



COUNSELOR CONNECTION

Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority
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Students have different options after high school

Many students think of education after high school as the traditional four-year college degree. However, students who don't want to go that route have other options from which to choose.

One option is to get a two-year degree that leads to a job in the workforce. A second option is a diploma or certificate that takes six to 18 months to finish, then find a job.

Students can often take advantage of federal and state financial aid programs to help them pay for that training. They should contact the financial aid office of the school they plan to attend to learn more about student aid.

Military service is another option students have. That doesn't mean their education has to stop at high school. All branches of the service have education options for service men and women, either while they're in uniform or after their discharge. Many states even have college aid programs for National Guard members.

Service members should contact their unit educational office to discuss their student aid options.



College Info Road Show Outreach Counselor giving a presentation on the mobile classroom.

Schools, other groups can request visit from College Info Road Show

KHEAA's College Info Road Show is ready to visit Kentucky middle schools, high schools, adult education centers, libraries and other organizations to help students and families learn more about their college options.

Equipped with wireless Internet access, the Road Show and its on-board counselor, Kevin Wilson, can provide an overview of student financial aid programs and services and can help with completion of the FAFSA. Visitors can also create a MyKHEAA account on kheaa.com and access online resources for career assessments, test preparation, scholarship searches, KHEAA account information and more.

To schedule a visit, please contact Wilson at 502.352.5697 or kwilson@kheaa.com.

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 publications@kheaa.com.



WWW.BIT.LY/KHEAAFACEBOOK

Sims joins KHEAA as outreach counselor



Tré Sims is the new outreach counselor for KHEAA in Central Kentucky. He will work in Bourbon, Fayette, Franklin, Harrison, Jessamine, Scott and Woodford counties.

“I am ecstatic about continuing to work within the Central Kentucky area with students, their families and organizations to provide life-changing opportunities for their college careers and lives,” he said. “I can’t wait to share valuable information and build close connections within my region and share my own personal college journey.”

In addition to schools, Sims will work with adult education centers, state agencies and other groups. He can be reached at tsims@kheaa.com or 502-330-8002.

“We are thrilled to have Tré as a member of the KHEAA Outreach team,” KHEAA Director of Outreach Services Kim Dolan said. “It will be exciting to see him put his experience working in college admissions and volunteering with a variety of youth organizations to use as an outreach counselor in Central Kentucky.”

Sims graduated from Berea College in 2015 with a major in African and African American studies and a minor in music. He sings, writes and produces his own music and plays basketball in his spare time. Before joining KHEAA, Sims was an admissions counselor for Berea.

Check net price calculators to get idea of college costs

Kentucky high school students headed for college can get an idea of how much it costs to attend a college using the school’s net price calculator.

The U.S. Department of Education requires colleges to have a calculator on their websites.

The calculator will require information about a student’s academic standing and about parents’ finances. It is important to remember that the result is an estimate that may be off by thousands of dollars.

Be sure to look at the net price, not the net cost. The net price is the amount a family can expect to pay toward a student’s college education, including any loans. The net cost takes into account student loans, which must be repaid, so it will look lower than the net price.

Students and parents can get free estimates for up to six colleges across the country using the “Getting the Facts” program on kheaa.com. To get a free estimate, a student must sign in and set up an account. Students and parents should talk with the financial aid office at each college to get more accurate information.

Applications for 2019 U.S. Senate Youth Program available

2019 United States Senate Youth Program materials are ready for distribution by the Kentucky Department of Education.

High school juniors and seniors are eligible if they have not previously been a delegate to the program and are serving in a school-wide, district, regional or state elected capacity in a student government, civic or educational organization. Students should have above average grades and an interest in government. They should also be articulate, as they will be participating in discussion groups with national leaders in Washington.

The program offers two student leaders from each state a \$10,000 college scholarship and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to see the U.S. Senate in action. It is funded by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.

Counselors who have students interested in the program should request an application and a timed test from KDE. Schools can make copies of the test, but students should not see it before they take it. Students, teachers and the school official who administers the test should not discuss answers.

Please contact donna.melton@education.ky.gov for an application.

Applications and tests must be postmarked by Oct. 15 and mailed to:

Donna Melton
Kentucky Department of Education
300 Sower Blvd., 5 CSE 6
Frankfort, KY 40601



Scholarship Spotlight

St. James Court Art Show Scholarship

Eligibility: Must be a Kentucky high school graduating senior for the portfolio competition or be a graduating senior attending a high school in the Louisville area (Bullitt, Jefferson, Oldham, Shelby or Spencer County, Kentucky, or Clark or Floyd County, Indiana) and be recommended by a visual arts instructor.

Number: 5

Award: Varies; up to \$15,000

Deadline: Sept. 19

Contact: Karen Clayton, Assistant Director, St. James Court Art Show, 502.635.1842,

kclayton@stjamescourtartshow.com

Kentucky Concrete Association: William T. Robertson Essay Award Scholarship

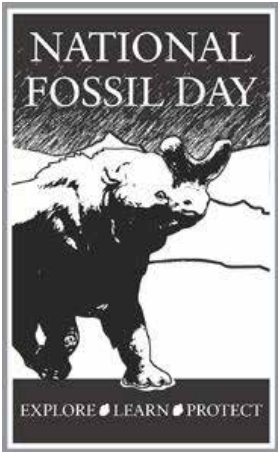
Eligibility: Must be a graduating high school senior and submit an entry form and essay of no more than 600 words. The essay must be typed, double-spaced and with 1.5-inch margins.

Award: \$2,000

Deadline: Oct. 31

Contact: Counselor or Josh Huddy, Director of Education and Marketing, josh@kyconcrete.org, 502.682.1903, kyconcrete.org

Students can enter Fossil Day photo and art contest



Students can enter the National Fossil Day Art and Photography Contest presented by the National Park Service with the theme of “The Age of Reptiles — More Than Just Dinosaurs.”

The artwork can be in the form of a sketch, painting, watercolor, photograph (black/white or color), or computer-generated image.

All artwork must be two dimensional and flat. Students should include a sentence or two on the submission form describing their choice and why it is their favorite.

The artwork will be judged by a panel on originality, creativity, quality and, most importantly, relevance to the topic. Submissions will be divided into four age groups:

- 8 or younger
- 9 to 13
- 14 to 18
- 19 or older

The deadline to submit entries is 5 p.m. Eastern time on Oct. 5.

More details about National Fossil Day can be found at nps.gov/subjects/fossilday/index.htm.

Online security can help protect you from cyber thieves

The hacking theft of credit and debit card numbers should make everyone, including students, more careful about protecting their money from cyber thieves. The following measures can help.

Never provide Social Security numbers, bank account numbers or credit card numbers in response to a phone call, fax, letter or email. If you get an email from a bank or company with which you do business, don't click on any links in the email. They may lead you to a fake web page run by thieves hoping you'll enter personal information. Scammers also use such links to install spyware or malware on your device. Instead, sign in through the website you normally use.

Never provide bank, credit card or other sensitive data on a website that doesn't explain how your data will be protected or offer encryption to transmit and store data safely.

Check your bank and credit card accounts regularly to catch any suspicious activities. If you find something, contact your bank or credit card company immediately.

Install a free or low-cost firewall to stop intruders from gaining remote access to your personal computer. Download and frequently update security patches offered by your operating system and software vendors to correct weaknesses that a hacker could exploit.

State board discusses new graduation requirements

High school students would have to demonstrate basic skills in reading and math and achieve academic or career readiness to graduate, among other requirements, under a proposal being considered by the Kentucky Board of Education. If approved in October, the new requirements will take effect with the freshmen entering high school in the fall of 2019.

Under the proposal, students would need to complete at least 22 credits to graduate:

- English I and II, plus two more English/language arts credits aligned with the student's Individual Learning Plan (ILP)
- Algebra I, geometry and two more math credits aligned with the ILP
- 3 credits social studies (at least one aligned with the ILP)
- 3 credits science (at least one aligned with the ILP)
- 1 credit visual and performing arts
- ½ credit physical education
- ½ credit health
- 6 additional credits aligned with the ILP

Students also would have to demonstrate proficiency in reading and mathematics on a 10th-grade test. If they fail, they can take the test twice as juniors and twice as seniors. Students who still do not pass can show proficiency through a portfolio.

Students would be required to pass a civics exam, receive instruction in financial literacy and show competency in essential skills and technology, as well as showing academic or career readiness as defined by the state.

A written overview of the proposed changes and a comparison of the old and proposed requirements is available [online](#).



Campaign will familiarize students with careers

The Kentucky Department of Education has begun a campaign to increase awareness about careers, especially technical careers. The What Will You Be, Kentucky? campaign is collecting stories from Kentuckians about how they chose their career and what route they took to get hired.

The campaign will share the stories on a website, through social media and other digital outlets. While the campaign will spotlight careers in five high-demand workforce sectors — advanced manufacturing, business/IT, construction trades, health care, and transportation/logistics — stories from all career paths will be accepted.

Whether your story is about how you achieved your career goals or you are an employer wanting to share your need for skilled workers, please email your stories to whatwillyoubeky@education.ky.gov.

Create a free MyKHEAA account to:

- ✔ Check your KEES awards
- ✔ View state grant awards
- ✔ Apply for the Work Ready Kentucky and other KHEAA scholarships

✔ Request a FREE personalized **Getting The Facts** report that breaks down college costs and estimates financial aid

visit KHEAA.COM today!



Your first step toward college!

Learn how to plan & pay for higher education!

