

2026 AGENDA

ALL TIMES LISTED ARE LOCAL - CDT

Monday, September 14, 2026

3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. **Early Registration & Vendor Exhibit Tables**
KDV Lodge

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. **Continental Breakfast- Sponsored by Murtco, Inc. & Greater Louisville Building & Construction Trades Council**
Convention Center Room C

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. **Registration**
KDV Lodge

7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. **Vendor Exhibit Tables**
Convention Center Room B

9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. **Opening General Session**
Pledge of Allegiance and Posting of the Colors: TBD
Welcome and Overview of Vendor Tables
Opening Remarks: Judge Kevin Spraggs, Marshall Co. Judge Executive
Guest Speaker: TBD
Opening Session: TBD
Convention Center Room A and B

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session A

TBD

TBD

TBD

Convention Center Room A

Concurrent Session B

From Confusion to Clarity: Work-based Learning and Talent Solutions Made Simple

With the recent additions of the Division of Workforce Talent and Division of Apprenticeship, the Office of Industry and

Apprenticeship Services (OIAS) is poised as your “easy-button” to connect you to the vast workforce resources in the Commonwealth. This session will explore the role of the Division of Workforce Talent in connecting businesses, educators, and jobseekers through our team of Workforce Talent Project Managers. Additionally, joined by the Office of Career and Technical Education, there will be a deep dive into apprenticeship and working with youth to set them on the path to great careers through pre-apprenticeship and youth apprenticeship opportunities. In this session, you will learn:

- *How to access the state’s “concierge” talent solutions for full-service workforce support, and*
- *How registered apprenticeship meets immediate hiring needs, builds long-term talent strategies, and expands opportunities for job-seekers.*

Brandon Combs, Assistant Director, Division of Workforce Talent, Office of Industry and Apprenticeship Services (ELC) (tentative)
Mary Taylor, Industry Training and Development Specialist, Division of Technical Schools and Federal Programs (KDE)

Convention Center Room C

11:45 a.m.- 1:15 p.m.

Lunch

Lakeview Pavilion

1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session A

ALICE in Kentucky: A Study of Financial Hardship

ALICE in Kentucky: A Study of Financial Hardship is brought to you by United Way of Kentucky in partnership with United For ALICE, a driver of innovative research and action to promote financial stability for ALICE® (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households. With a commitment to empowering economic mobility, United For ALICE and United Ways across Kentucky share this work with foundations, government, corporations, and other nonprofits to inform policy and promote positive change for ALICE households.

Kevin Middleton, President, United Way of Kentucky

Convention Center Room A

Concurrent Session B

The Blueprint for Balance: Proven Do's and Dont's for Both Sides of the Table

Join Labor and Management leaders from TVA for a discussion on the critical role strong partnerships play in today's workforce environment. Featuring perspectives from both management and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, this panel will discuss how trust, communication, and collaboration help organizations navigate workforce challenges, strengthen operations, and create long term success. This open forum will allow for attendees to hear practical insights and real-work examples of how labor-management relationships can drive safer workplaces, stronger teams, and better outcomes for employees, organizations, and the communities they serve

Matthew Hill Faulkner, Tennessee Valley Authority, Chief
Administrative and Federal Affairs Office
Mitch Brown, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers,
International Representative

Convention Center Room C

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Reception

Lakeview Pavilion

7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Dinner

Lakeview Pavilion

8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Monte Carlo-Team Planning and Building

Convention Center

10:00 p.m.-Midnight

Karaoke

Village Green Meeting Room

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.

Two-Mile Walk/Run

Administration Building

7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Country Ham Breakfast- Sponsored by Kentucky Carpenters
Labor-Management Cooperative Committee

Mimosas- Compliments of Herzfeld, Suetholz, Gastel, Leniski and
Wall, PLLC

Village Green Meeting Room

8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Registration
Convention Center

8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Vendor Exhibit Tables
Convention Center Room B

9:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session A

Leading Through Change: Leadership and Workplace Culture in the Age of AI

As workplaces continue to evolve through rapid technological advancement, shifting workforce expectations, and increasing complexity in communication and culture, leaders are being challenged to build environments that foster trust, adaptability, collaboration, and innovation. This interactive session explores how inclusive leadership practices and healthy workplace culture directly impact employee engagement, team performance, communication, and organizational success in an era increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence and digital transformation. Participants will examine how emerging technologies, workplace dynamics, and leadership decisions influence employee experience, morale, and long-term organizational effectiveness. Through practical examples, discussion, and real-world case studies, attendees will gain tools for navigating change, strengthening workplace relationships, addressing communication barriers, and fostering environments where employees feel valued, heard, and equipped to contribute at a high level.

Trent Findley, CDP, Director, Equitable Community, Metro United Way

Convention Center Room A

Concurrent Session B

Workforce Pipelines: Designing Scalable School–Industry Partnerships

Workforce pipelines do not develop organically. They are designed through intentional systems that connect education and industry in consistent, scalable ways. While many organizations invest in school outreach, these efforts are often fragmented, making it difficult to build sustained talent pipelines.

This session explores how to design and implement a workforce pipeline through structured school–industry partnerships. Attendees will learn how to move beyond isolated engagement efforts and instead build a layered system that connects students to careers through repeated exposure, applied learning, and real-world experience.

Using practical examples, (including on-site manufacturing tours, teacher externships and work-based learning programs such as Summer Works and Grad to Work) this session demonstrates how organizations can create repeatable, scalable engagement systems that strengthen long-term workforce development outcomes and expand access to career pathways across multiple student populations.

Angela Thomas, External Manufacturing Workforce Development Trainer, GE Appliances, A Haier Company

Convention Center Room C

11:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Golf Tournament Team Networking
Golf Course

11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

BBQ and BBQ Ribs Lunch -Sponsored by United Steel Workers District 8
Beer and Soft Drinks- Compliments of Kentucky State AFL-CIO
Lakeview Pavilion

1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Trivia Contest
Convention Center C

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Banquet with Special Guest Speaker TBD
Convention Center

9:00 p.m.-Midnight

TBD
TBD

Thursday, September 17, 2026

7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
(Weigh in 9:30-4:00)

Fishing Tournament Team Networking
Kentucky Dam Marina

7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Country Breakfast
Bloody Mary's- Compliments of Schulz Messex Dermody, PLLC
Village Green Meeting Room

7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Golf Tournament Team Networking

Golf Course

8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Last bracket starts at 3:00)	Cornhole Team Networking <i>Convention Center</i>
9:00 a.m.-Until Conclusion	Skeet Shoot Team Building <i>Calvert City Gun Club</i>
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Bingo Networking <i>Convention Center</i>
11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Hamburger and Hot Dog Lunch <i>Village Green Meeting Room</i>
6:00 p.m.- Until Conclusion	Reception/Dinner/Tournament Prize Giveaway/Non-Profit Donations <i>Convention Center</i>