



Kentucky Treatment Law Report Card

Last Updated: June 2026

Method and scoring: *State involuntary civil commitment laws* are evaluated using a 100-point grading scale. The scoring criteria are in accordance with TAC's values and policy recommendations. Up to 50 points are awarded to a state based on the quality of its inpatient commitment law, and up to 50 points are awarded based on the quality of its outpatient commitment law. *Grades reflect solely what is written in law and not how those laws are implemented or applied.* Final letter grades are computed using the following scale:

97 or above	A+	87–89	B+	77–79	C+	67–69	D+	59 or below	F
93–96	A	83–86	B	73–76	C	63–66	D		
90–92	A-	80–82	B-	70–72	C-	60–62	D-		

PART ONE: Inpatient Commitment Statute (up to 50 points)

Criterion	Citation	Specifications	Points
1. Citizen access to court, emergency evaluation (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 202A.051(3), (7); 202A.028	☒ Authorizes family/enumerated adults (3 pts) ☒ Authorizes any responsible adult (2 pts)	5
2. Quality of emergency petition process (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 202A.041(1), 202A.051, 202A.028(1), 202A.031	☒ Process specified and reasonable (2 pts) ☒ Timelines specified and reasonable (2 pts) ☒ Responsible entities identified (1 pt) ☐ Requires certification by more than one professional (-2 pts) ☐ Emergency evaluation criteria inconsistent with inpatient commitment criteria (-5 pts)	5
3. Emergency hold duration (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 202A.028(1), 202A.031	☒ At least 48-hour hold allowed (3 pts) ☒ At least 72-hour hold allowed (2 pts) Not to exceed 72 hours	5
4. Citizen access to court, inpatient petition (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.051(3)	☒ Authorizes family/enumerated adults (3 pts) ☒ Authorizes any responsible adult (2 pts) Spouse, relative, friend, guardian, or any responsible adult	5
5. Quality of criteria for harm or violence to self or others (up to 10 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.011(5)(as amended by SB 122, effective Oct. 2026)	☒ Contains explicit criteria (10 pts) ☐ Language is vague/ambiguous (-3 pts) ☐ Harm must be imminent (-3 pts)	10
6. Quality of criteria for grave disability/basic needs (up to 10 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.011(5)(c)(as amended by SB 122, effective Oct. 2026)	☒ Contains explicit criteria (10 pts) ☐ Language is vague/ambiguous (-3 pts) ☐ Endangerment must be imminent (-3 pts) ☐ Criteria require family to turn person out of home to receive treatment (-3 pts) ☐ Unreasonably high risk of harm (-3 pts)	10
7. Quality of criteria for psychiatric deterioration (up to 10 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.011(5)(d)(as amended by SB 122, effective Oct. 2026)	☒ Contains explicit criteria (10 pts) ☐ Language is vague/ambiguous (-3 pts)	10
SUBTOTAL			50

PART ONE: Extra Credit

1. Specifies in which court a petition for inpatient commitment shall be filed (1 pt)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.051(1)	District Court	1
Extra Credit			1
PART ONE TOTAL			51

PART TWO: Outpatient Commitment Statute (up to 50 points)			
Criterion	Citation	Specifications	Points
1. AOT explicitly authorized (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0815	☐ Requires local government to adopt (-3 pts)	5
2. Citizen access to court for AOT (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0811(3)	☒ Authorizes family/enumerated adults (3 pts) ☒ Authorizes any responsible adult (2 pts) ☐ Authorizes citizen petition to mental health system only (-2 pts)	5
3. Criteria sufficiently broad to provide actual access (up to 10 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0815	Evaluate applicable provision only: ☐ If inpatient/outpatient criteria are the same: ☐ Inpatient criteria include future deterioration standard (10 pts) <u>or</u> (check one) ☐ No deterioration but usable grave disability standard for AOT (5 pts) <u>or</u> ☒ If outpatient criteria are distinct from inpatient criteria: ☒ Allows consideration of length of treatment history ≥ 36 months (2 pts) ☒ Does not exclude periods of incarceration or hospitalization (-1 pt) ☒ Does not limit application to those currently dangerous or unstable (4 pts) ☒ Does not limit application to those refusing service or currently lacking insight (4 pts) (See comment below)	9
4. Authorizes AOT directly from community (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0811		5
5. Procedures sufficiently detailed to guide practitioners (up to 5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 202A.0811 to 202A.0829	☒ Process specified and reasonable (1 pt) ☒ Timelines specified and reasonable (1 pt) ☒ Responsible entities identified (1 pt) ☒ Periodic reporting to court required (1 pt) ☒ Renewal process expressly specified (1 pt)	5
6. Procedures require the treatment plan to be shared with the court (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0817		5
7. Specifies procedures and consequences for nonadherence (5 pts)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0823		5
8. Duration of initial order	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0819(5)	☐ = 90 days (2 pts) <u>or</u> ☒ > 90 days (5 pts) Not to exceed 360 days	5
9. Duration of continued order	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0825	☐ = 180 days (2 pts) <u>or</u> ☒ > 180 days (5 pts) Not to exceed 360 days	5
SUBTOTAL			49
PART TWO: Extra Credit			
1. Specifies court for AOT (1 pt)	Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0811(1)	District Court	1
2. Court monitoring of voluntary settlement agreements (5 pts)	2026 Ky. Acts ch. 92, sec. 18, effective Oct. 2026		5
Extra Credit			6
PART TWO TOTAL			55

FINAL SCORE	
PART ONE TOTAL	51
PART TWO TOTAL	55
TOTAL	106
TREATMENT LAW GRADE	A+

Comment: Ky. Rev. Stat. § 202A.0815 allows consideration of 48 months for history of hospitalization or arrest and 24 months for history of acts of, threats of, or attempts at physical harm towards others or self.