



Mahayla Mounce was last year's winner with this poster.

Personnel Cabinet seeks entries for poster contest

Students ages 6–18 are invited to participate in the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet's 2020 Public Service Recognition Poster Contest. The contest tries to increase awareness of the achievements and contributions of state employees in the workplace and their communities.

The theme is "Making a Difference." Entries will be judged in three age divisions. The top three finalists in each division will receive cash prizes and an invitation to a recognition ceremony at the Capitol in Frankfort in April.

The entry deadline is April 10. Visit the Personnel Cabinet's [website](#) for more information

Sophomores can enter KHEAA essay contest

A rising junior at a Kentucky high school will win a \$500 scholarship and a photo shoot at their school through KHEAA's "Promote Your School" scholarship contest. The school must participate in the KEES program.

To enter, the student must submit an essay about one of these subjects:

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

The essay must be no more than 200 words long and cannot mention the student's name, school, county or community. The essay topic must be shown 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 junior during the 2020–2021 school year. For complete rules, visit www.kheaa.com/website/contest/intro.

Photos from the winning school will be used in KHEAA publications and on KHEAA websites.

To enter, mail the essay to KHEAA Publications, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602; email it to publications@kheaa.com; or fax it to (502) 696-7574. The deadline is May 31. **KHEAA cannot accept entries sent through file-sharing sites.**

The funds will be sent to the winner's school when they enter college.

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

Compare award letters to find best college deal

Most high school seniors headed for college will soon be receiving financial aid award letters. Seniors and their parents should read those letters carefully.

The letter will usually show the total cost of attendance for one year, including tuition, fees, room, meals, books, supplies, transportation and personal expenses.

It may also show how much the student's family is expected to pay toward those costs, the expected family contribution (EFC). The EFC is subtracted from the total cost of attendance to get a student's financial need. The letter will then list various sources of financial aid offered to cover that need. Students can accept or reject any or all of those proposed sources.

Students can also appeal the awards if their family's financial circumstances have changed.

One thing to consider is how much being offered consists of federal student loans, which have to be repaid. If the package includes federal loans and isn't enough to pay all expenses, students may have to turn to a private loan. Comparison shopping is a must in that case.

But students shouldn't choose a school based simply on cost. A more expensive college can be a better choice than a less expensive one that isn't a good fit.



Scholarship Spotlight

Kentucky Association of Pupil Transportation Education Scholarship

Eligibility: Must be a Kentucky public school student; attend a certified college, university or technical school; have a parent or guardian actively employed in the public school pupil transportation field; have at least a 3.0 GPA; demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and abilities in cocurricular and community service activities; demonstrate exemplary citizenship qualities that include maturity, loyalty, responsibility, integrity, trustworthiness and a concern for the well-being of all citizens; render unselfish service and assistance to others, to the school and to the community; and submit a typewritten essay of up to 500 words titled "Why I have applied for this scholarship and how this scholarship will be used."

Award: \$1,000

Number: 4

Deadline: May 1

Contact: Local transportation office or www.thekapt.com

New summary report available on the School Report Card

The Kentucky Department of Education has released a new School Report Card school-level summary to provide parents, guardians and other stakeholders an at-a-glance view of how their schools are doing. The summary report can be used to start conversations within your community. It highlights key areas and references the online card for additional details.

Information available on the new summary report may include (based upon the grades available in the school):

- Whether students are meeting or exceeding expectations in reading, mathematics, science, social studies and writing;
- Graduation rate;
- College/workforce readiness;
- General information about the school;
- Spending per student; and
- Percentage of student scoring at the lowest levels in reading and mathematics.

This summary is for traditional schools only. Schools with multiple grade levels — elementary, middle and high — will have more than one summary.

To reach the school-level summary, go to kyschoolreportcard.com and search for your school. A new “Download Summary Report” option is available to the left of the compare option on the school-level report card. Visitors can download a PDF or read a summary on the web.



March 31 is deadline for Grissom Award nominations

March 31 is the deadline to nominate a person or organization for the Grissom Award for Innovation in Special Education.

The award is given each spring to a Kentuckian or Kentucky organization to honor outstanding dedication to improving achievement for students with disabilities. Criteria for the award include:

- Leadership or implementation of innovative practice in curriculum, instruction or assessment that leads to improved learning, postsecondary or workforce outcomes for students with learning or behavior differences; and
- Districts or schools demonstrating significant improvement or sustained excellence in learning or behavior outcomes for students with learning or behavior differences.

The award is named in honor of the late Johnnie Grissom, a longtime Kentucky Department of Education employee.

The award will be presented in June. Nominations must be made using this [Google form](#).



Make college more affordable by saving on intangible costs

When it comes to comparing the costs of various colleges, remember that on the broadest level, costs can be tangible or intangible.

Tangible costs include tuition, fees, room and board.

Intangible costs include everything else: textbooks and supplies; computers; and personal items, such as shampoo, clothes, entertainment, laundry and other expenses.

Students can save money, sometimes a significant amount, by controlling the discretionary costs of their lifestyle. That doesn't mean skimping on shampoo, soap, food and doing laundry. But they can cut costs by finding sales or using coupons. Students should always be looking out for buy one, get one free deals.

They can also save quite a bit of money by cutting back on treats such as entertainment and dining out. Doing those things less often will make them even more special when they do treat themselves.

Remember: The less students spend on the intangibles, the less they'll need to take out in student loans. That means that after they graduate, they can afford more of the things they enjoy.

Applicants sought for KHSAA Board of Control

March 20 is the deadline to nominate someone to serve on the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control. The appointee will fill a position that will become vacant on June 30. The current appointee is eligible for reappointment.

Current employees of a Kentucky public school district are not eligible.

The KHSAA manages statewide interscholastic athletic programs. The Board of Control supervises KHSAA, establishes staff salaries, sets goals for the association and has the authority to set rules and review proposed changes to the KHSAA constitution and bylaws. Regular attendance at KHSAA Board of Control meetings is a requirement of the position.

All interested individuals are encouraged to submit a letter of interest, a résumé and a minimum of two written letters of recommendation to the Kentucky Department of Education.

Materials should be sent to Todd G. Allen, Interim General Counsel, 300 Sower Blvd, Frankfort, KY 40601, or by email to Todd.Allen@education.ky.gov.

The Kentucky Board of Education will review applications and anticipates making an appointment at its April 9 meeting.

High school planner

Seniors

- Let your counselor know which school you're going to so the school can send in final grades, class rank and proof of graduation. Send in any deposits that are required.
- Send thank-you notes to counselors, teachers and others who helped you through the process.
- Prepare a budget for the coming school year.