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IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 KHEAA continues hosting social media outreach What students will need to file the 2022–23 FAFSA
- 3 Postsecondary programs can provide pay equity
- 4 Carver named Kentucky
 Teacher of the Year
- 5 What students need to know about interest rates
- 6 High school planners
- National Test DatesScholarship Spotlight





For help with your higher education and financial aid questions, visit www.kheaa.com



Time for college-bound seniors to fill out the FAFSA

Kentucky students who plan to attend technical school or college in the fall of 2022 should submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, as soon as possible beginning Oct. 1.

"Kentucky's economy is surging like nothing I've seen before in my lifetime, and there are going to be unprecedented job opportunities for this generation of Kentucky college and technical school graduates," said Gov. Andy Beshear. "If you're hoping to start a higher education program next fall, please fill out the FAFSA as soon as you can starting on Oct. 1 to help make those educational goals a reality for you and your family."

Even students who don't think they will qualify for financial aid should submit the FAFSA. Rules governing student aid programs sometimes change, and students who don't file the FAFSA may miss out on free money that could help pay for their education.

The parents or guardians of students considered dependents under federal guidelines must also provide financial information on the FAFSA. This affects most students going directly to college from high school, who are typically considered a dependent.

The FAFSA asks for information about income, assets and expenses. The data provided on the FAFSA determines whether students qualify for federal grants, work-study and loans, as well as several state grants and scholarships. Many colleges also use the FAFSA to award their own grants and scholarships.

A formula set by Congress is used to determine if students qualify for federal and state aid.

Some student aid programs have limited funds and provide awards on a first-come, first-served basis, so students and families should submit the FAFSA as soon as possible.

KHEAA continues hosting social media outreach

KHEAA Outreach will continue to provide live help this fall via Facebook and Twitter.

The schedule is:

Oct. 4: Understanding the FAFSA: What You Need, *Facebook*

Oct. 11: Understanding the FAFSA: Frequently Asked Questions, *Twitter*

Oct. 18: Understanding the FAFSA: The 2022–2023 FAFSA Walkthrough, *YouTube*

Oct. 25: Understanding the FAFSA: FAFSA Live, Webinar

Nov. 1: Getting Connected: Resources for Middle School Parents, *Facebook*

Nov. 8: Getting Connected: Resources for Underclassmen, *Twitter*

Nov. 15: Getting Connected: You Can Go to College Too!, *YouTube*

Nov. 29: Getting Connected: Adults Returning to School. *Webinar*

Dec. 6: FAFSA Follow-Up: Next Steps, Facebook

Dec. 13: FAFSA Follow-Up: Professional Judgments, *Twitter*

Dec. 20: FAFSA Follow-Up: Making Corrections to Your FAFSA, **YouTube**

All sessions begin at 7 p.m. Eastern, 6 p.m. Central.

The links are:

www.facebook.com/KHEAA/ www.twitter.com/KHEAA/ www.youtube.com/user/KHEAAMascot/



What students will need to file the 2022-23 FAFSA

In addition to the FSA ID, students will need the following to complete the FAFSA.

- Social Security number and Alien Registration Number (if they're not a U.S. citizen).
- **Driver's license number** (if they have one).
- **2020 tax records.** On the 2022–23 FAFSA, students and parents will use their 2020 income information.
- Records of their untaxed income. This may not apply to everyone. It includes things like child support received, interest income and veterans' non-education benefits.
- Records of their assets. Includes savings and checking account balances, as well as the value of investments such as stocks and bonds and real estate (but not the home in which the student's family lives).
- List of the schools they're interested in attending. Even if there is only a slight chance a student will apply to a college, they should list the school on their FAFSA. They can always remove schools later. If they wait to add a school, though, they could miss out on first-come, first-served financial aid.

Postsecondary programs can provide pay equity

A new report from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education highlights academic programs that prepare underrepresented minority (URM) and low-income students for high-demand occupations with earnings that match or exceed their peers.

The <u>report</u>, "Analysis on Workforce Preparedness and Early Career Outcomes for Underrepresented Minority and Low-Income Status Students in Kentucky," identified 29 bachelor's, associate's and certificate/diploma degree programs that prepare URM and low-income students for successful careers with equitable earnings.

The programs are in the fields of education, health, STEM, business, social science and trade career preparation. The CPE analysis shows that, in most cases, low-income and URM graduates from these degree programs earned higher wages than their peers.

Findings were based on earnings data one year following graduation from over 140,000 Kentucky graduates between 2008–2020.

Earnings disparities have been shown to persist across all education levels, according to a <u>CPE</u> report published earlier this year. Identifying degree programs that counter this trend will enable institutions to reproduce best practices that foster student success.

The latest report, which includes data from interviews with faculty, staff and students from the high-achieving degree programs, identifies 10 recommendations to improve equitable career outcomes for URM and low-income students, including:

- Foster a culture of care and trust.
- Focus on employability, adopting the mindset "their success is our success."



- Engage employers in the instruction process.
- Improve faculty/staff awareness of unique student needs and adapt to shifting concerns.
- Guide underrepresented students into highdemand occupations.
- Improve student financial literacy and awareness of resources.
- Eliminate gaps in career counseling.
- Provide accessible networking opportunities.
- Encourage career-focused discussions within social groups.
- Advance cultural diversity on campus.

Results will be shared with campuses in the near future.

Carver named Kentucky Teacher of the Year

Willie Edward Taylor Carver Jr., an English and French teacher at Montgomery County High School, is the 2022 Kentucky Teacher of the Year.

"The best thing about teaching is you get lost in the process. It's all about what the students do," Carver said. "Thank you to all of my students who helped me get here."

He said the 2022 Kentucky Teacher of the Year award is a testament to all the teachers who supported him throughout his education journey. Carver also was named the Kentucky High School Teacher of the Year.

Carver is in his 10th year of teaching at Montgomery County. As a child growing up in Floyd County, he had limited access to the supplies he needed for school. Whether it was paper, pencils or even a pair of shoes, he knew he could rely on his teachers to help him get by.

Now, as the 2022 Kentucky Teacher of the Year, Carver hopes to instill that same level of humanity in his classroom every day.

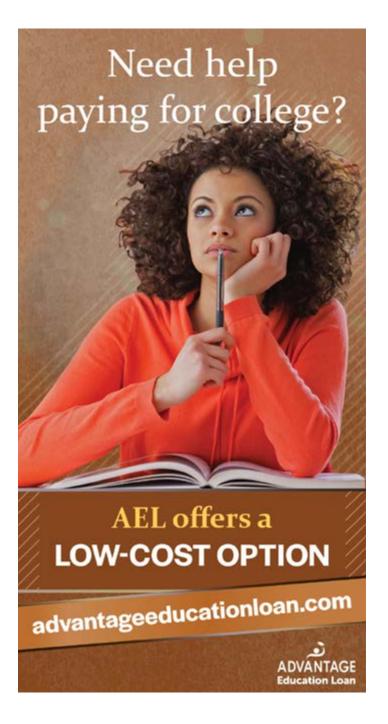
Also announced during the virtual ceremony were the 2022 Kentucky Middle School Teacher of the Year and Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

The Middle School Teacher of the Year is Hallie Booth, an eighth-grade math teacher at Ballyshannon Middle School in Boone County. Booth focuses on exploration in her classroom and giving students realworld experiences.

The Elementary School Teacher of the Year is Ashley Ritchie, a second-grade teacher at Beechwood Elementary School.

To engage her students in the learning process, Ritchie uses room transformations, which involves transforming her classroom into something new and different that centers on the standards students are learning. Carver will receive a \$10,000 cash award, while Booth and Ritchie each will get \$3,000.

Carver also will serve a semester-long sabbatical with KDE and represent the state in the National Teacher of the Year competition.





What students need to know about interest rates

Students need to learn some basic facts about interest rates so they can make good choices when it comes to borrowing and investing.

"Nearly everyone will borrow money, use a credit card or set up a savings account during their lives, so they need to familiarize themselves with the various types of interest," said Governor Andy Beshear. "Understanding the interest that you're paying or earning can help you budget your expenses and save for large purchases or retirement."

One interest rate is simple, or nominal, interest. It's straightforward. If a student borrows \$1,000 at 5 percent simple interest per year, they'll pay back \$1,050. If they deposit \$10,000 in their savings account at 3 percent simple interest per year, they'll have \$10,300 in their account at the end of the year.

But many loans use an annual percentage rate (APR), not simple interest.

Let's say a student takes out a \$100,000 mortgage at 5 percent. However, their closing costs are \$5,000, which is added to the amount of the mortgage. That means they'll be paying interest on \$105,000. Over the life of a mortgage, they'll pay thousands more than they would with simple interest. Lenders are required to disclose the APR on any loans they take out.

On savings, students might receive a compound interest rate, which means they earn interest on top of the interest they've already earned .If they invest \$10,000 at a 3 percent compound interest rate, they'll have \$10,304.16 in their savings account at the end of the year.

High school planners

Juniors

- Sign up for activities to boost your college applications.
- ☐ Find out about schools you're interested in attending.
- ☐ Go to college fairs and open houses and learn as much as you can from the Internet about schools.
- □ Take the PSAT.
- □ Sign up for ACT or SAT prep courses. Public high school juniors must take the ACT in the spring. If you don't attend a public high school, sign up for the ACT or SAT. See national test dates on page 8.
- □ Apply for the Governor's Scholars Program. Your counselor's office should have applications.
- □ Sign up for a Governor's School for the Arts workshop. <u>Registration</u> opens Nov. 4.
- □ Decide if you should take AP exams in May. Investigate the CLEP program.

Seniors

- Meet with college admissions representatives at college fairs or when they visit your school.
- ☐ Attend a financial aid seminar if your school offers one.
- If you haven't picked a college yet, narrow your list by visiting schools and talking with students.
 You should probably talk with your parents too.
- If you're going Early Decision, most schools will want the application submitted soon.
- If you're going through the regular admissions process, it's time to ask teachers to write recommendations and to polish your admissions essay if you have to write one.

- Check with each school's financial aid office to see what financial aid forms they require in addition to the FAFSA.
- Start investigating private and public sources for financial aid. Take note of scholarship deadlines and plan accordingly.
- ☐ If you haven't taken the ACT/SAT or if you think you can do better, register. See page 8 for a list of national test dates.





AdvantageEducationLoan.com



ACT National Test Dates		
Test Date	Registration Deadline	Scores Available
Dec. 11, 2021	Nov. 5, 2021	TBD
Feb. 12, 2022	Jan. 7, 2022	TBD
April 2, 2022	Feb. 25, 2022	TBD
June 11, 2022	May 6, 2022	TBD
July 16, 2022	June 17, 2022	TBD
SAT National Test Dates		
Nov.6, 2021	Oct. 8, 2021	Nov. 19, 2021
Dec. 4, 2021	Nov. 4, 2021	Dec. 17, 2021
March 12, 2022	Feb. 11, 2022	March 25, 2022
May 7, 2022	April 8, 2022	May 20, 2022
June 4, 2022	May 5, 2022	July 13, 2022

Scholarship Spotlight

Kentucky Association of School Business Officials Scholarship

Eligibility: Must be a student at a Kentucky high school; be a graduating senior; plan to major in business or education; and submit two letters of recommendation, one from applicant's school and one from community or church. These letters must be emailed directly to scholarships.kasbo@kasbo.com from the author. The student's name and high school should be in the subject line.

Award: \$2,500

Deadline: December 16

Number: 3

Contact: School counselor or scholarships.kasbo@kasbo.com

