

Counselor *Connection*



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.



Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority
P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798
800-928-8926
www.kheaa.com
publications@kheaa.com



Tips to help students do better on the ACT

Juniors in Kentucky public high schools will take the ACT in March as part of the state's accountability efforts.

“While far from the only measure of a student's potential, the ACT is an important tool to gauge a student's academic readiness if they wish to pursue higher education after completing high school,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “That's true for those who want to earn a credential in a trade or technical field, just as it is for students who plan to pursue a four-year college degree.”

These tips may help students do better on the test.

- Most of the ACT is based on reading. The more students read, the better they'll do.
- Take advantage of any free ACT prep courses offered by their school or by local colleges and libraries.
- Take practice tests online or buy practice tests for use at home.
- Familiarize themselves with the sections and directions.
- Get plenty of rest the night before, and eat a good breakfast that morning.
- Take No. 2 pencils and a calculator if their school doesn't provide them.
- Do the questions they can answer easily first, then come back to the harder questions, especially in the math portion.
- Guess if they have no idea what the answer is. Guessing doesn't hurt their score.

Seniors' FAFSA completion rate ahead of last year

Through the first half of the month, the FAFSA February campaign showed that Kentucky high school seniors had completed more FAFSAs than they had last year.

For overall FAFSA completion in Kentucky — which includes high school seniors, continuing students, and adults — the state had improved by a little over one percentage point from the beginning of the month. That was below where Kentucky was in 2021, but things were moving in the right direction.

KHEAA continues hosting social media outreach

KHEAA Outreach will continue to provide live help this spring via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

The schedule is:

March 7: For the Win: Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?, **Facebook**

March 14: For the Win: Financial Aid Pyramid, **Twitter**

March 21: For the Win: Outreach Counselors Play Financial Aid Blank Slate, **YouTube**

March 28: [For the Win: FAFSA Family Feud](#), **Webinar**

April 4: Smart Money: If I Could Turn Back Time, **Facebook**

April 11: Smart Money: How to Be Financially Savvy, **Twitter**

April 18: Smart Money: Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship, **YouTube**

April 25: [Smart Money: Paying for College](#), **Webinar**

May 2: Decisions, Decisions: Making Your College Choice, **Facebook**

May 9: Decisions, Decisions: Planning for Junior/Senior Year, **Twitter**

May 16: Decisions, Decisions: Education Loans, **YouTube**

May 23: [Decisions, Decisions: Beyond the Final Step](#), **Webinar**

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

The links are:

www.facebook.com/KHEAA/

www.twitter.com/KHEAA/

www.youtube.com/user/KHEAAMascot/

Annual report highlights KHEAA's outreach efforts

A report that highlights KHEAA's outreach efforts during the pandemic is now available online.

“Kentucky needs its brightest thinkers to continue their education after high school by pursuing a trade license, certificate or multi-year degree,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “KHEAA outreach programs help students explore all their options, from finding the program they want to paying for education after high school.”

College and career planning largely went online last year for KHEAA's Outreach staff during the pandemic. KHEAA's virtual offerings allowed students and parents to access guidance and resources even when schools were closed in response to the health crisis.

The FY2021 Outreach Annual report details these extraordinary efforts during a challenging time. The report can be accessed on kheaa.com from a link at the bottom of the page.



Essay contest underway

KHEAA is accepting entries in its “Promote Your School” essay contest. The deadline is May 31.

One important reminder: **KHEAA, because of its federal security protocols, cannot accept entries sent by Google docs or other file-sharing sites.**

To enter, email the entry to publications@kheaa.com. or mail it to KHEAA Publications, PO Box 798, Frankfort KY 40602-0798.

Complete rules can be found on kheaa.com.

**WIN A SCHOLARSHIP
AND PHOTOSHOOT
FOR YOUR SCHOOL**

*KHEAA's Promote Your
School Essay Contest*

LEARN MORE

KHEAA

Students can get jump start on college with dual credit classes

Students who want to get a jump start on college should take advantage of available dual credit courses.

“By taking dual credit courses, students can earn their high school diploma and college credit at the same time,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “These classes give students a head start on achieving their goals for the future.”

Now is the time for students thinking about their 2022–2023 class schedule to see what dual credit programs are available in their area. They might be able to take dual credit classes at their own high school or through a nearby college.

Some Kentucky school districts offer programs that let students graduate with not only a high school diploma but also a two-year college degree.

Students in public and private high schools should discuss their options with their guidance counselor. Home-schooled students should contact the admissions office at colleges that offer dual credit classes.

Scholarship Spotlight

Kentucky Manufactured Housing Institute

Trade and Apprenticeship Scholarship

Eligibility: Must be currently attending or planning to attend a technical center or trade school or be enrolling in an apprenticeship program centered around the construction industry.

Award: \$1,000

Number: 5

Manufactured Home Resident Scholarship

Eligibility: Must be a graduating senior, GED recipient or student who is currently enrolled in college, technical school or trade school. Eligible participants must live in a modular or manufactured home.

Award: \$1,000

Number: 2

Deadline: April 1

Contact: Amberly Brislin, 502.223.0490; abrislin@kmhi.org

Get help
PAYING FOR
COLLEGE

ADVANTAGEEDUCATIONLOAN.COM

ADVANTAGE
Education Loan

Use scholarship searches to find student financial aid

Students looking for money to help pay for technical training or college classes should take advantage of free online scholarship searches.

“Students who are looking for financial aid information to help pay for college should take advantage of the free scholarship searches available online,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “With these resources, many Kentuckians can find help to fund their education.”

Students can use *Affording Higher Education*, which is posted on kheaa.com. This comprehensive book lists thousands of Kentucky-specific scholarships available to students who live or attend college in the state.

The website also has a link to a national database provided by the U.S. Department of Labor. Choose the Paying for college tab, then select Scholarship Search.

If students use online searches, they should make sure they read the terms of use. Also, some sites will require users to opt out of receiving emails from colleges and advertisers

Free copies of scholarship book available from KHEAA

KHEAA has about 200 copies of the latest edition of *Affording Higher Education* available. Anyone who would like a free copy may request one by emailing publications@kheaa.com. We reserve the right to limit the number of copies that anyone can receive.



CPE approves three new academic programs

The Council on Postsecondary Education approved two new academic programs at the University of Louisville and one at Northern Kentucky University at its Jan. 28 meeting.

For U of L, the council approved a bachelor’s degree in general studies, a 120-credit hour online program designed exclusively to meet the needs of returning adult learners. The second program, a master’s in health teacher education, will prepare faculty and graduate students of medicine, dentistry, public health, and nursing for teaching in their respective fields.

A master’s in cardiovascular perfusion was approved for NKU. The 77-credit hour program will prepare students to use heart/lung machines and other technologies to maintain the health of patients during heart surgery and other medical procedures

ACT National Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Scores Available
June 11, 2022	May 6, 2022	TBD
July 16, 2022	June 17, 2022	TBD

SAT National Test Dates

May 7, 2022	April 8, 2022	May 20, 2022
June 4, 2022	May 5, 2022	July 13, 2022