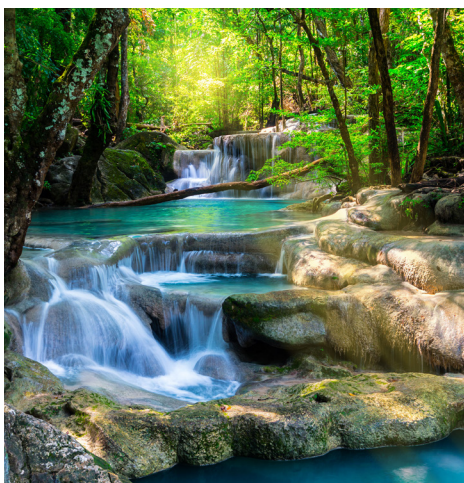




COLLEGE CONNECTION

MAY 2020



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For help with financial aid and admissions, visit www.kheaa.com.

To stay connected, text Outreach to 800.926.8926.



Federal CARES Act provides help for college students

The CARES Act passed by Congress includes nearly \$14 billion for higher education. Some \$6.5 billion of that money must be used to provide emergency financial aid for students affected by the coronavirus pandemic.



Colleges must have an agreement with the U.S. Department of Education before they can access the funds. The funds must be used within one year of the date the agreement is signed.

The amount each college can receive is based on how many of its students receive Federal Pell Grants. However, students who receive the emergency aid do not have to meet federal aid eligibility requirements.

Colleges will determine the amounts to be awarded, The USDE has suggested that the maximum Pell Grant award — \$6,195 — be used as a guideline.

Each campus will have its own process for disbursing the funds.

The emergency grants will not have to be reported on future FAFSAs and will not be considered a financial aid resource

Students and families who need to appeal their award eligibility for loss of income for the 2020–2021 academic year will probably have to complete separate paperwork at the school the student plans to attend. According to the National College Access Network, colleges are expecting a large spike in appeals.

KHEAA answers your questions about KEES

Students who have earned Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship awards may find these questions and answers about the KEES program helpful, whether they're headed to college for the first time or are returning in the fall.

Q. Does my KEES expire?

A. Yes. Your KEES eligibility expires when (1) you've received your KEES award for eight academic terms at a participating college; (2) more than five years has passed since you graduated from high school; or (3) you've earned your first bachelor's degree.

Q. Where can I use my KEES award?

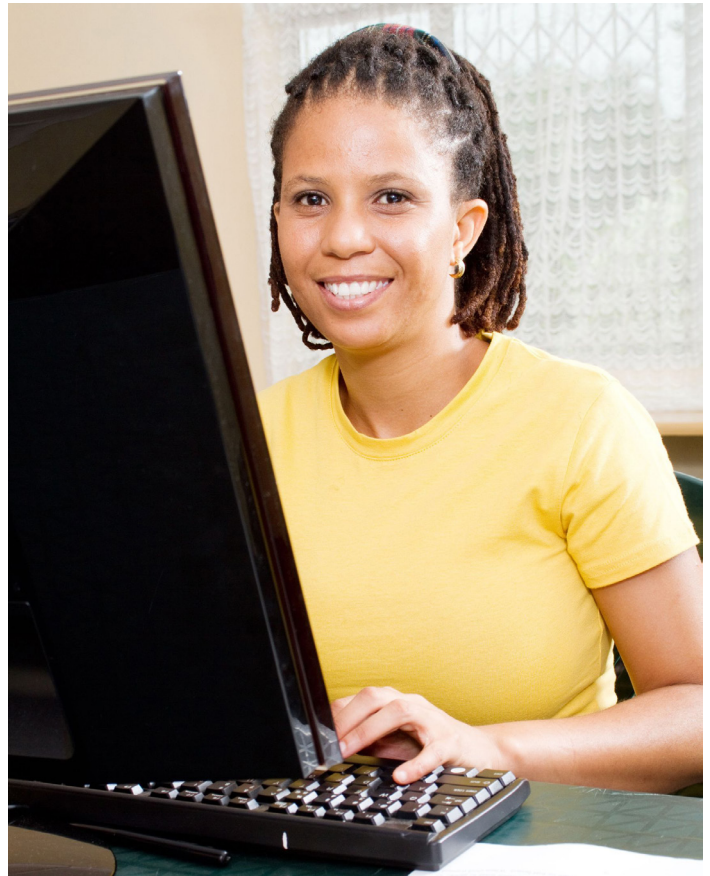
A. You can use your KEES award at any eligible public or private college or university in Kentucky, including community and technical colleges. Students pursuing a degree in a program of study not available in Kentucky may be able to use a KEES award to attend an out-of-state, public college or university if it participates in the Academic Common Market, as designated by the Council on Postsecondary Education. Visit www.cpe.ky.gov for more information. **NOTE:** Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois do not participate in the ACM. You cannot use a KEES award at a college in one of those states.

Q. If I went to college in another state but want to transfer to a Kentucky college, can I still use my KEES?

A. Yes, if your KEES account was in good standing when you left Kentucky and you still have eligibility remaining.

Q. I am planning to transfer from one Kentucky college to another. What do I have to do to transfer KEES?

A. Nothing. However, KHEAA recommends you reach out to your new college's financial aid office to



Students who have set up a MyKHEAA account can check their KEES awards at www.kheaa.com. They can also use MyKHEAA to see their awards from KHEAA's College Access Program Grants and Kentucky Tuition Grants.

make sure they are aware of your KEES between the fall and spring terms or if you haven't received KEES from your new school within two months after the start of classes.

Q. I served in the military for six years after high school. Can I still use my KEES?

A. Yes. The five-year time limit for KEES use can be extended one year for each year you serve in the military. Please email kees@kheaa.com for more information or to request an extension.

Q. How do I check my KEES account?

A. You can access your KEES award information 24/7 on www.kheaa.com. Simply sign into your MyKHEAA account. If you haven't set up an account, you can register to create one.

KHEAA continues hosting social media outreach

KHEAA outreach counselors will continue to provide live help to students, parents, and counselors via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram throughout May and June. The schedule is:

- **May 19:** KEES Money Kahoot, **Facebook**
- **May 20:** Surviving Your First Year of College, **Twitter**
- **May 21:** College Admissions Game, **Instagram**
- **May 26:** Surviving College, **Facebook**
- **May 27:** The Impact of Covid-19 on Financial Aid, **Twitter**
- **May 28:** Making a College Budget, **Instagram**
- **June 2:** Foster and Adopted Youth Resources, **Facebook**
- **June 3:** Making the Grade in College, **Twitter**
- **June 4:** Soft Skills/Mock Job Interview, **Instagram**
- **June 9:** Getting In, **Facebook**
- **June 10:** Staying Healthy in College, **Twitter**
- **June 11:** KHEAA Open Q & A, **Instagram**
- **June 16:** KHEAA Trivia, **Facebook**
- **June 17:** The Influence of Social Media, **Twitter**
- **June 18:** FAFSA Dependency Questions and Issues, **Instagram**
- **June 23:** Gap Funding: When You Need More for College, **Facebook**
- **June 24:** Keeping Busy During Summer Break, **Twitter**
- **June 25:** Scholarship Rewind: A Refresher on Finding Scholarships, **Instagram**
- **June 30:** Donovan Goes to College: For Elementary Students, **Facebook**

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

The links are:

- www.facebook.com/KHEAA/
- www.twitter.com/KHEAA
- www.instagram.com/kheaaoutreach/?hl=en



ACT offers date options, online tests at home

ACT will offer a flexible schedule for summer 2020 test dates and test-at-home options for fall and winter 2020 in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

As CDC and local guidelines for safety allow, ACT will offer its June and July national test dates as scheduled. It will also provide makeup test dates for June and July. The makeup test date for the June 13 national test date will be June 20, while the makeup test date for the July 18 test date will be July 25. ACT will work with individual national test centers should they need to reschedule to the makeup test date and students will be notified in advance.

Students may also make free test date changes from the June to the July national test date.

In addition to the three previously planned fall test dates on Sept. 12, Oct. 24, and Dec. 12, ACT will also offer a remote proctoring option for the ACT in late fall or early winter. This option will let students take the test at their home on a computer.

ACT will evaluate remote proctoring as a possibility in the future for state and district testing programs.

Also, ACT will offer an individual section retest option this fall for students who want to retake only one portion of the exam.

‘Surviving College’ can help freshmen, adults

Surviving College, a guide that helps college freshmen succeed during their first year on campus, is available free from KHEAA.



The 36-page booklet includes sections about:

- Majors and class schedules,
- Staying healthy and safe on campus,
- Learning styles and study tips,
- Campus life, and
- Financial basics.

KHEAA also provides *Surviving College for Adults*, geared toward nontraditional students.

To order a free copy, email publications@kheaa.com. Please include your mailing address.

Online versions of both are on www.kheaa.com.



Taking extra classes can save students big money

As students register for college classes, they may want to consider taking more classes each semester. A heavier course load will help students cut the cost of college.

A full-time load for undergraduates 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.

If they take 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 can save students thousands of dollars in tuition.

ACT National Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Scores Available
July 18, 2020	June 19, 2020	July 28, 2020
Sept. 12, 2020	Aug. 14, 2020	Sept. 22, 2020

SAT National Test Dates

June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020	July 15, 2020*
Aug. 29, 2020	July 31, 2020*	Sept. 11, 2020*

* Anticipated

What grads can expect from college courses

Unless they've taken dual credit classes, many high school seniors headed toward college won't really know what to expect when they step into a college classroom for the first time. These tips can help students be prepared for their first day of class.

Most professors take attendance and participation seriously. Being late, missing classes, and not paying attention could hurt your final grade. Attendance policies vary so much that it's not easy to generalize. Read the syllabus for each class carefully because many professors will explain their policies there.

Many colleges and universities have first day of class attendance policies, which allow instructors to drop students who don't attend the first class meeting. If your college does and you have reason to think you might miss a first class, contact those instructors beforehand to let them know your situation.

The best strategy is to make every class on time if at all possible. If you're going to have to miss a class or be late, let your professor know. If you come in late, do so with the least amount of disturbance possible.

Participating in class will help your grade and help you establish a relationship with your professor — so long as you don't overdo it. Don't hold up your hand every time the professor asks a question.

Expect assignments to help you learn what you need for your chosen career. Even the classes you have to take for general studies will teach you something you can apply to your career or your life in general. In nearly every career, you'll have to analyze and solve problems, often by yourself. You can expect your classwork to focus on that, either through a writing assignment or a lab experiment.

Many college classes will have fewer assignments than your high school classes did. Some courses may only have a mid-term exam and a final exam, which means you can't afford to do badly on either of them.



KHEAA essay contest deadline is May 31

Students who want to enter the KHEAA essay contest have until May 31 to do so.

The contest is for students who will be high school juniors next fall. Students must attend a school that participates in the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (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.

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 by file-sharing apps.**

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. For complete rules, visit www.kheaa.com.

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



CPE approves 9 programs for public universities

The Council on Postsecondary Education recently approved nine new programs for the state's four-year universities. The programs are:

- Master's degree in social work, Eastern Kentucky University;
- Bachelor's degree in cybersecurity, Northern Kentucky University;
- Bachelor's degrees in biomedical engineering and product design, University of Kentucky;
- Master's degree in computer engineering, UK;
- Master's degree in teacher preparation program in visual impairments, UK;
- Master's degree in orientation and mobility, UK;
- Master's degree in supply chain engineering, UK;
- Master's degree in supply chain management, UK; and
- Doctoral degree in computer engineering, UK.

In other actions, the council authorized a \$1.5 million capital project at Western Kentucky University to reconfigure classrooms in its Health Sciences Complex.

Report shows increase in college credentials

Kentucky moved closer to its educational attainment goals in 2018–19, as the combined number of undergraduate degrees and credentials conferred rose 3.5 percent, according to a report from the state Council on Postsecondary Education.

Nearly 47 percent of Kentucky adults now have a postsecondary credential, up from 42.5 percent in 2014. That 4.5 percentage point gain is 1.5 times the national gain during the same period.

Growth in yearly credentials conferred keeps Kentucky on track to meet CPE's 60x30 goal of having 60 percent of the working-age population with a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030. That will position the state to accelerate job growth over the next decade with a more skilled, productive workforce.

To meet the goal, Kentucky needs to average a 1.7 percent increase over the next decade.

In 2018–19, short-term certificates awarded by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System accounted for most of the growth. Degrees and credentials awarded by KCTCS increased 4.8 percent over the previous year, while the number of bachelor's degrees at Kentucky's four-year schools remained essentially flat.

Visit <http://cpe.ky.gov/data/publications.html> for the complete report.

Senior Planner

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

CPE holds back on capping tuition increases for fall

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education voted April 24 not to set a cap on tuition next year for in-state undergraduate students at public colleges and universities. The decision was made because of the financial challenges created by the coronavirus pandemic.

According to CPE, the decision will give the state's two- and four-year colleges the flexibility necessary to respond to student needs and shore up college programs as a result of the crisis.

Final tuition rates and fees are still subject to council approval in June, and colleges must justify any increases for the 2020–21 academic year. Some schools have pledged not to raise tuition, while others are eyeing an increase of around 2 percent.

The federal CARES Act will provide at least \$109 million in relief to Kentucky's public colleges, with half earmarked for direct grants to students.

The state's 2020–21 budget does not provide any additional general fund revenue for higher education in the coming fiscal year. Officials estimate that costs at Kentucky's public colleges will rise by \$79.9 million over the next year, not including costs related to the pandemic.

According to CPE estimates, a tuition increase of 2 percent at all the campuses would generate up to \$32.7 million.

The presidents of the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville said at the meeting that they were considering increases close to that amount. If approved, it would raise tuition by \$123 per semester at UK and \$117 per semester at U of L.

An increase of \$5 per credit hour for in-state students at Kentucky's community and technical colleges would equal a maximum 2.7 percent increase overall.



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; and be a graduating high school senior or a student currently attending a college, university or technical training program

In addition, the applicant must submit an application; 2 essays; a signature page; an 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 application can be found at www.kypoultry.org. The recipient must attend the annual Kentucky Poultry Festival Hall of Fame Banquet.

Award: \$2,000; renewable

Number: 4

Deadline: June 30

Contact: Counselor or Kentucky Poultry Federation, jguffey@kypoultry.org



SAT cancels June 6 test, to add September exam

The College Board has canceled the June 6 SAT test in wake of the coronavirus pandemic. However, students will be able to take the SAT to make up for the lost exam dates this spring, including an added test date in September.

SAT exams already set for Aug. 29, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 5 will take place as scheduled unless public health concerns make them inadvisable.

To replace SAT school day administrations that were canceled this spring, the College Board will offer the SAT in schools this fall. Specific information about school days testing will be made available in the coming weeks so schools can create their testing plans for students.

If schools do not reopen this fall, the College Board will provide a digital SAT for home use, making it accessible to all and accepted for college admissions.

For national administrations, students can register beginning in May. Students who registered for June and those in the high school class of 2021 who do not have SAT scores will have early access to register for the August, September, and October exams.

The College Board will communicate directly with students when the exact date is available. Eligible students will be able to take the test with a fee waiver.

Federal website adds and updates tools

The U.S. Department of Education added three new services to its studentaid.gov website on April 26. They are:

- **Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment**, which educates borrowers about the impact of receiving a federal student loan. Student and parent borrowers can see how much they owe in federal loans and find tips on smart borrowing. Beginning with the 2021–2022 award year, borrowers will use this tool to acknowledge that they have reviewed their information.
- **Feedback Center**, which lets users submit a complaint, report an issue, and provide feedback. In addition, customers can check on a case through the Status Center. The center can be accessed directly at studentaid.gov/feedback.
- **Status Center**, which lets borrowers follow the status of their feedback cases.

The department has enhanced four other functions.

The Loan Simulator now helps customers struggling to repay their student loans evaluate their options.

The Master Promissory Note process has added the latest approved form. The update includes an MPN landing page that helps users determine which MPN they need to complete.

Users creating an FSA ID account now go to a landing page that provides clear information on who should create an account and what information they will need to provide.

The Notification Center has been updated to let borrowers see their notification history, see unread notifications, and dismiss notifications. Notifications were added for income-driven repayment plan recertification, aid overpayments, and TEACH Grant reconsideration.

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