

## KHEAA high school vlogger discusses spring semester

KHEAA vlogger Shelby Newman gives advice about how high school seniors can make the most of their last semester of school.

Newman, a senior at Louisville Valley High School, posted her latest vlog on [YouTube](#) earlier this month. Among her tips:

- Advice about narrowing down your list of schools if you haven't already decided,
- Having a Plan B in case your first school choice doesn't come through,
- Not letting senioritis put a dent in your GPA, and
- Continuing to do scholarship searches. She recommends using Fastweb ([www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)).

## KHEAA seeking feedback about its outreach services

KHEAA is seeking feedback from students and parents about the outreach services we provide.

If you have students or parents who might be interested in providing suggestions and comments, they can click on one of the links below to do so:

- Parents, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9PW8F2G>
- Students, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GMMNN5D>

The survey takes only a few minutes to complete. Thank you for your help.

## Financial aid workshop set for March 6 in Louisville

High school counselors are invited to attend the Counselor Training for College and Career Planning for High School Students on March 6 at Sullivan University in Louisville.

The free, one-day workshop will present information about student financial aid programs, provide updated information from KHEAA, and touch on timely, special interests in counseling.

Attendees will earn 6 credits in Effective Instructional Leadership Training requirements. Counselors must be present for the entire program to receive the 6 credit hours certificate. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Arriving late (after 8:30) forfeits receipt of the certificate. No partial credit will be given.

Anyone interested must register at <https://forms.gle/mBzz8iT6BN6Yur4HA> by Monday, February 24, to ensure that enough materials will be available for all participants.

Light breakfast items will be provided and lunch will be served. Each session site will have more information.

The workshop is sponsored by the Kentucky Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (KASFAA) and the Kentucky Association for College Admissions Counselors (KYACAC).



## FY2019 Outreach report available in print, online

The FY2019 KHEAA Outreach Annual Report is now available in print and online. The number of print copies is limited, however.

The report shows that KHEAA has had a positive impact on students when it comes to considering higher education. Surveys conducted by regional outreach counselors showed that students were more likely to say they were considering higher education after a KHEAA presentation than before the presentation. The number of students who said after the presentation that they would still not consider post-high school education dropped by nearly 30 percent.

KHEAA Outreach staff conducted more than 1,450 FAFSA workshops during FY2019. Kentucky ranked No. 1 in the nation for FAFSA completion between Oct. 1 and mid-November, the peak FAFSA season. Through March, the state was still in the top ten.

The Kentucky College Coach Program places near-peer college coaches in high schools across the state. KHEAA participates in the program by hiring coaches for 30 high schools. Two coaches, Emily Bowman at Lynn Camp High and Kody Ruark at Nicholas County High, received Governor's Service Awards for their work.

KHEAA also sponsors the Kentucky College Application Campaign, which guides high school seniors through the college admissions process. More than 130 high schools participated in FY2019, reaching more than 26,000 seniors. The results of surveys showed that 76 percent of the respondents thought the campaign had increased the likelihood that they would pursue education after high school.

For a print copy, please email [outreach@kheaa.com](mailto:outreach@kheaa.com). You can find the online version on [www.kheaa.com](http://www.kheaa.com).



## Online security can protect students from cyber theft

The 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 a Social Security, bank account or credit card number in response to a phone call, text or email. Don't click on any link in a text or email from a bank or company. It may lead to a fake site run by thieves hoping someone will enter personal information, or it may install spyware or malware on a phone or computer. Instead, students should sign in through the website they normally use when they do business with that firm.

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

When ATM or debit cards, make sure no one can see the PIN. Check ATMs for obvious signs of tampering or for a skimming device.

Install a free or low-cost firewall to stop intruders from gaining remote access to devices. Download and update security patches offered by your system and software vendors to correct weaknesses that could be exploited.



## Students, parents should take verification seriously

The federal government requires many students who submit the FAFSA to verify the information included on the form. The students requiring verification are chosen by the U.S. Department of Education.

Used to apply for most federal and many state student aid programs, the FAFSA asks detailed questions about the income and financial resources of students.

The parents of dependent students must also provide that information. Students are considered dependent if they are undergraduates under 24 years old, not married, have no dependents, are not veterans, or were not orphans or wards of the court until age 19.

The college or an agency working with the school will let students know if their information is being verified.

Students and parents need to take this process seriously. Students chosen for verification cannot receive their financial aid until they complete the verification process. As soon as they are contacted, they should provide any information that is required. Putting it off will only lead to frustration if the process isn't finished when classes are ready to start.

If students who have been asked for verification decide not to attend a college, they should let the college know so it will stop requesting information.

## Scholarship Spotlight

### Kentucky Association of Career and Technical Education/Special Needs Personnel

#### Stratton/Tipton Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Must be a graduating high school senior or nontraditional college student; meet special needs criteria; have at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA or a 2.5 GPA from the previous semester of coursework at a Kentucky college or university; be a Kentucky resident and attend a Kentucky high school or Kentucky college or university; plan to pursue a certificate, diploma, associate's degree or bachelor's degree in a career and technical education field from any Kentucky college or university; and have completed all admission requirements to the program for which student is applying.

In addition, the applicant must submit an official transcript with counselor's verification (high school senior) or an official transcript with the registrar's verification (currently enrolled nontraditional college student); 1 letter of reference; and a 1-page, typed and double-spaced summary of occupational objective, chosen field of study in career and technical education, extracurricular activities and community service.

If possible, the recipient should attend the KACTE summer conference to receive the award.

**Award:** \$500; \$250 each semester

**Number:** 1 to a high school senior, 1 to a nontraditional or college student

**Deadline:** April 30

**Contact:** Dr. Vanessa Baker Ruda, Postsecondary Transitions Specialist, Center for College and Career Readiness, Jessamine Career and Technology Center, 881 Wilmore Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356; 859.881.8324; [vanessa.ruda@jessamine.kyschools.us](mailto:vanessa.ruda@jessamine.kyschools.us)

## Report from state shows college education pays

A new report from the Council on Postsecondary Education shows that a college education still pays and that state funds used for higher education more than pay for themselves.

The report examines the return on investment for both the individual student and the state as a whole. The report followed 42,856 students from the Class of 2010 from their entry into college or the workforce in 2010 to 2018.

College graduates from the high school Class of 2010 realized a return on their investment even a few years after graduation. By 2018, bachelor's degree graduates were making \$12,000 more a year than high school graduates, even after taking in account the fact that students in college will lost earnings while going to school.

These earning differences grow even more pronounced over time, as degree holders are more likely to become supervisors and managers.

Over a lifetime, a bachelor's degree graduate earns \$1.2 million more than a high school graduate, or 26 times the initial investment, while associate degree graduates earn \$422,000 more.

The state's total investment for public college-goers in the cohort was \$630 million through direct appropriations to public colleges and universities and through state financial aid programs. In return, these students will contribute \$42.8 billion to the economy over a working lifetime through taxes and spending.



## Feb. 28 is deadline to apply for summer STEM program

The deadline to apply for the Appalachian Regional Commission's Summer STEM Program is Feb. 28.

The program is open to middle school students, high school students and high school teachers who live in the Appalachian region. Up to 26 high school students, 26 middle school students and 26 teachers will be chosen. The exact number will depend on the available funding.

High school and middle school students participate in science, math and computer science technology group research projects, working with award-winning scientists. Teachers work with STEM practitioners to develop STEM-related curricula.

Teachers and high school students will attend a two-week camp from July 5 through July 17. Middle school students will attend a one-week program from July 11 through July 17. Both programs will be held in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Programs include lab time at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Students will receive transportation, room and board, as well as all expenses related to lab work and field trips. Teachers will receive the same package, plus a \$1,000 stipend.

Visit [www.arc.gov/summerSTEM](http://www.arc.gov/summerSTEM) for more details.

The program is also sponsored by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Oak Ridge Associated Universities.