



Counselor Connection

August 2022

Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority | PO Box 798 | Frankfort, KY 40602-0798
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Pilot scholarship program will help displaced students

A pilot scholarship program will help students who have come to Kentucky because of crises in their home countries. The scholarships are funded by a \$10 million appropriation by the General Assembly.

The Innovative Scholarship Pilot Program will help students who have received or applied for asylum in the U.S. or who meet other criteria.

“Making Kentucky a welcoming place for people who have been displaced by a crisis in their home country is important,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “These new humanitarian scholarships will go a long way in helping them further their education and contribute to our communities and economy. I’m proud of our great colleges and universities for participating in this worthwhile program.”



The program also provides scholarships for native Kentuckians attending instate colleges to study in other nations.

“This scholarship program will give displaced students the chance to earn a degree at one of our outstanding colleges and universities and go on to use those skills to contribute to our state’s economy,” said Kentucky Senate President Robert Stivers. “Kentucky students will also have the opportunity to study internationally. Helping students gain those learning experiences will help strengthen our workforce.”

The scholarship is jointly administered by KHEAA and the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE).

Funds for the Kentucky Humanitarian Assistance Scholarships and Kentucky Scholarships for Cultural Exchange will be distributed to campuses by KHEAA starting this summer. They are available to both public and private, nonprofit Kentucky higher education institutions. Campuses are required to provide a 25 percent match to receive the grants.

As part of the program, CPE will provide support for college and university staff who recruit, advise and support students from displaced populations.



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.

Getting admitted

When students have chosen the schools that interest them, it's time to apply. Most colleges and universities require students to apply online. Most applications are straightforward — personal information, grades and test scores. It's up to the student to take the correct tests and have them reported to the school.

Students should pay attention to deadlines for admissions, financial aid and housing, if they plan to live on campus, plus find out about deposits, orientation and registering for classes.

Admissions essays

Some colleges require an admissions essay. The essay not only helps to get admitted; it can sometimes help to get more aid for the student.

“The first thing I check for is whether or not they proofread,” one admissions counselor at a private Kentucky university said. “After that, I want to see flow of thought. Can they communicate their thoughts in a way that is concise, while giving us a view into their world?”

Tip: Have the student read the essay out loud to catch awkwardly worded sentences. Teachers and counselors can offer to proofread the essay. Most schools will figure out if the student has had someone write it for them.

“I look for creativity that showcases a student's personality, but also gives insight into their grit and perseverance,” another counselor said.

Tip: Writing about how they overcame adversity in school or athletics is overdone.

Have the student try to grab the reader's attention early in the essay and stay on topic.

“I love an interesting first line,” one counselor said, adding, “A longer essay doesn't always mean a better essay.”

Many U.S. colleges participate in the Common Application process. Students will fill out one application, write one essay and provide one résumé and one letter of recommendation. Then they decide which colleges they want the information sent to.

Tip: Above all, students should follow directions when writing their essay. Not doing so may keep them from getting into the school they really like.

Admissions options

Some colleges offer early decision or early action options.

In early decision, students commit to enrolling in the school if admitted. They make a nonrefundable deposit and withdraw applications from other school.

With early action, they apply to their preferred school and receive a decision before the normal response date.

Tip: After deciding which college they will attend, students should let the school know and then tell the other schools they've applied to that they won't attend. Students can ask parents, counselors or the admissions staff if there are questions.

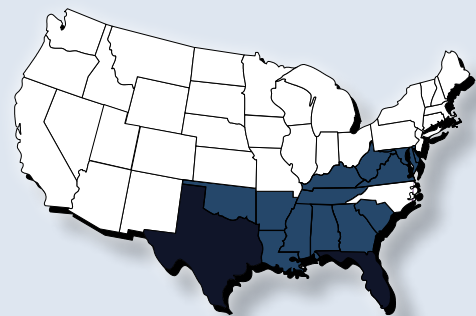
THE ACADEMIC COMMON MARKET

If a particular major isn't offered at a public university in Kentucky, the student may be able to pay in-state tuition at an out-of-state school through the Academic Common Market.

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia participate at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Florida and Texas participate at the graduate level.

For more information, visit <http://cpe.ky.gov/acm/apply-acm.html>. You may also contact the Council on Postsecondary Education, 100 Airport Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601; acmhelp@ky.gov; 502.892.3082.



■ Academic Common Market States
■ Graduate-Level Participant States

Pay attention to deadlines for student financial aid

Students should keep a close eye on deadlines when applying for student financial aid.

“As Kentucky students make their plans for beginning or continuing their postsecondary education, they should try to get all the financial aid they can,” said Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman. “To make sure they do so, they need to apply for that aid on a timely basis. Every scholarship or grant they receive will reduce their dependence on student loans.”

Here are some helpful student financial aid tips from KHEAA:

- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible beginning Oct. 1. You must submit the FAFSA to qualify for most state and federal student aid.
- Check with the financial aid offices of the schools to which you’ve applied to determine if they require any forms other than the FAFSA.
- Look for scholarships using KHEAA’s Affording Higher Education and a free online scholarship search. You can find a link to a free search site under the “Paying for College” tab on kheaa.com.
- Attend any college fairs and financial aid seminars offered in your area. If a company charges a fee for helping with applications, remember that you can do that yourself for free. If you decide to pay for help, make sure the company is reputable by checking with the attorney general’s office or the Better Business Bureau in your area, as well as the area where the firm is located.



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High school planners

Freshmen

- Develop good study habits.
- If you attend a public Kentucky high school, take the time to become familiar with your ILP.
- Make good grades.
- Make sure you understand how the KEES program works.
- Set up an account on kheaa.com.

Sophomores

- Talk with your counselor about AP, other advanced classes and dual credit courses.
- If you attend a public Kentucky high school, check your ILP to make sure you're on track.
- Check your KEES account to make sure the information is correct.
- Make a list of colleges that interest you.
- Consider taking the PSAT as a prep for your junior year, when it counts.

Juniors

- Talk with your school counselor about your options and plans.
- Develop a list of colleges you're interested in. Check out [Getting In](#), a KHEAA publication that lists Kentucky colleges and universities.
- Ask for a preview of your academic record and profile. Talk with your counselor on how you can get accepted to the school of your choice.
- Begin planning college visits. Try to time your visit so you can see classes going on.

Seniors

- Ask colleges you're interested in to send you admissions information.
- If you're applying for Early Decision, start filling out the forms to meet the deadline.
- If you haven't taken the ACT/SAT or if you think you can do better, take it again.
- Get with your counselor to find out about the financial sources available to you. Use KHEAA's [Affording Higher Education](#). A new edition will be available this fall. You can also use the free scholarship search link on kheaa.com.

Scholarship Spotlight

Kentucky Association of Fairs and Horse Shows Youth Scholarship

Eligibility: Must have participated in any approved agricultural class; have been an active volunteer the current year at their local county fair; be recommended by their local fair; be a high school senior or a first-year postsecondary school student; be under age 21 as of October 1 of the application year; be a resident of the county of the nominating fair; and submit an application, a 1-page letter of recommendation from the local fair board and an essay of up to 500 words on the topic "Describe how your personal life skills have been enhanced by your involvement in your local fair activities." The recipient should attend the annual business meeting in January to receive the scholarship.

Award: \$1,500; nonrenewable

Number: 6

Deadline: October 1

Contact: Mike Poynter, 105 Sunset Drive, Hustonville, KY 40437; m_poynter@yahoo.com; www.kafs.net

ACT National Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
Oct. 22, 2022	Sept. 16, 2022	Sept. 30, 2022
Dec. 10, 2022	Nov. 4, 2022	Nov. 11, 2022
Feb. 11, 2023	Jan. 6, 2023	Jan. 20, 2023
April 15, 2023	March 10, 2023	March 24, 2023
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023
July 15, 2023	June 16, 2023	June 23, 2023

SAT National Test Dates

Oct. 1, 2022	Sept. 2, 2022	Sept. 20, 2022
Nov. 5, 2022	Oct. 7, 2022	Oct. 10, 2022
Dec. 3, 2022	Nov. 3, 2022	Nov. 22, 2022
March 11, 2023	Feb. 10, 2023	Feb. 28, 2023
May 6, 2023	April 7, 2023	April 25, 2023
June 3, 2023	May 4, 2023	May 23, 2023



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Grants will help address health care shortage

Kentucky's public 2- and 4-year colleges and universities have received \$8 million in grants to help address the shortage of health care workers.

The grants, funded by the General Assembly, will help colleges expand programs to get more front-line health care workers trained and on the job. The grants were made by the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education's Healthcare Workforce Collaborative.

The grants will be used to develop and expand clinical learning programs by:

- Developing courses and increasing enrollment.
- Providing supplemental learning.
- Recruiting and retaining faculty.
- Expanding advising and outreach efforts.
- Adopting up-to-date technology.
- Providing work experiences during training.
- Targeting rural regions to develop training programs.

Strategies include offering flexible evening and weekend courses, awarding college credit to high school students who complete summer programs, sharing staff between health care facilities and colleges, and more.

The funds will also be used to recruit and retain underrepresented minority students. In Kentucky, about 4% of nurses are Black and about 1% are Hispanic. The plans focus largely on nursing programs due to the nursing shortage crisis in the state. According to state officials, Kentucky is projected to need 16,000 more nurses by 2024. Training for other front-line professionals — including physicians, physician assistants, physical therapists, mental health practitioners and medical social workers — was also included in the plans.



KHEAA Outreach schedules Facebook, Twitter sessions

KHEAA Outreach will provide live help this fall semester via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

The schedule is:

- Sept. 12:** Life Hack: Planning and Preparing for College, Facebook
- Sept. 19:** Life Hack: Exploring Admissions, Twitter
- Oct. 3:** No Tricks ... Just Treats: Completing the FAFSA, Facebook
- Oct. 10:** [FAFSA Completion Walk Through](#), Webinar
- Oct. 17:** No Tricks ... Just Treats: FAFSA Tips, Twitter
- Nov. 7:** Gifts That Keep on Giving: Financial Aid Opportunities, Facebook
- Nov. 14:** Gifts That Keep on Giving: KY Saves 529, Twitter
- Dec. 5:** Santa's Nice List: Advantage Loans, Facebook
- Dec. 12:** Santa's Nice List: Loan Borrowing Tips, Twitter

All sessions begin at 7 p.m. Eastern, 6 p.m. Central.

The links are:

www.facebook.com/KHEAA/

www.twitter.com/KHEAA/