

YOUR  
**KHEAA**  
COLLEGE  
CONNECTION

April 2022



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For help with your higher education  
and financial aid questions, visit  
[www.kheaa.com](http://www.kheaa.com)



# Students will see higher awards from state grants

Kentucky students who need help paying for their technical and college education will be eligible for an additional \$38.2 million in state grants for the 2022–2023 academic year.

The maximum College Access Program (CAP) award for students attending four-year public and private colleges and universities will increase to \$5,300, up from \$2,900 in 2021–2022.

For students in two-year schools, the maximum CAP award will increase to \$2,500 from this year's \$2,200.

Students attending Kentucky's private colleges and universities will also see an increase in the Kentucky Tuition Grant (KTG) program. The maximum KTG award for 2022–2023 will increase from \$2,980 to \$3,200.

“Our students are the future of Kentucky, and I’m pleased to announce they can now take advantage of this extra funding for CAP and KTG grants,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “These funds will help undergraduate students achieve their educational goals without having to borrow as much in student loans.”

The General Assembly increased the CAP grant program's base General Fund appropriation to \$134.1 million for 2022–2023, nearly a 40 percent increase over 2021–2022.

CAP and KTG are administered by KHEAA.

“The combination of CAP and Federal Pell Grant awards will cover tuition and mandatory fees at the community colleges and nearly all of that amount at the four-year public universities,” said Diana Barber, KHEAA's Interim Executive Director.

CAP, KTG and KEES are all funded by Kentucky Lottery proceeds.



## Cut costs by taking more classes each semester

As college students register for their fall classes, they should consider taking more classes.

“A heavier course load helps students cut the total cost of college because they’ll finish their technical or degree program more quickly,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “That’s especially important to minimize loans they’ll need to help pay for their education.”

A full-time load for undergraduate students is usually 12 credit hours per semester. Associate’s degrees usually require 60 credit hours to finish, bachelor’s degrees 120 hours. At 12 hours each semester, students will need five semesters to finish an associate’s degree and 10 semesters to finish a bachelor’s degree.

By taking 15 hours per semester, they’ll finish an associate’s degree in four semesters and a bachelor’s degree in eight semesters. Many colleges don’t charge students more for 15 hours than they do for 12 hours. That might save students thousands of dollars in tuition and fees.

### Another consideration

One long-standing rule is that students should study two to three hours for every hour they’re in class. At the two-hour minimum and 15 hours of classes, students are looking at 45 hours each week sitting in the classroom or studying.

## KHEAA continues hosting social media outreach

KHEAA Outreach will continue to provide live help in April and May via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

The schedule is:

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

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

[www.youtube.com/user/KHEAAMascot/](http://www.youtube.com/user/KHEAAMascot/)

## Reminders

**May 2:** Deadline for applying for KHEAA’s Teacher Scholarship program. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and Kentucky residents. For more information, visit [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com).

**May 15:** Deadline to enter KHEAA’s vlogger contest, open to students who will be high school seniors in the fall. For complete rules, visit [kygoestocollege.com](http://kygoestocollege.com).

**May 31** Deadline to enter KHEAA’s scholarship essay contest, open to students who will be high school juniors in the fall. For complete rules, visit [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com).

# Kentuckians urged to observe 529 Day

KY Saves 529, the state's official education savings plan, urges Kentuckians to observe 529 Day by starting a savings account for as little as \$25.



“529 Day is celebrated each May 29 to remind families of the importance of saving for children’s education expenses,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “Using KY Saves 529, families can save for costs associated with college, trade school, and K–12 education. Another benefit is that withdrawals made for qualified educational expenses are exempt from state and federal taxes.”

Qualified educational expenses include:

- Tuition.
- Room and board.
- Fees.
- Computers and laptops.
- Books.
- Tools and other supplies required by a student’s program.

Section 529 of the federal tax code covers education savings plans and gives its name to such plans.

Officially the Kentucky Education Savings Plan Trust, KY 529 Saves is administered by KHEAA. The program offers several investment options. The total assets cannot exceed \$350,000 for all accounts for the same beneficiary in 529 plans sponsored by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Ascensus, a financial services company, manages the program under contract with KHEAA.

For more about KY Saves 529, visit [kysaves.com](http://kysaves.com).



## KHEAA website promotes students’ financial literacy

Kentuckians interested in financial literacy can find information and links to interactive games on KHEAA’s website.

“Young children who play interactive games can learn about financial literacy while they’re having fun,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “Teaching kids the basics about money early in life will help them learn how to work hard toward their goals, from their first chores, to their first job, all the way into their career.”

Games and other information can be found on [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com) under the [Money Management](#) tab.

The page provides links to information about budgeting, saving and borrowing that are suitable for older students. Younger children can find links to games that teach them about money and personal finance.

KHEAA also provides free copies of “It’s Money, Baby,” a guide to financial literacy, to Kentucky schools and residents upon request at [publications@kheaa.com](mailto:publications@kheaa.com). Please remember to include a mailing address when ordering copies. The booklet can be accessed [online](#).

Borrow up to **100%**  
of college costs  
**Advantage Education Loan**



  
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ADVANTAGEEDUCATIONLOAN.COM



## Scholarship Spotlight

### Kentucky Poultry Federation Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Must be the child or grandchild of an employee of a 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. The recipient must attend the Kentucky Poultry Festival Hall of Fame Banquet.

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

**Number:** 4

**Deadline:** June 30. Apply at [www.kypoultry.org](http://www.kypoultry.org)

**Contact:** School counselor or Kentucky Poultry Federation, [jguffey@kypoultry.org](mailto:jguffey@kypoultry.org)

## Free copies of scholarship book are still available

KHEAA has about 100 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](mailto:publications@kheaa.com). We reserve the right to limit the number of copies that anyone can receive.

# Student loan repayments paused through August 31

The federal government has extended the pause on federal student loan repayment, interest and collections through Aug. 31.

The pause includes Federal Direct Loans but not student loans made through the Federal Family Education Loan Program, which ended in 2010.

During the extension, the U.S. Department of Education will assess the financial impact of the pandemic on student loan borrowers to prepare them to resume repayment. The department will allow all borrowers with paused loans to receive a fresh start so they reenter repayment in good standing.

More information can be found at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).



# Students invited to enter storytelling competition

Kentuckians between the ages of 7 and 17 are invited to enter the Kentucky Youth Storytelling competition.

Video entries of a solo storyteller or a tandem team telling a single story may be submitted via electronic link or mailed DVD postmarked no later than June 1.

Winners will receive a plaque; invitations to represent the Kentucky Storytelling Association as a Youth Torchbearer at many storytelling events and festivals; up to \$100 in reimbursement for travel expenses; a free year's membership in the KSA; and free admission to the 2022 KSA Conference where they can learn from other storytellers and practice their skills.

For more information, visit [kystory.org](https://kystory.org).

# High school senior planner

April/May

- ❑ Follow up on your financial aid package if you haven't already returned it to your school.
- ❑ If you're going to need private student loans, compare the benefits offered by various lenders. Some colleges have a list of private lenders the colleges work with.
- ❑ Take AP, International Baccalaureate or Cambridge Advanced International exams if you participate in those programs.
- ❑ If you're on a waiting list at a school you really want to attend, ask the director of admissions how to strengthen your application.

June

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

## Tips for ending the spring semester on a high note

As the semester winds down, college students are studying for final exams and finishing research papers and class projects. To make the end of the semester a more positive time, students should:

- Take care of their health. Eating three healthy meals a day instead of gobbling down something on the run will give them energy and focus. They should get enough sleep so they're more awake when they're studying or working on papers and projects. And exercise is a must. Half an hour to an hour three or four times a week will increase energy levels and decrease stress levels.
- Set up a regular schedule. This is more important than ever at crunch time. Students should make sure their to-do list is prioritized by what's most important and what is due first.
- Don't procrastinate. Spreading the study time and work over the final weeks of the semester will help students do better. Cramming the night before a test or writing that paper at the last minute means students won't do as well and will stress themselves out. But too much studying can backfire. Breaking study time up into one- or two-hour blocks with short breaks in between works better than hours-long, no-break studying. A good idea may be to take a short walk to exercise the muscles and give the mind a rest.



- Find a good place to study. Ideally, students will already have a study space. If they haven't, they need one now. However, the library may not be the best choice. A lot of other students will think of that, and the library may be so full it creates distractions.
- Get help if they need it. They shouldn't wait to ask professors for help on finishing a project or paper.
- Reward themselves along the way. When they've finished with all the studying and writing they need to do, they can treat themselves to some downtime that will decrease the stress.

Sometime in the second half of the semester, students should meet with their advisor to make sure they have their classes for the next semester in good shape. During the spring semester, they should also make sure their financial aid for the summer or fall is in good order.

## ACT National Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Scores Available
<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

**June 4, 2022**

**May 5, 2022**

**July 13, 2022**