

# Counselor Connection

## May 2021



### In This Edition

CPE caps tuition	2
Social media outreach	
Essay contest	3
Scholarship Spotlight	
National test dates	4

## FCC offers eligible Kentuckians temporary internet discount

Gov. Andy Beshear is urging eligible Kentuckians to apply for a discount through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to temporarily reduce the cost of home internet services.

The Emergency Broadband Benefit program provides a temporary discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband service for eligible households. The benefit also provides discounts up to \$100 per household toward a one-time purchase of a computer, laptop or tablet, if the household contributes more than \$10 but less than \$50 toward its purchase from a participating broadband provider.

Kentuckians can apply through participating broadband providers or at [getemergencybroadband.org](https://www.fcc.gov/apply-emergency-broadband-benefit).

Discounts will continue until all funding is exhausted, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the pandemic.

A household is eligible if one member of the family meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Has an income at or below 135% of the [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#) or participates in certain assistance programs, such as the [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#), [Medicaid](#) or the [FCC's Lifeline program](#);

(Continued on page 2)



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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](mailto:publications@kheaa.com).

## CPE caps tuition increases for state’s public colleges

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education has capped tuition increases for the state’s public colleges and universities near historic lows for the next two years

Universities may raise tuition up to 3 percent through 2023, but no more than 2 percent in any one year. The ceiling applies to in-state tuition and mandatory fees for undergraduate programs.

CPE also limited tuition increases at the Kentucky Community and Technical College System to \$5 per credit hour over the next two years. At most, KCTCS may raise the rate by \$3 per credit hour in any one year.

The caps apply to the 2021–22 and 2022–23 academic years. Campuses may choose to raise tuition in smaller amounts, or not at all. Schools will submit their final rates for CPE approval in June.

This year five universities did not raise tuition at all, while three others raised it less than 2 percent. KCTCS increased it by 2.75 percent. Taken together, this resulted in an average increase of 0.7 percent across the system. That’s compared to an average of about 4 percent per year over the previous decade.

The latest projections show that fixed and unavoidable costs for campuses will climb by nearly \$117 million next year – about 3.2 percent. Even if all schools adopt the highest allowed tuition increases next year, the revenue will only cover about 23 percent of that need.

*(Continued from page 1)*

- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision, in the 2019–2020 or 2020–2021 school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial reduction in income through job loss or furlough since Feb. 29, 2020, and the household had a total income in 2020 at or below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider’s existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

For more information, visit [www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](http://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit) or call 833-511-0311 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Eastern time any day of the week.



## KHEAA continues hosting social media outreach

KHEAA Outreach will continue to provide live help in May via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The schedule is:

- **May 25:** Setting Up For Success: FAFSA Frenzy, *Facebook*
- **May 26:** Setting Up For Success: Using Your KEES Money, *Twitter*
- **May 27:** Setting Up For Success: Senior Exit Checklist, *Instagram*

All sessions begin at 3 p.m. Eastern, 2 p.m. Central.

The links are:

[www.facebook.com/KHEAA/](http://www.facebook.com/KHEAA/)

[www.twitter.com/KHEAA](http://www.twitter.com/KHEAA)

[www.instagram.com/kheaaoutreach/?hl=en](http://www.instagram.com/kheaaoutreach/?hl=en)

## KHEAA scholarship essay contest deadline is May 31

The deadline for a student attending a KEES-eligible high school to submit an entry in KHEAA's scholarship essay contest is May 31.

Students must be sophomores this school year.

The winner will receive a \$500 college scholarship and a photo shoot at their high school. The photos will be used in KHEAA publications and on KHEAA websites.

To be considered for the scholarship, students must submit an essay addressing one of these subjects:

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

The essay must be no more than 200 words in length and cannot mention the student's name, school, county or community. The essay should not identify the student by race, gender, religion or other manner. Essays in excess of 200 words or ones that include identifying information will be disqualified.

The essay topic must be clearly indicated 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 high school junior during the 2021–2022 school year. For contest details, visit [kheaa.com/website/contest/intro](http://kheaa.com/website/contest/intro).

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



## Scholarship Spotlight

### Kentucky Poultry Federation Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Must be the child or grandchild of an employee of a Kentucky poultry company, the child or grandchild of a grower who is a member of the KPF or the child or grandchild of an allied member of the KPF; be a resident of Kentucky; be a graduating high school senior or a student currently attending a college, university or technical training program; submit an application, 2 essays, signature page, electronic or scanned transcript, 2 letters of recommendation from individuals who know the applicant and applicant's abilities and potential, and proof of registration from a college, university, or technical training program.

Application available at [www.kypoultry.org](http://www.kypoultry.org).

The recipient must attend the annual Kentucky Poultry Festival Hall of Fame Banquet.

**Award:** \$2,000; renewable

**Deadline:** June 30

**Number:** 4

**Application:** Counselor or Kentucky Poultry Federation, [jguffey@kypoultry.org](mailto:jguffey@kypoultry.org)

**ACT National Test Dates**

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Scores Available
<b>July 21, 2021</b>	<b>June 18, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>September 11, 2021</b>	<b>August 6, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>October 23, 2021</b>	<b>September 17, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>December 11, 2021</b>	<b>November 5, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>February 12, 2022</b>	<b>January 7, 2022</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>April 2, 2022</b>	<b>February 25, 2022</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>June 11, 2022</b>	<b>May 6, 2022</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>July 16, 2022</b>	<b>June 17, 2022</b>	<b>TBD</b>

**SAT National Test Dates**

<b>August 28, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>October 2, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>November 6, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>December 4, 2021</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>March 12, 2022</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>May 7, 2022</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>June 4, 2022</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>

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