville  
 Pikeville  
 Est. 1889 • upike.edu



University of the Cumberlands  
 Williamsburg  
 Est. 1888 • ucumberlands.edu

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# AIKCU STAFF

## **MASON DYER, President**

mason.dyer@aikcu.org

Mason Dyer was named AIKCU president in 2023. He has a wide range of experience in AIKCU operations, having served in several roles since joining the nonprofit in 2005. He most recently was vice president of public affairs, where he oversaw marketing/communications and research efforts, worked alongside the president in the areas of policy and government relations, and coordinated meetings for many of the AIKCU Affiliate Groups.



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## **KRISTA HUDSON, Ph.D., VP of Finance and Administration**

krista.hudson@aikcu.org

Krista Hudson joined AIKCU in 2012. As vice president of finance and administration, she manages all business and finance operations, including major collaborative efforts such as the AIKCU Benefit Alliance. From her prior work consulting and directing nonprofits, she brings critical experience in management and programs and a background in political science and public administration.



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## **CAROL JOHNSON JUETT, Associate VP for Member and External Relations**

carol.juett@aikcu.org

Carol Johnson Juett joined AIKCU as associate vice president for member and external relations in 2020, bringing extensive experience in nonprofit associations and state government. She facilitates AIKCU member engagement, as well as works with a variety of external stakeholders. Prior to AIKCU, she was the director of development for The Council of State Governments where she led strategies to grow resources and build partnerships for the national nonprofit association.



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## **LEIGH ANNE HIATT, Communications Specialist**

leighanne.hiatt@aikcu.org

Leigh Anne Hiatt came to AIKCU in 2023 as communications specialist to assist with marketing and communications projects. Her background includes heading communications programs in state government, a private college, a statewide association, and healthcare.



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# AFFILIATE GROUPS

AIKCU Affiliate Groups benefit from meeting in person and online to share experiences and best practices with colleagues from Kentucky's other independent colleges and universities.

## **Presidents**

Contact: Mason Dyer, AIKCU President  
mason.dyer@aikcu.org

## **Admissions Officers**

Contact: Carol Johnson Juett,  
Associate VP for Member and External  
Relations, carol.juett@aikcu.org

## **Advancement Officers**

Contact: Mason Dyer, AIKCU President  
mason.dyer@aikcu.org

## **Business Officers**

Contact: Krista Hudson, VP of Finance  
and Administration  
krista.hudson@aikcu.org

## **Campus Safety Officers**

Contact: Carol Johnson Juett,  
Associate VP for Member and External  
Relations, carol.juett@aikcu.org

## **Career Services Officers**

Contact: Carol Johnson Juett,  
Associate VP for Member and External  
Relations, carol.juett@aikcu.org

## **Chief Academic Officers**

Contact: Mason Dyer, AIKCU President  
mason.dyer@aikcu.org

## **Diversity Officers**

Contacts: Mason Dyer, AIKCU President,  
mason.dyer@aikcu.org & Carol  
Johnson Juett, Associate VP for  
Member and External Relations,  
carol.juett@aikcu.org

## **Facilities Officers**

Contact: Carol Johnson Juett,  
Associate VP for Member and External  
Relations, carol.juett@aikcu.org

## **Financial Aid Officers**

Contact: Carol Johnson Juett,  
Associate VP for Member and External  
Relations, carol.juett@aikcu.org

## **Human Resources Officers**

Contact: Krista Hudson, VP of Finance  
and Administration  
krista.hudson@aikcu.org

## **Information Technology Officers & IE/IR Registrars**

Contact: Krista Hudson, VP of Finance  
and Administration  
krista.hudson@aikcu.org

## **Legislative Liaisons**

Contact: Mason Dyer, AIKCU President  
mason.dyer@aikcu.org

## **Library Directors**

Contact: Krista Hudson, VP of Finance  
and Administration  
krista.hudson@aikcu.org

## **Marketing/Communications Officers**

Contacts: Leigh Anne Hiatt, Com-  
munications Specialist, leighanne.  
hiatt@aikcu.org & Carol Johnson Juett,  
Associate VP for Member and External  
Relations, carol.juett@aikcu.org.

## **Student Affairs Officers**

Contact: Krista Hudson, VP of Finance  
and Administration  
krista.hudson@aikcu.org

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# WAYS TO SAVE

AIKCU's cost-saving opportunities give members greater buying power. We're pleased to help our members save time and money through these four avenues:

- Competitive retirement benefits
- Self-funded employee health insurance
- Savings on software and library databases
- Discounts and pricing negotiations on higher ed products and services

You can find this information on our website at [aikcu.org/ways-to-save](https://aikcu.org/ways-to-save).

## AIKCU MEP RETIREMENT PLAN

Members can participate in AIKCU MEP, a competitive multiple employer retirement plan sponsored by AIKCU. MEPs allow employers to band together to take advantage of scale and efficiencies they cannot achieve on their own. The AIKCU MEP launched June 1, 2024.

The AIKCU MEP allows members to provide enhanced retirement plans for their new and existing employees, while benefiting from potential cost savings, less burdensome administration, and streamlined operations.

The AIKCU MEP is administered by four plan providers, which offer the resources, tools, and services that plan sponsors need. PlanPILOT is the 3(38) investment fiduciary, Millennium is the registered investment adviser, Pentegra is the 3(16) administrative fiduciary, and TIAA is the plan recordkeeper.

The plan providers work closely with the AIKCU MEP governing board, which is composed of chief financial and human resources officers from the participating colleges and universities.

**Contact:** Krista Hudson, AIKCU VP of Finance and Administration, [krista.hudson@aikcu.org](mailto:krista.hudson@aikcu.org).

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# WAYS TO SAVE

## AIKCU SELF-FUNDED EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Members can join a self-funded employee health insurance program through the AIKCU Benefit Alliance, a collaborative health insurance purchasing organization serving AIKCU campuses.

The Alliance operates under a jointly administered arrangement with Anthem Health Plans of Kentucky and Aspirant.

It administers:

- Medical and pharmacy plans
- Employee dental plans
- Flexible spending accounts
- Student-athlete medical plans

AIKCU member presidents conceived the idea of the Alliance as a way to better manage health insurance costs. It became fully operational in 2007 and now serves 11 AIKCU institutions and one affiliate member. While the Alliance never guarantees against rising health care costs, participants have seen significant savings.

**Contact:** To purchase a specific product or service, contact Aspirant. You can find contact information at [aspirant.us](http://aspirant.us). For general questions about the AIKCU Benefit Alliance, contact Krista Hudson, AIKCU VP of Finance and Administration, [krista.hudson@aikcu.org](mailto:krista.hudson@aikcu.org).

# WAYS TO SAVE

## AIKCU SERVICE AGREEMENTS

AIKCU has independently entered into service agreements that let AIKCU members save on library databases and technology.

**Contact:** To inquire about a specific product or service, contact the vendor directly. For general questions about AIKCU's service agreements, contact Krista Hudson, AIKCU VP of Finance and Administration, [krista.hudson@aikcu.org](mailto:krista.hudson@aikcu.org).

### LIBRARY DATABASES

#### **American Chemical Society**

Provided By: AIKCU and ACS

Details & Contact Info:

[pubs.acs.org](http://pubs.acs.org)

#### **ProQuest**

Provided By: AIKCU and

ProQuest

Details & Contact Info:

[proquest.com](http://proquest.com)

### TECHNOLOGY

#### **Adobe Licensing**

Provided By: AIKCU and

ScholarBuys

Details & Contact Info:

[scholarbuys.com](http://scholarbuys.com)

#### **Cybersecurity Virtual Information Security Office**

Provided By: AIKCU and

DeepSeas

Details & Contact Info:

[deepseas.com](http://deepseas.com)

#### **Microsoft Licensing**

Provided By: AIKCU and

ScholarBuys

Details & Contact Info:

[scholarbuys.com](http://scholarbuys.com)

#### **VMware Licensing**

Provided By: AIKCU and

ScholarBuys

Details & Contact Info:

[scholarbuys.com](http://scholarbuys.com)

# WAYS TO SAVE

## AIKCU COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENTS

AIKCU offers a wide range of products and services in collaboration with the Coalition for College Cost Savings, E&I Cooperative Services, and the HESS Consortium.

### How to Access Savings

Products and services are listed by category, such as Athletics, Finance, and Health & Wellness. If a product or service applies to more than one category, it will be listed more than once. Each listing provides the vendor's website, where you can find contact information and more details.

**Contact:** To learn more about a specific product or service, contact the vendor directly. For general questions about AIKCU's business partners, contact Krista Hudson, AIKCU VP of Finance and Administration, [krista.hudson@aikcu.org](mailto:krista.hudson@aikcu.org).

### ATHLETICS

#### Intercollegiate Sports Secondary Insurance Coverage and Individual Hard Waiver Plans for Student Athletes

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition

Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/  
intercollegiate-sports](http://thecoalition.us/intercollegiate-sports)

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

**Emergency Preparedness**  
Provided By: AIKCU and E&I  
Details & Contact Info:  
[eandi.org/solutions/  
emergency-preparedness/](http://eandi.org/solutions/emergency-preparedness/)

### ENERGY/SUSTAINABILITY

**Energy Sustainability  
Program**  
Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/energy-  
sustainability-program](http://thecoalition.us/energy-sustainability-program)

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# WAYS TO SAVE

## ENERGY/SUSTAINABILITY cont.

### Sustainability

Provided By: AIKCU and E&I  
Details & Contact Info:  
[eandi.org/solutions/sustainability/](http://eandi.org/solutions/sustainability/)

## FACILITIES

### Energy Sustainability Program

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/energy-sustainability-program](http://thecoalition.us/energy-sustainability-program)

### MRO & Construction Solutions

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/mro-construction-products](http://thecoalition.us/mro-construction-products)

### Project Financing

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/project-financing](http://thecoalition.us/project-financing)

## FINANCE

### Energy Sustainability Program

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/energy-sustainability-program](http://thecoalition.us/energy-sustainability-program)

### Hotel Revenue

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/campus-travel-management](http://thecoalition.us/campus-travel-management)

### Lease Accounting Software

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/lease-accounting-software](http://thecoalition.us/lease-accounting-software)

### Management Consulting

Provided By: AIKCU and  
the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/managementconsulting](http://thecoalition.us/managementconsulting)



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# WAYS TO SAVE

## FINANCE cont.

### Procure to Pay Automation

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/procuretopayautomation](https://thecoalition.us/procuretopayautomation)

### Project Financing

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/project-financing](https://thecoalition.us/project-financing)

### Property/Casualty/ Risk Management

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/property-casualty-risk-management](https://thecoalition.us/property-casualty-risk-management)

### Purchasing Card Program

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/purchasing-card](https://thecoalition.us/purchasing-card)

### Settlement Recovery Services

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/settlement-recovery-services](https://thecoalition.us/settlement-recovery-services)

### Strategic Spend Assessments

Provided By: AIKCU and E&I

Details & Contact Info: [eandi.org/solutions/ssa](https://eandi.org/solutions/ssa)

### Supplemental Benefits

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/supplementalbenefits](https://thecoalition.us/supplementalbenefits)

## GENDER, SAFETY & EQUITY

### Harassment & Discrimination Solutions (Title IX, ADA, Clery, etc.)

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/grandriversolutions](https://thecoalition.us/grandriversolutions)

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### Behavioral Health

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/behavioralhealth](https://thecoalition.us/behavioralhealth)

### Long-Term Care

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition

Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/long-term-care](https://thecoalition.us/long-term-care)

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# WAYS TO SAVE

## HEALTH & WELLNESS cont.

### Student Health Insurance

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/student-health-insurance](https://thecoalition.us/student-health-insurance)

### Telehealth

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/telehealth](https://thecoalition.us/telehealth)

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Supplemental Benefits

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/supplementalbenefits](https://thecoalition.us/supplementalbenefits)

## LEGAL

### Property/Casualty/ Risk Management

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/property-casualty-risk-management](https://thecoalition.us/property-casualty-risk-management)

### Settlement Recovery Services

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/settlement-recovery-services](https://thecoalition.us/settlement-recovery-services)

## MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

### Management Consulting

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info: [thecoalition.us/managementconsulting](https://thecoalition.us/managementconsulting)

## PROCUREMENT

### eProcurement Solutions

Provided By: AIKCU and E&I  
Details & Contact Info: [eandi.org/solutions/eprocurement-solutions-education](https://eandi.org/solutions/eprocurement-solutions-education)

### VERVE eProcurement

Provided By: AIKCU and E&I  
Details & Contact Info: [eandi.org/blankbuy-procurement-marketplace-small-institutions](https://eandi.org/blankbuy-procurement-marketplace-small-institutions)

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# WAYS TO SAVE

## SAFETY & WELLNESS

### Safety & Wellness

Provided By: AIKCU and E&I  
Details & Contact Info:  
[eandi.org/solutions/safety-wellness/](http://eandi.org/solutions/safety-wellness/)

## SECURITY

### Security

Provided By: AIKCU and E&I  
Details & Contact Info:  
[eandi.org/solutions/security](http://eandi.org/solutions/security)

## SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

### Supplier Diversity

Provided By: AIKCU and E&I  
Details & Contact Info:  
[eandi.org/solutions/supplier-diversity-program](http://eandi.org/solutions/supplier-diversity-program)

## TECHNOLOGY

### Cybersecurity Insurance

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/property-casualty-risk-management](http://thecoalition.us/property-casualty-risk-management)

### The HESS Consortium

Provided By: AIKCU and HESS  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/hessconsortium](http://thecoalition.us/hessconsortium)

### IPv4 Brokerage Services

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/brander](http://thecoalition.us/brander)

## TRAVEL

### Hotel Revenue

Provided By: AIKCU and the Coalition  
Details & Contact Info:  
[thecoalition.us/campus-travel-management](http://thecoalition.us/campus-travel-management)



Association of Independent  
Kentucky Colleges and Universities

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Publication Date: September 2024