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WEST KY NEWS

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WKCTC Reports Increase in Fall Enrollment, Marking Continued Growth and Community Impact

PADUCAH, Ky. — Enrollment continues to climb at West Kentucky Community and Technical College, where Fall 2025 headcount reached 5,384 students — a 2.1% increase, or 110 more students than last year. The growth reflects WKCTC’s ongoing momentum and its expanding role in supporting education and workforce development across Western Kentucky.

At a time when many colleges nationwide are seeing enrollment declines, WKCTC’s steady



gains highlight the college’s commitment to accessibility, affordability and student success, as well as its deep connection to the communities it serves.

“Fall enrollment numbers continue to rise,” said WKCTC President Dr. Anton Reece. “This growth reinforces the vital role our college plays in helping students discover their path to a better future. Whether through hands-on workforce training or university transfer programs, WKCTC continues to provide the foundation students need to succeed.”

WKCTC offers a broad range of academic and technical programs designed to meet the evolving needs of the region’s workforce, including healthcare, skilled trades, information technology,

education and business. The college emphasizes personalized support and flexible learning options to help students of all backgrounds access quality higher education close to home.

The enrollment increase reflects WKCTC’s mission-driven approach to education and the collective efforts of its faculty, staff and community partners dedicated to student achievement and regional development.



Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

The community is invited to join the Paducah Board of Commissioners for a Tree Lighting Ceremony on Tuesday, November 18. The Board will “flip the switch” to illuminate the 26-foot tall downtown Christmas tree to kick off the 2025 holiday season.

The celebration will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Water Street in front of the large floodwall opening between Broadway and Jefferson Street with the official tree lighting at the end of the celebration. Enjoy special musical performances and more.

Paducah Parks and Recreation Veterans Day Events



- These are various activities organized by the City of Paducah and other organizations to honor and celebrate veterans on Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11.

Sunrise Reveille - The Veterans Day Sunrise Reveille will begin at approximately 6:15 a.m. at the Vietnam Veterans Monument in Dolly McNutt Memorial Plaza (301 South 5th Street) on November 11.
- Reveille will be played along with the raising of the flag at sunrise.

Veterans Day Awards and Opening Ceremony - An awards and opening ceremony will be at 10 a.m. on November 11 at Dolly McNutt Memorial Plaza. The event includes honoring the Patriot Award winner, Distinguished Veteran, and the winners of the Paducah Chapter,
- Daughters of American Revolution Veterans Day Poster & Essay Contest.

Veterans Day Parade - On November 11, the Veterans Day Parade begins at 11 a.m. at 6th and Washington Streets. It will travel along 6th Street before turning right on Broadway and heading toward the riverfront. At Water Street, it will turn left and disband at Jefferson Street.



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