Counselor Connection April 2021



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Schools, students can win with FAFSA Completion Challenge

Eight Kentucky high schools and four 2021 Kentucky high school graduates will win \$500 from KHEAA this summer for participating in the FAFSA Completion Challenge.

The challenge is open to all public and private high schools in the state and to 2021 high school graduates who have filed the FAFSA.

Schools will be divided into four groups: small public, medium public, large public, and private. One school in each group will win \$500 for having the overall highest percentage of FAFSA completions. In addition, one school in each group will win for having the highest percentage increase in FAFSA completion from May 3 through July 30.

High schools that want to participate must register at <u>kygoestocollege.com</u> no later than May 14.

Four graduates who register at kygoestocollege.com will receive \$500 scholarships in a random drawing. The deadline for graduates to register is midnight Eastern time on July 30. The scholarships are one-time only awards.

The awards have been made possible by a grant from the National College Attainment Network.

KHEAA will also use the funding for webinars for students, families, school counselors and college access professionals. Webinars for students and families will be held weekly beginning with the week of May 3 and continuing through the week of Aug. 9. The webinars for counselors and college access professionals will be held twice a month from May through August.

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KHEAA publishes the *Counselor Connection* to share information about student financial aid, college preparation and college planning. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please send them to <u>publications@kheaa.com</u>.

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KHEAA continues hosting social media outreach

KHEAA Outreach will continue to provide live help in April via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The schedule is:

- April 20: Game Time: College Jeopardy, Facebook
- April 21: Game Time: The Price is Right!, Twitter
- April 22: Game Time: Finish the Phrase, Instagram
- **April 27:** Wrapping Up Financial Aid: Award Letters and Decisions, *Facebook*
- April 28: Wrapping Up Financial Aid: Verification 101, *Twitter*
- April 29: Wrapping Up Financial Aid: It's Not Too Late, *Instagram*
- May 4: Still Deciding? May the Fourth Be With You, *Facebook*
- May 5: Still Deciding? Things to Consider When Deciding, *Twitter*
- May 6: Still Deciding? Action Items in Finalizing College Decisions, *Instagram*
- May 11: Already Decided? Orientation and Registration, *Facebook*
- May 12: Already Decided? Residence Life and Transition Experiences, *Twitter*
- May 13: Already Decided? Preparing for Your Future, *Instagram*
- May 18: Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship: The Ins and Outs, *Facebook*
- May 19: Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship: FAQ about Applying, *Twitter*
- May 20: Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship: The Basics, *Instagram*
- May 25: Setting Up For Success: FAFSA Frenzy, *Facebook*



- May 26: Setting Up For Success: Using Your KEES Money, *Twitter*
- May 27: Setting Up For Success: Senior Exit Checklist, *Instagram*

All sessions begin at 3 p.m. Eastern, 2 p.m. Central.

The links are:

www.facebook.com/KHEAA/

www.twitter.com/KHEAA

www.instagram.com/kheaaoutreach/?hl=en

Final spring financial aid webinar to be held May 6

The final spring KHEAA Outreach financial aid webinar about financial aid will be:

• Surviving College: A Guide to Persisting to Graduation, Thursday, May 6, 7 p.m. Eastern

To register, visit <u>https://kygoestocollege.com/</u>. That page also has links to videos of previous webinars.

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KHEAA scholarship essay contest deadline is May 31

The deadline for a student attending a KEES-eligible high school to submit an entry in KHEAA's scholarship essay contest is May 31.

Students must be sophomores this school year.

The winner will receive a \$500 college scholarship and a photo shoot at their high school. The photos will be used in KHEAA publications and on KHEAA websites.

To be considered for the scholarship, students must submit an essay addressing one of these subjects:

- "How I will inspire others to do better"
- "How education makes a community stronger."

The essay must be no more than 200 words in length and cannot mention the student's name, school, county or community. The essay should not identify the student by race, gender, religion or other manner. Essays in excess of 200 words or ones that include identifying information will be disqualified.

The essay topic must be clearly indicated at the top of the page. The student's name, address and high school must be listed at the bottom of the essay. The student must be a high school junior during the 2021–2022 school year. For contest details, visit <u>kheaa.com/website/contest/intro</u>.

Students from high schools that have been featured in the past five years — Bullitt East, Warren East, Paducah St. Mary, Logan County and Daviess County — are not eligible to enter this year's contest.



Scholarship Spotlight

4-H Equine Club

Race for Education "Leg Up" Award

Eligibility: Must be a Kentucky 4-H equine club member and be a graduating Kentucky high school senior. Individual clubs may have additional criteria.

Award: \$250 - \$500

Deadline: May 1

Number: Varies

Application: <u>http://raceforeducation.org/programs/</u> scholarships



Does your child need more money for college? We can help.

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