

Make Kentucky a Top Five State for Manufacturing and Business KAM's Goals for Kentucky January 2025

To maximize short- and long-term job growth, Kentucky should set aggressive economic goals to become a widely acknowledged top five leader among the 50 states for manufacturing and business.

Goal 1: Make Kentucky a Top Five State for Manufacturing and Business

- A. Designate aerospace, artificial intelligence, automotive, chemistry, defense, energy, logistics, and metals as the Commonwealth's top economic development priorities for the next decade.
- B. Modernize the Commonwealth's tax laws so Kentucky is on a level playing field with our neighboring states and the Southeast.
- C. Streamline state and local government operations to distinguish Kentucky in the marketplace.

Goal 2: Reestablish Kentucky's Leadership as a Low-Cost Energy State

- A. Develop an energy strategy that ensures Kentucky is a clear top five state for low-cost, reliable energy.
- B. Reduce regulation of the energy sector to facilitate Kentucky's low-cost energy leadership while prioritizing protection of human health, safety, and the environment.

Goal 3: Innovate to Make Kentucky a Top Workforce State

- A. Distinguish Kentucky in the marketplace as a top state for workforce innovation by making game-changing investments in career and technical education and higher education.
- B. Create a strategic marketing campaign to grow Kentucky's workforce.
- C. Encourage greater automation and technology use by small and medium Kentucky manufacturers to help protect the competitiveness and jobs of those bedrock companies.
- D. Create incentives to develop more affordable housing and high-quality childcare, and to motivate more citizens to enter the workforce.

Goal 4: Make Kentucky a Health Care Leader for Business

- A. Minimize government intrusion in business-funded health care, the backbone of the American health care system.
- B. Reform pharmacy benefit management practices and misuse of federal low-cost drug programs as key early steps to lower Kentucky's private and public health care spending.
- C. Update Kentucky's medical guidelines for workers' compensation disability ratings to the most current American Medical Association recommendations, as competing states have.