REVENUE


Tops

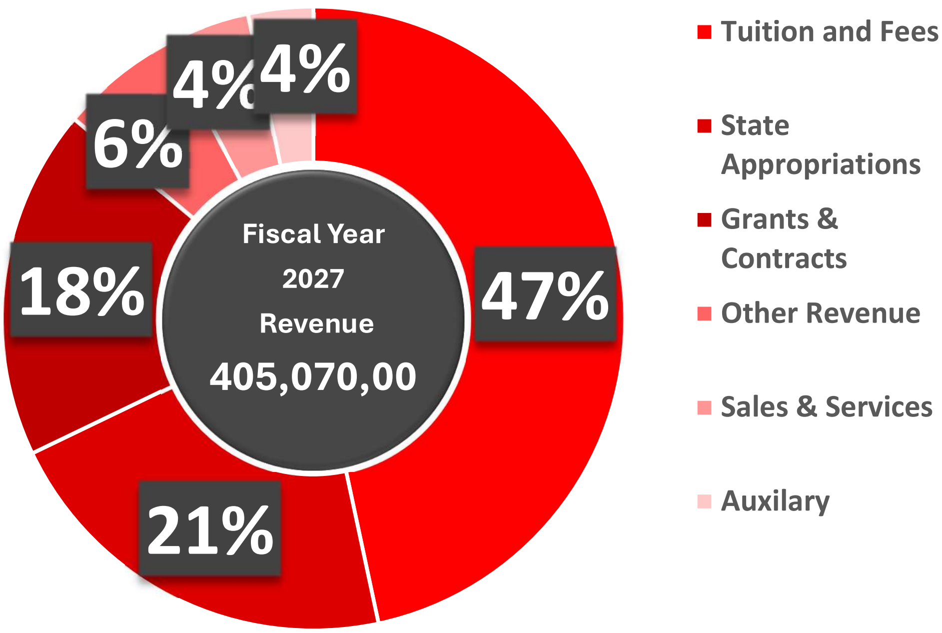
REVENUE

WKU's revenue budget for FY 2027 is $405.1 million, which is relatively flat compared to FY 2026. Tuition and fees remain the largest source of revenue, accounting for 47% of the total revenue budget, followed by state appropriations, which contribute 21%.

Sources of Revenue

Revenue	FY 2026	FY 2027	$ Change	% Change
Tuition and Fees	187,436,600	188,928,500	1,491,900	1%
State Appropriation	86,850,600	86,075,500	775,100	-1%
Grants & Contracts	77,966,000	73,674,000	4,292,000	-6%
Other Revenue	20,467,200	25,096,000	4,628,800	23%
Sales & Services	16,205,000	17,673,000	1,468,000	9%
Auxiliary	15,151,100	13,623,000	1,528,100	-10%
Total	**$404,076,500**	**$405,070,000**	**$993,500**	**0%**

Figure 6: FY 2027 Sources of Revenue



Tuition and Fees

WKU's primary source of revenue is tuition and fees, which account for 47% of the university's total revenue budget. Budgeted tuition revenue in this proposal reflects the university's improved retention rate, a projected incoming first-time, first-year class of 2,900 students, and modest growth in transfer and graduate student enrollment.

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) has statutory authority to approve tuition rates for Kentucky's public universities. In April 2025, CPE adopted resident undergraduate tuition and mandatory fee ceilings for academic years 2025-26 and 2026-27, allowing comprehensive universities to increase tuition by a maximum of $630 over the two-year period, with no more than $420 in any single year. Within these parameters, WKU executive leadership recommends a 1.69% tuition rate increase for the 2026-2027 academic year, reflecting a continued commitment to affordability while supporting the university's operating needs.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition and Fees	FY 2026	FY 2027	$ Change	% Change
Undergraduate	149,649,800	150,343,200	693,400	0%
Graduate	20,447,200	22,127,400	1,680,200	8%
Other Tuition	3,194,000	2,747,900	446,100	-14%
Fees	14,145,600	13,710,000	435,600	-3%
Total	**$187,436,600**	**$188,928,500**	**$1,491,900**	**1%**

FY 2027 Tuition and Mandatory Student Fee Schedule

TUITION AND MANDATORY STUDENT FEES SCHEDULE PER SEMESTER

Student Level/Enrollment	FY26	FY27	Summer 2027/ Rate PCH
Undergraduate			
Resident	6,036	6,138	511.50
Military Veteran/Dependent	6,036	6,138	511.50
Nonresident	13,500	13,500	1,125
International	13,824	13,824	1,152
Incentive	7,068	7,068	589
Graduate (Per Credit Hour)			
Resident	607	607	607
Military Veteran/Dependent	607	607	607
Nonresident, International	953	953	953
Nonresident, Domestic	917	917	917
Doctorate, Ed. Leadership (Per Credit Hour)			
Resident	607	607	607
Military Veteran/Dependent	607	607	607
Nonresident, International	953	953	953
Nonresident, Domestic	917	917	917
Doctorate, Psychology (Per Credit Hour)			
Resident	690	690	690
Military Veteran/Dependent	690	690	690
Nonresident, International	953	953	953
Nonresident, Domestic	917	917	917
Doctorate, Nurse Practitioner (Per Credit Hour)			
Resident	663	663	663
Nonresident	858	858	858
Doctorate, Physical Therapy (Per Credit Hour)			
Resident	643	643	643
Nonresident	909	909	909
Distance Learning (Per Credit Hour)*			
Undergraduate	551	551	551
Graduate (Excluding Kentucky P-12 Educator, DNP and DPT)	707	707	707
Active Military (Per Credit Hour)*	250	250	250
Dual Credit (Per Credit Hour)*	97	97	97
WKU On Demand (Per Credit Hour)			
Undergraduate	503	511.50	511.50
Graduate	707	707	707
Special Programs (Per Credit Hour)			
Kentucky/Multi-state P-12 Educator*	350	350	350
Local Government Employee Discount Program*	500	500	500
KASA*	450	450	450
KEA*	425	425	425
SESC*	425	425	425
RN to BSN Program	394	394	394
KCTCS EdD Tuition Discount Agreement*		450	450

Mandatory Student Fees Per Semester	
Student Athletics Fee	218
Student Centers Fee	62
Student Centers Fee, DSU Renovation Bonds	70
Parking Structure Fee, Creason Bonds	30

*Mandatory student fees are not assessed to these students.

State Appropriation

WKU's state appropriation budget for FY 2026 is $86.1 million. The Kentucky General Assembly passed the state's biennial budget with House Bill 500 in association with Senate Bill 197 this year to set the university's state funding for the next two years. The base appropriation remains flat although there was an increase for Gatton Academy.

State Appropriation

State Appropriation	FY 2026	FY 2027	$ Change	% Change
Base State Appropriation	70,693,900	70,693,900	0	0%
Performance Funding	5,261,000	4,392,900	868,100	-17%
Gatton Academy	5,442,700	5,959,800	517,100	10%
Insurance Prem. Subsidy	2,180,800	1,866,900	313,900	-14%
KY Mesonet	1,750,000	1,750,000	0	0%
KERS Subsidy	1,522,200	1,412,000	110,200	-7%
Total	**$86,850,600**	**$86,075,500**	**($775,100)**	**-1%**

Kentucky's performance funding pool is allocated to public universities based on how well each institution performs on 10 metrics. The overall performance funding pool for FY 2027 remains flat $115 million. Although the overall pool did not change, there is still a decrease in the WKU funding once the allocation methods are applied. Funding allocation metrics are grouped into the following categories:

- 40% student success – degree production and student progression toward a degree
- 30% course completion – student credit hours earned
- 30% operational support – campus operations, services, and infrastructure that support student learning and success

Grants & Contracts

Grants & Contracts revenue totals $73.7 million which is a 6% decrease from the prior year. The most significant decrease comes from a reduction of extramurally funded research, in addition, both federal Pell and state College Access Program (CAP) grants are forecasted for anticipated reductions.

Grants & Contracts

Grants & Contracts	FY 2026	FY 2027	$ Change	% Change
Pell	29,000,000	28,632,000	368,000	-1%
Extramurally Funded Research	17,266,000	14,489,900	2,776,100	-16%
College Access Program (CAP)	17,000,000	16,000,000	1,000,000	-6%
KEES	11,000,000	10,750,000	250,000	-2%
Student Financial Assistance Grants	1,940,000	2,211,000	271,000	14%
Facilities and Administrative (F&A)	1,760,000	1,591,100	168,900	-10%
Total	**$77,966,000**	**$73,674,000**	**($4,292,000)**	**-6%**

Other Revenue

The budget for Other Revenue is $25.1 million and includes transfers from the College Heights Foundation, parking permits, camps, study abroad, investment income, and other various activities. This category is increasing 23% over the prior year as the new athletic pass-through revenue received from private donations.

Other Revenue

Other Revenue	FY 2026	FY 2027	$ Change	% Change
Foundation Revenue	6,132,900	10,917,600	4,784,700	78%
Other Revenue	3,887,800	4,299,400	411,600	11%
Investment Income	2,543,000	2,243,000	300,000	-12%
Vehicle Parking Permits	2,020,000	1,855,000	165,000	-8%
Study Abroad	1,940,000	1,772,000	168,000	-9%
Lease Rental Revenue	1,365,800	1,361,000	4,800	0%
Educational Camp Revenues	1,081,000	1,111,000	48,000	-4%
Miscellaneous Fee Revenue	871,000	911,000	40,000	5%
Barnes & Noble Revenue	625,700	626,000	300	0%
Total	**$20,467,200**	**$25,096,000**	**$4,628,800**	**23%**

Sales & Services

Sales & Services includes multiple categories of sales revenue on campus, although the majority of the funding is related to Athletics. This includes season ticket sales, conference distributions, game guarantees as well as other miscellaneous revenues. A 9% increase is budgeted over the prior year due to additional game guarantee revenue.

Sales & Services

Sales & Services	FY 2026	FY 2027	$ Change	% Change
Athletics	10,587,500	12,253,600	1,666,100	16%
Other Sales & Services	2,767,500	2,568,300	199,200	-7%
Continuing Education & Professional Development	1,637,500	1,565,100	72,400	-4%
Professional Services	1,212,500	1,286,000	73,500	6%
Total	**$16,205,000**	**$17,673,000**	**$1,468,000**	**9%**

Auxiliary

Auxiliary revenue will change with the creation of the public-private housing partnership and the dissolution of residence hall management by the Student Life Foundation. The operating costs such a maintenance and utilities will be directly charged to the new partner, creating a reduction in reimbursable expenses. During a two-year transition period, WKU will administer two residence hall leases outside of the new partnership until the new housing construction projects are complete. In addition, the revenue association with Aramark dining commissions and activity fees associated with Dero Downing Student Union are included.

Auxiliary

Auxiliary	FY 2026	FY 2027	$ Change	% Change
Housing Reimbursement	11,386,400	9,581,000	1,805,400	-16%
Dining Services	1,905,200	2,260,000	354,800	19%
Mandatory Fees	1,525,000	1,350,000	175,000	-11%
Other Auxiliary	334,500	432,000	97,500	29%
Total	**$15,151,100**	**$13,623,000**	**($1,528,100)**	**-10%**