

Scholarship helps high school students take dual credit courses

The new Dual Credit Scholarship program lets students at Kentucky public high schools earn up to 9 credit hours in dual credit courses from participating colleges. Students may take up to two classes per year.

Kentucky public high schools will apply for scholarships on behalf of students by reporting data to KHEAA at the beginning of each semester. Students will still have to complete any admissions process a college requires. Additional information regarding the high school reporting requirements will be sent by the Kentucky Department of Education in early August.

Students who receive the scholarship must also complete a 30-minute college success counseling session at a time and place set up by their high school. KHEAA and KDE have developed video and PowerPoint materials for the session. The session materials will be sent to high schools in early August. KHEAA will also send copies of our Surviving College booklet to high schools to give to dual credit students.

The state appropriated \$7.5 million for the scholarship program for the 2016-17 school year. KHEAA has allocated a portion of that amount to each public high school in the state based on the number of seniors each high school had enrolled during the 2015-16 school year. Half of the allocation is available each semester.

KHEAA will estimate the potential scholarship payment for students at each high school and will disburse up to 80% of the funds to the school district about halfway through each semester. The remaining payment will be disbursed at the end of the semester after KHEAA receives course completion information from colleges. For the purposes of the program, successful completion of a dual credit course is considered a grade of D- or higher. KHEAA will not issue payment for failed courses or withdrawals. School districts and colleges are encouraged to negotiate whether the district or the college is responsible for paying for failed courses or withdrawals. Students may not be charged for scholarship courses.

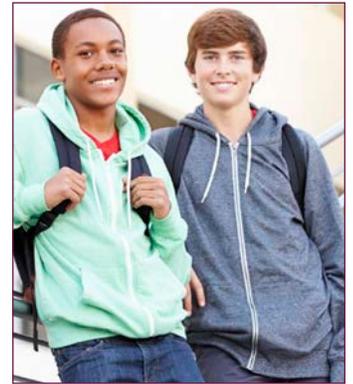
The disbursements to school districts will be made by electronic fund transfer. KHEAA will email the district's finance and business contact when a disbursement is made.

Districts must remit the funds owed to colleges for dual credit coursework within 15 days after receiving a disbursement from KHEAA.

School superintendents should have received three emails about the program:

- General information with a process document and timeline, sent on June 27.
- Funding information that included the amount allocated to each high school, sent on July 1.
- A list of participating colleges, sent on July 15.

For questions about the program or to have information re-sent, school districts should contact Becky Gilpatrick, Director of Student Aid Services, at rgilpatrick@kheaa.com or 800.928.8926, ext. 67394.



Visit KHEAA at the Kentucky State Fair

Kentuckians attending the state fair in Louisville Aug. 18-28 may pick up free student financial aid information at the College Info Road Show booth in the South Wing of the Kentucky Exposition Center.

The College Info Road Show is a mobile classroom sponsored by KHEAA.

At the fair, students and parents can find free college planning and financial aid materials and resources, including information about the new Oct. 1 opening date for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). They can also register to win a \$1,000 college savings account. KHEAA outreach staff will be on hand to answer questions from students, parents, school counselors and other college access providers.

Visitors to KHEAA's booth will find helpful free guides such as *The College Circuit*, *Surviving College*, *Getting In* and *Adults Returning to School*. Students and families can also learn how to request a free copy of "Getting the Facts," a personalized report that helps students estimate how much financial aid they may receive at the schools they want to attend.



Central Kentucky Outreach Counselor David Scott giving out KHEAA publications at the State Fair.

Schools, other organizations can request College Info Road Show visit

The College Info Road Show is ready to visit Kentucky middle schools, high schools, adult education centers, libraries and other organizations to help students and families learn more about their college options.

The Road Show is an outreach program of KHEAA.

Equipped with wireless internet access, the Road Show and its on-board counselor, Steven Held, can provide a brief overview of student financial aid programs and services and can help with completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Visitors can also create a MyKHEAA account on www.kheaa.com and access online resources for career assessments, test preparation, scholarship searches, KHEAA account information and more.

To schedule a visit, please contact Held at (502) 352-5697 or sheld@kheaa.com.



College Info Road Show Outreach Counselor Steven Held giving a presentation on the mobile classroom.

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.



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Students should check KEES accounts for accuracy

Kentucky high school students and 2016 graduates should check their Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) accounts for accuracy.

KEES allows students to earn money for college by getting good grades in high school and for qualifying scores on the ACT or SAT. Students eligible for free or reduced lunches may also earn awards for good scores on Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Cambridge Advanced International exams. KEES is administered by KHEAA.

To check awards and personal information, students need to use the MyKHEAA function on www.kheaa.com. If they do not already have a MyKHEAA account, they can set one up using the “Sign In” button on the KHEAA home page.

Students can verify their KEES GPA is correct by taking the letter grade for each course taken during the year and converting it to a 4.0 scale. On this scale, an A = 4.0, B = 3.0, C = 2.0, D = 1.0, and F = 0. Pluses and minuses count the same, so an A-minus and an A-plus are both worth 4.0 points. Grades for AP, IB, CAI, and dual credit courses are weighted for KEES, making an A = 5.0, B = 4.0, etc. The GPA is calculated by adding all the points together and dividing the total by the number of credits earned during the year.

In addition to KEES, students should check their personal information: name, date of birth, address and Social Security number. Students who need to have GPAs or other information corrected should contact their high school counselor as soon as possible.

If students have problems with their MyKHEAA account or cannot see their KEES information, they should call the KHEAA College Access Team at 800.928.8926.

Kentucky residents have chance to win iPad in KHEAA drawing

Kentucky residents have another chance to win a new iPad from KHEAA in a sweepstakes being held through Facebook in August. The contest runs from 12 a.m. on Aug. 1 through 12 a.m. on Sept. 1.

To enter, a Kentuckian must visit the KHEAA Facebook page, click on the orange graduate icon on the KHEAA Facebook page and answer one question about college. KHEAA will not share or sell any personal information to a third party.

Only Kentucky residents are eligible. Employees of KHEAA or its sister agency, the Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation (KHESLC), and their immediate family members are not eligible. Prior winners are also not eligible.

The drawing will be held in early September, and the winner will be notified by email. The winner must respond by email within three calendar days to receive the iPad with Retina display. If no response is received within three days, another winner will be drawn.

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With this edition:

Included with this *Counselor Connection*: Road to College for Seniors, Financial Aid Application Process and Road to College for Juniors flyers.

ROAD TO COLLEGE CHECKLIST

FALL

- ✦ Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov. You can apply as early as October 1.
- ✦ Review your transcript to make sure you'll meet graduation and admissions requirements.
- ✦ Narrow your list of schools; request catalogues and admissions information.
- ✦ Find out upcoming test dates for the ACT/SAT and register in advance if you need to retake the test.
- ✦ Review admissions applications; begin writing essays.
- ✦ Ask about dual credit classes in the spring.
- ✦ Meet with admissions representatives or schedule visits to schools you are interested in.
- ✦ Attend college fairs and financial aid nights.
- ✦ Request recommendations from teachers, employers and counselors.
- ✦ Begin preparing college applications.
- ✦ Watch scholarship deadlines.

- ✦ Finish admissions essays and complete the admissions process for your top choices.

SPRING

- ✦ Review college acceptances and compare financial aid offers.
- ✦ Decide about a school and send in a deposit.
- ✦ Request course descriptions and schedules.
- ✦ If you filed a FAFSA, review your Student Aid Report for accuracy.
- ✦ Research AP or CLEP exams.
- ✦ Complete AP examinations.
- ✦ Make sure you've returned all financial aid award notices and acceptance forms.
- ✦ Consider a summer job.

FOR
Seniors!

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FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION PROCESS

You can submit your FAFSA on October 1 of your senior year, you should apply as close to this date as possible. However, applying early does not guarantee you'll receive an award. For more information about federal government financial aid programs, visit ed.gov or call 800.4FEDAID.

START

Create an account on www.fafsa.gov so you can apply and sign your FAFSA online.

Gather your income tax returns, W-2 forms and other information needed to show your income when you apply.

Ask your school counselor about financial aid nights.

Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible starting October 1. Apply online at www.fafsa.gov.

Complete other applications for private, state or school financial aid. Watch for deadlines!

Review your SAR to find out your family's EFC. Make corrections and resubmit if necessary.

Turn in any other documentation your school needs to verify your application information to the financial aid office.

Make sure that the financial aid office at each school you are applying to has all of the information it needs.

Review the award letter from each school and compare the amount and types of aid that you will receive if you attend.

fafsa.gov

FINISH



kheaa.com

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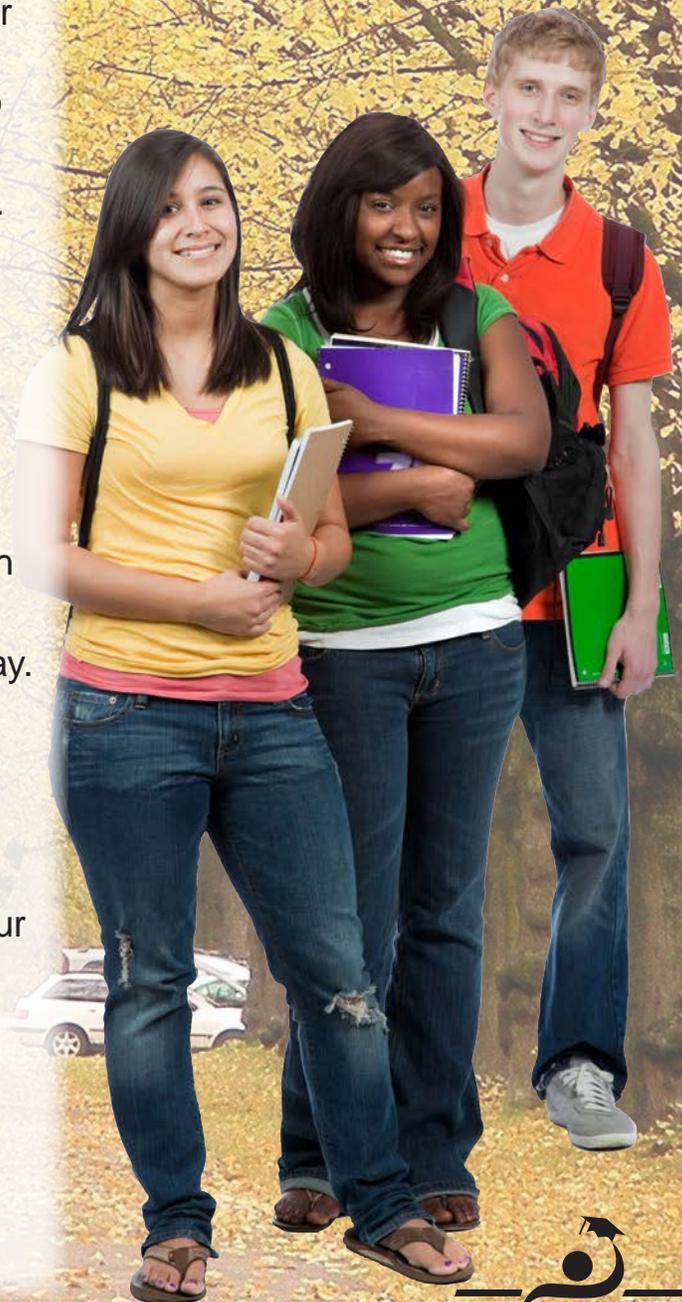
ROAD TO COLLEGE JUNIOR CHECKLIST

FALL

- Talk with your school counselor about your options and plans. Ask about test dates for the PSAT, ACT and SAT. You'll need to register up to six weeks ahead of time.
- Start investigating sources of financial aid.
- Review and search colleges online. Go to college fairs and open houses.
- Begin planning college visits.
- Take the PSAT. You'll get the results by Christmas.
- Consider signing up for ACT or SAT prep courses. All Kentucky juniors in public high schools must take the ACT.
- Decide if you should take AP exams in May.
- Investigate the CLEP program.

SPRING

- Meet with your school counselor to set your senior schedule.
- Ask about AP, IB and dual credit courses.
- Think about lining up a summer job, internship or co-op.
- Get ready for AP exams.
- Complete AP examinations.



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