

Youth One Year Out (YOYO)

Former student interview



What is the YOYO?

The YOYO is a voluntary and confidential phone interview conducted with all students in Kentucky who exited high school in the previous school year, had an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in place at the time of exit, and exited by graduation with a regular diploma, alternative diploma, reached maximum age, or dropped out. When necessary, information may be gathered from a parent, guardian, or caregiver on behalf of the student.

When is the YOYO?

The YOYO takes place every year between April 1 and August 31. Schools must obtain updated contact information before the student's final year. Schools should also notify former students in preparation for the YOYO interview.

Who conducts the YOYO?

The district Director of Special Education (DoSE) will designate staff to conduct the YOYO interviews. All YOYO interviewers must attend a training provided by the [Kentucky Post School Outcomes Center \(KPSO\)](#).

Why is the YOYO important?

The information gathered from the interview can help schools understand how well their programs are working. It helps identify factors leading to a successful transition from high school to adulthood. The YOYO is also a federal and state requirement!

Where can I find more information?

The [Educators](#) page on the KPSO website contains a wealth of information and resources. Please also reference [YOYO Interviewer Best Practices](#).

What happens after the YOYO?

KPSO will analyze the data, and statewide findings will be published every fall on our [Post-School Outcome Data](#) page. KPSO also publishes an annual [Statewide Annual Report](#).

Findings from the 2026 YOYO:

59.7% of former students participated in the 2026 YOYO interview. These students exited high school during the 2024-2025 school year.

Employment:

- Competitively employed– **43.2%**
- Other employment (E.g., self-employed)– **15.8%**
 - **29.5%** of former students who had any type of paying job since leaving high school disclosed their disability to their employer.

Education:

- Enrolled in higher education– **18.4%**
- Other postsecondary education/training programs– **6.4%**
 - **35.5%** of former students pursuing any type of postsecondary education contacted their Disability Services Coordinator (DSC).

District/SERTAC Spotlight:

- 41 **districts** had completion rates of 90% or above.
- Congratulations to the Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative (**KVEC**) for having the highest SERTAC completion rate of 81.7%!

What did former students (and their parents) say in 2026?

“My resource teachers in high school prepared me for life in college. They provided life lessons as well. They are why I am studying to become a resource teacher myself.”

“[The most important thing I learned was] to take responsibility and take time to be in the moment instead of the past.”

“I liked the support I got when I was in class, and it was helpful to work on those soft skills they kept hounding.”

“I had lots of opportunities to explore career paths my senior year and an opportunity to intern in a law setting that I may want to pursue one day.”

About KYPSO:



KYPSO aims to increase the capacity of Local Education Agencies (LEAs), teachers, parents, and adult service providers to provide exemplary transition planning and increase student post-school success. KYPSO works closely with Special Education Regional Technical Assistance Centers (SERTACs) and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to provide data and training to improve transition outcomes for youth with disabilities. KYPSO develops and oversees the YOYO, which collects valuable post-school outcome data. This data is often used for research by both KYPSO and partners. For questions, please [email KYPSO](#).