

Vision screenings for driver's license renewals will be required in 2025 to enhance driver safety

Herald Report

Few things are more important for safe driving than good eyesight. That's why vision screening will be required in Kentucky next year for anyone renewing a Kentucky driver's license. This new requirement, enacted during the 2021 General Assembly, aims to promote highway safety by ensuring that all drivers maintain good vision throughout their driving career.

Starting January 1, 2025, all Kentuckians must undergo a vision screening to renew their license. Multiple states also have adopted mandatory vision screenings, including Indiana, Ohio and Missouri, to ensure drivers have the visual acuity required to operate a vehicle safely.

"Driving is a privilege many of us enjoy and this best practice is one way we look out for each other on the road to make our highways safer for everyone," said Gov. Andy Beshear.

House Bill 439, signed into law by Gov. Beshear after the state legislature passed it three years ago, now takes effect on January 1, 2025. Key details of the new vision screening process include:

- Vision screenings can be completed at no cost at any Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) Driver Licensing Regional Office at

the time of license renewal and, on average, takes less than 1 minute to complete.

• Drivers also have the option of conducting a vision exam with their vision specialist (optometrist/ophthalmologist), or a vision screening with a KYTC-credentialed osteopath, physician, or advanced practice registered nurse in advance of their license renewal visit. Starting in 2025, upon request, the medical professional will complete an approved state-issued form that they will give to the patient if they pass. The patient may bring the form to their license renewal visit if the form and exam were completed within 12 months of the license renewal visit. The driver will not need to take a vision screening at a regional office.

• If a driver does not pass the vision screening at a regional office, they will be instructed to see a vision specialist for corrective measures before proceeding with license renewal.

• Kentuckians are encouraged to bring corrective lenses if conducting a vision screening at a regional office. A restriction will be placed on your license if you pass the vision screening while wearing glasses.

- Vision screenings can only be performed once at a regional office during each renewal cycle.
- Online and mail-in dri-

ver's license renewal will still be available after Jan. 1, 2025 for Kentuckians who choose to complete a screening with a vision or qualifying medical specialist. The cardholder simply needs to upload the official, signed form provided by their medical professional when renewing on drive.ky.gov.

"We know this will be a change for license holders when it's time to renew every four or eight years, but it's a measure driven by safety, and that's something we can all get behind," said Transportation Cabinet Secretary Jim Gray. "People are the most precious cargo on our roads."

Existing state law allows Kentuckians to renew their driver's license up to 180 days (roughly 6 months) before their card expiration date. It is strongly advised to renew early should any corrective measures be needed to improve vision while their license is still valid. During every renewal cycle for drivers 21 years of age or older,

cardholders have the option of choosing a driver's license valid for four or eight years.

Appointments for license renewals are strongly encouraged to minimize wait times, although walk-ins will still be accommodated. No separate appointment is needed for the vision screening.

"Clear vision is essential for making safe decisions on the road," said Kentucky State Police Driver Testing Branch Commander Captain Chris Baker. "Mandatory vision screenings have been a longstanding requirement for all first-time drivers and expanding this to all drivers is a practical way to make roads safer for everyone."

"Comprehensive eye exams are crucial for detecting impairments that could compromise driving ability, while also detecting other serious health conditions," said Leslie Cecil, O.D., President of the Kentucky Optometric Association. "This new vision screening requirement is a significant step in safe-

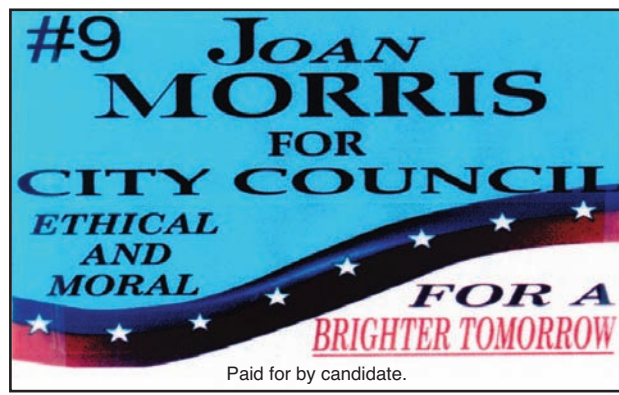
guarding public health and road safety. Our organization looks forward to collaborating with the Transportation Cabinet and other vision specialists to help implement these new requirements."

"The Kentucky Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons (KAEPS) supports the new requirements for vision screening in order to get a driver's license in the Commonwealth," said John Franklin M.D., President of KAEPS. "Our association believes it will keep Kentucky's roads safer and ensure individuals get the vision care they need. We also appreciate the Administration's commitment to implementing the legislation in a way that helps the public understand the new requirements, why they are needed and how to comply. Our physicians will continue to work closely with the Administration and legislators as the new rules take effect."

The Education and Labor Cabinet's Office of Voca-

Rehabilitation's (OVR) existing Bioptic Driving program helps eligible Kentuckians with certain visual impairments earn their drivers' licenses. Using a combination of regular eyeglasses and a small telescopic lens system, bioptic driving improves the driver's distance vision, allowing them to meet the state vision test requirements to safely operate a vehicle. To learn more about the qualifications and requirements for participation in the Bioptic Driving Program, visit OVR's website.

For more information on the new vision screening requirement and how to prepare for your driver's license renewal, visit drive.ky.gov/vision-screening. Kentucky CDL carriers with a valid, unexpired license are exempt from conducting a vision screening when renewing their license as their annual required medical certification process includes vision screening.



LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION LIVE			
WORKING BUDGET REPORT FOR FY 2025			
GENERAL FUND (1)	PRIOR FY 2 ACTUALS	LAST FY ACTUALS	BUDGET APPROP
REVENUES			
0999 BEGINNING BALANCE			
TOTAL 0999 BEGINNING BALANCE	2,517,403.26	2,732,966.36	2,413,000.00
RECEIPTS			
REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES			
AD VALOREM TAXES			
1110 AD VALOREM TAX	283,182.67	299,432.93	175,000.00
1111 GENERAL REAL PROPERTY TAX	1,220,775.79	1,056,455.86	1,200,000.00
1113 PSC REAL PROPERTY TAX	562,890.78	586,754.87	350,000.00
1115 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAX	81,775.76	36,944.45	45,000.00
1117 MOTOR VEHICLE TAX	504,601.97	460,541.89	400,000.00
1118 UNKIND MINERALS TAX	745.66	745.53	300.00
1119 FRANCHISE FEES - REAL ESTATE		86,840.06	.00
TOTAL AD VALOREM TAXES	2,653,882.63	2,527,715.59	2,170,300.00
SALES & USE TAXES			
1121 UTILITIES TAX	602,945.69	486,727.65	500,000.00
1121C CABLE	.00	.00	.00
1121GE UTILITY TAX GAS/ELECTRIC	.00	.00	.00
1121OT OTHER	.00	.00	.00
1121T TELEPHONE	.00	.00	.00
1121W UTILITY TAX WATER	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL SALES & USE TAXES	602,945.69	486,727.65	500,000.00
PENALTIES & INTEREST ON TAXES			
1140 PENALTIES & INTEREST ON TAXES	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL PENALTIES & INTEREST ON TAXES	.00	.00	.00
OTHER TAXES			
1191 OMITTED PROPERTY TAX	475.04	51,214.25	10,000.00
TOTAL OTHER TAXES	475.04	51,214.25	10,000.00
TUITION			
1310 TUITION FROM INDIVIDUALS	18,190.00	7,300.00	19,000.00
1320 TUITION FROM KY LSD	.00	.00	.00
1340 OTHER TUITION	7,087.50	.00	.00
TOTAL TUITION	25,277.50	7,300.00	19,000.00
TRANSPORTATION			
1420 TRANSP FEES - KY LSD	.00	.00	.00
1440 OTHER TRANSPORTATION FEES	32,318.56	43,108.34	35,000.00
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	32,318.56	43,108.34	35,000.00
EARNINGS ON INVESTMENTS			
1510 INTEREST INCOME	10,857.65	131,484.54	50,000.00
1530 GAIN OR LOSS FROM INVESTMENTS	.00	.00	.00
1540 RENTS FROM INVESTMENT PROPERTY	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL EARNINGS ON INVESTMENTS	10,857.65	131,484.54	50,000.00
OTHER REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES			
1911 BUILDING RENTAL	1,000.00	.00	.00
1912 BUS RENTAL	.00	.00	.00
1920 CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS	29,254.48	200.00	10,000.00
1941 TEXTBOOK SALES	.00	.00	.00
1951 SERVICE TO KY LSD	.00	.00	.00
1980 REFUND OF PRIOR YR EXPENDITURE	143,686.24	15,448.34	25,000.00
1990 MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	65,313.09	78,254.61	15,000.00
1991 TRANSCRIPT FEES	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES	239,253.81	93,902.95	50,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES	3,565,010.88	3,341,453.32	2,834,300.00
REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES			
STATE PROGRAM			
3111 SEEK PROGRAM	11,229,355.00	11,244,058.00	11,200,000.00
TOTAL STATE PROGRAM	11,229,355.00	11,244,058.00	11,200,000.00
OTHER STATE FUNDING			
3121 VOCATIONAL TRAVEL	.00	.00	.00
3122 VOCATIONAL TRANSPORTATION	.00	2,144.00	250.00
3125 BUS DRIVER TRAINING REIMB	.00	.00	.00
3126 SUB SALARY REIMB (STATE)	.00	.00	1,000.00
3127 HEALTH FLEX ACT PAYBACK	.00	.00	.00
3128 AUDIT REIMBURSEMENT	.00	.00	.00
3129 KSB/KSD TRANSP REIMBURSEMENT	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL OTHER STATE FUNDING	.00	2,144.00	1,250.00
EXPENDITURE REIMBURSEMENTS			
3130 NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION R	2,000.00	.00	.00
3131 STATE MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSE	11,771.02	6,708.96	15,000.00
3132 SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST RE	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE REIMBURSEMENTS	13,771.02	6,708.96	15,000.00
REVENUE IN LIEU OF TAXES/STATE			
3800 REVENUE IN LIEU OF TAXES/STATE	51,565.28	51,565.32	49,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE IN LIEU OF TAXES/STATE	51,565.28	51,565.32	49,000.00
REVENUE FOR ON BEHALF PAYMENTS			
3900 REVENUE FOR/ON BEHALF PAYMENTS	6,822,804.09	5,629,464.64	5,771,392.00
TOTAL REVENUE FOR ON BEHALF PAYMENTS	6,822,804.09	5,629,464.64	5,771,392.00
TOTAL REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES	18,117,495.39	16,933,940.92	17,036,642.00
REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES			
RESTRICTED DIRECT			
4300 RESTRICTED DIRECT FEDERAL REVE	37,035.65	63,334.67	76,767.00
TOTAL RESTRICTED DIRECT	37,035.65	63,334.67	76,767.00
THROUGH INTERMEDIATE AGENCIES			
4700 FEDERAL REV THRU INTERMED SRC	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL THROUGH INTERMEDIATE AGENCIES	.00	.00	.00
FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT			
4810 FEDERAL MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT	111,297.22	112,887.25	85,000.00
TOTAL FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT	111,297.22	112,887.25	85,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES	148,332.87	176,221.92	161,767.00
OTHER RECEIPTS			
INTERFUND TRANSFERS			
5210 FUND TRANSFER	475,752.66	218,539.00	565,179.00
5220 INDIRECT COSTS TRANSFER	85,443.20	108,718.02	85,000.00
TOTAL INTERFUND TRANSFERS	561,195.86	327,257.02	650,179.00
SALE OR COMP FOR LOSS OF ASSETS			
5311 SALE OF LAND & IMPROVEMENTS	.00	61,000.00	.00
5312 LOSS COMP - LAND & IMPROVEMENTS	.00	.00	.00
5313 SALE OF BUILDINGS	.00	.00	.00
5332 LOSS COMP - BUILDINGS	.00	.00	.00
5341 SALE OF EQUIPMENT ETC	5,259.00	29,502.67	10,000.00
5342 LOSS COMP - EQUIPMENT ETC	19,445.99	.00	10,000.00
TOTAL SALE OR COMP FOR LOSS OF ASSETS	24,704.99	90,502.67	20,000.00
CAPITAL LEASE PROCEEDS			
5500 CAPITAL LEASE PROCEEDS	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL CAPITAL LEASE PROCEEDS	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL OTHER RECEIPTS	585,900.85	417,759.69	670,179.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	22,416,739.99	20,869,375.85	20,702,888.00
TOTAL REVENUES	24,934,143.25	23,602,342.21	23,115,888.00

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION LIVE			
WORKING BUDGET REPORT FOR FY 2025			
GENERAL FUND (1)	PRIOR FY 2 ACTUALS	LAST FY ACTUALS	BUDGET APPROP
EXPENDITURES			
0000 RESTRICT TO REV & BAL SHT ONLY			
0200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	.00	.00	.00
0600 SUPPLIES	.00	.00	.00
UNDEFINED EXP OBJ	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL 0000 RESTRICT TO REV & BAL SHT ONLY	.00	.00	.00
1000 INSTRUCTION			
0100 SALARIES PERSONNEL SERVICES	6,166,462.13	5,966,959.47	6,513,339.00
0200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	464,314.00	510,571.35	464,314.00
0280 ON-BEHALF	4,057,911.23	3,217,435.12	3,336,635.00
0300 PURCHASED PROF AND TECH SERV	173,209.51	21,418.41	37,946.00
0400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES	2,844.03	.00	2,419.95
0500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	269,272.23	237,158.19	237,600.00
0600 SUPPLIES	299,717.80	167,788.74	251,945.72
0700 PROPERTY	53,201.41	48,660.20	34,319.56
0800 DEBT SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS	2,233.72	2,623.47	676.29
0840 CONTINGENCY	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL 1000 INSTRUCTION	11,429,172.05	10,172,614.95	10,972,462.22
2100 STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES			
0100 SALARIES PERSONNEL SERVICES	996,250.60	1,017,484.86	1,080,276.00
0200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	49,479.13	50,031.02	64,183.00
0280 ON-BEHALF	647,430.67	553,246.15	576,178.00
0300 PURCHASED PROF AND TECH SERV	3,634.50	.00	350.00
0400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES	.00	.00	.00
0500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	3,237.69	7,055.89	7,000.00
0600 SUPPLIES	55,148.43	46,593.48	43,600.00
0700 PROPERTY	.00	.00	.00
0800 DEBT SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS	.00	.00	.00
0900 OTHER ITEMS	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL 2100 STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES	1,755,179.02	1,675,906.40	1,771,587.00
2200 INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF SUPP SERV			
0100 SALARIES PERSONNEL SERVICES	98,646.54	102,000.12	110,842.00
0200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	4,301.97	4,475.29	7,406.00
0280 ON-BEHALF	64,107.16	55,461.47	95,094.00
0300 PURCHASED PROF AND TECH SERV	1,740.00	.00	3,450.00
0400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES	.00	.00	.00
0500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	.00	.00	.00
0600 SUPPLIES	2,718.41	2,397.84	60,000.00
0700 PROPERTY	.00	.00	.00
0800 DEBT SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS	.00	.00	.00
0900 OTHER ITEMS	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL 2200 INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF SUPP SERV	171,514.08	164,334.72	277,992.00
2300 DISTRICT ADMIN SUPPORT			
0100 SALARIES PERSONNEL SERVICES	271,019.12	280,205.40	277,188.00
0200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	90,427.37	90,489.42	24,867.00
0280 ON-BEHALF	176,126.46	152,358.57	159,313.00
0300 PURCHASED PROF AND TECH SERV	140,034.45	192,269.04	146,165.00
0400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES	.00	.00	2,300.00
0500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	31,968.58	29,139.97	26,360.00
0600 SUPPLIES	32,235.92	26,837.39	105.00
0700 PROPERTY	.00	.00	.00
0800 DEBT SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS	.00	.00	.00
0840 CONTINGENCY	.00	.00	.00
0900 OTHER ITEMS	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL 2300 DISTRICT ADMIN SUPPORT	741,811.90	771,299.79	672,042.00
2400 SCHOOL ADMIN SUPPORT			
0100 SALARIES PERSONNEL SERVICES	844,344.92	865,560.96	875,941.00
0200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	94,159.17	89,895.85	93,372.00
0280 ON-BEHALF	546,713.15	470,639.14	514,071.00
0300 PURCHASED PROF AND TECH SERV	1,232.00	.00	.00
0400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES	.00	.00	.00
0500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	62,465.60	36,226.95	31,375.00
0600 SUPPLIES	1,772.46	100.00	100.00
0700 PROPERTY	.00	.00	.00
0800 DEBT SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS	.00	.00	.00
0900 OTHER ITEMS	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL 2400 SCHOOL ADMIN SUPPORT	1,552,686.30	1,463,554.90	1,514,859.00
2500 BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICES			
0100 SALARIES PERSONNEL SERVICES	360,420.90	339,588.44	294,917.00
0200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	34,353.38	32,466.25	31,797.00
0280 ON-BEHALF	234,225.76	184,647.46	176,971.00
0300 PURCHASED PROF AND TECH SERV	44,253.05	42,290.11	49,000.00
0400 PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES	1,794.24	1,931.28	2,600.00
0500 OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	178,573.34	107,752.99	87,741.00
0600 SUPPLIES	18,		