

# KHEAA Advisor

Simplifying the process.

Volume 5 Issue 3 Spring 2014



Floyds Fork, Jefferson County, Kentucky  
(photo courtesy of Stacey Knoop, KHESLC)

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If you have a question you would like to see addressed in a public forum such as KHEAA Advisor, please send the question or topic suggestion to Meredith Geraci at [mgeraci@kheslc.com](mailto:mgeraci@kheslc.com).



# 2014-2015 STATE GRANT INFORMATION

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The maximum College Access Program (CAP) Grant award for full-time students will remain at \$1,900. Hourly rates for less than full-time students will remain at \$79 for semester-based institutions and \$53 for quarter-based institutions.

The maximum Kentucky Tuition Grant (KTG) award will increase to \$2,970.

The maximum expected family contribution (EFC) for state grant consideration is being increased to \$5,157 to be consistent with the new 2014-2015 Federal Pell Grant maximum EFC.

Contact Becky Gilpatrick at [rgilpatrick@kheaa.com](mailto:rgilpatrick@kheaa.com) or 502.696.7394 if you have questions or concerns.

## FINANCIAL AID FOR EARLY GRADUATES

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Legislation passed during the 2013 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly created financial aid awards specifically for students who graduate early from Kentucky high schools. Brief descriptions of these new awards are listed below. Additional information will be sent in the months ahead.

### KEES Early Graduate Award

- This program provides a fourth-year equivalent award to students who graduate from a Kentucky high school in three years.
- The first awards will be given to spring 2014 graduates.
- Disbursement begins with the fall 2014 semester.

### Early Graduate Scholarship Certificate Program

- This award is for public high school students who graduate in less than four years.
- This one-time scholarship can be used the year immediately after graduation.
- It can be used at Kentucky two- and four-year public institutions and four-year non-profit, independent institutions.
- The estimated award amount will be about \$2,000.
- The first awards will be given to spring 2015 graduates.
- Disbursement begins with the fall 2015 semester.

Contact Becky Gilpatrick at [rgilpatrick@kheaa.com](mailto:rgilpatrick@kheaa.com) or 502. 696.7394 if you have questions or concerns.

# EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

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Kentucky's child care providers and those who train child care providers may be eligible for the Early Childhood Development Scholarship to further their college education.

The scholarships are available to those who work at least 20 hours per week or provide training in early childhood development at least 12 times per year for an approved organization. Kentuckians employed as a preschool associate teacher in a state-funded preschool program are also eligible.

Recipients must be working toward an associate's or bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or other approved credential. Depending on funding, the scholarship will pay up to \$1,800 for tuition each year. Students may not take more than nine hours of classes per semester.

To apply, students must submit the FAFSA and an Early Childhood Development Scholarship application. Details available [here](#). To complete the scholarship application, students must register for a MyKHEAA account. After registering, sign in to MyKHEAA, choose Account Access, then select Apply Online.

The application deadline for summer classes is April 15. The deadline for fall classes is July 15. The scholarship is administered by KHEAA.

## HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

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A rising junior at one of Kentucky's public or private high schools will win a \$500 scholarship and a photo shoot at his or her school through the "Promote Your School" scholarship contest, sponsored by KHEAA.

To enter, the student must submit an essay about one of these subjects:

- What my aspiration for my generation is.
- How I am preparing for my future.
- How my education plans will affect my community.
- What a middle school student should do in high school to prepare for college.

The student must be a junior during the 2014-2015 school year. The winner will be chosen by a committee of KHEAA employees. The deadline for submissions is May 31. Students from high schools that have been featured in the past five years — J. Graham Brown, Sacred Heart, Bowling Green, Green County and Williamstown — are not eligible to enter this year's contest.

For rules and more information, visit [kheaa.com/website/contest/intro](http://kheaa.com/website/contest/intro). Photos from the winning school will be used in KHEAA publications and on KHEAA websites.

## KHEAA.COM NOW AVAILABLE IN SPANISH

Four sections of [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com) are now available in Spanish, providing information to students, families, adult learners and military personnel.

“We are excited to be able to provide college planning information to Kentuckians who are more comfortable with Spanish while they improve their English skills,” said Summer Gortney, the KHEAA outreach counselor who championed the project within the agency. “This will help the state’s Spanish-speaking parents play a greater role in their children’s college decisions.”



Funding for the project came from a grant that the Lumina Foundation had awarded to Bluegrass Community and Technical College to create a statewide effort named the Kentucky Latino Education Alliance (K’LEA).

K’LEA is a partnership of representatives from education, the workforce, community-based organizations and policy positions working to increase Latino student college completion.

KHEAA matched the grant funds and had the site professionally translated. To access the Spanish version, go to [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com) and select “Español” at the top.

## “GETTING IN” CHAPTERS NOW AVAILABLE IN AUDIO

Parts of two chapters of “Getting In,” the state’s college planning guide, are now available in audio on our [website](#).

The audio versions include Chapter One and the first part of Chapter Two. Chapter One is a guide to the college admissions process, while the first part of Chapter Two helps students and parents navigate the financial aid application process.

Elaine Hall, a counselor at the Kentucky School for the Blind in Louisville, welcomes the addition to [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com).

“As many students, parents and adults have learned, the application process for college can be very daunting,” she said. “The online audio publication will enable blind and visually impaired students and adults to have access to information from any home or school setting. It will be an invaluable resource.”



## COMING SOON – SCHOLARNET

KHESLC and KHEAA will soon begin processing their state-based loan products via Great Lakes' ScholarNet. These KHESLC loans include Kentucky Advantage Education Loan, Kentucky Advantage Parent Loan, Advantage Education Loan and Advantage Parent Loan.

ScholarNet is an easy-to-use tool for exchanging and managing loan data. It allows for full electronic processing and change transactions for hundreds of private loan programs.

If your school is not set up with ScholarNet, you will not have to make any changes in the way you currently certify the loans or in the way the funds are disbursed via KHEAA.

KHEAA will continue to certify, disburse and accept return of funds as we always have. Adding ScholarNet simply gives you more choices.

The exact date loans will be processed using ScholarNet will be forwarded to you via a KHEAA Partners update. In the meantime, should you have questions, please let us know at [marketing@kheaa.com](mailto:marketing@kheaa.com).



To learn more on KHEAA's processing, call 800.988.6333. For more information on ScholarNet, [check out their SmartSessions webinars.](#)

# WHEN FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID IS NOT ENOUGH



## **We won't tease students with an unobtainable rate.**

Some private loan providers tell students their rates are really low, like 2.5-3%, but in reality most of their borrowers will end up with a rate close to 9-10%.

With the Advantage Loan, rates start at 5.79% and never exceed 7.59%. The rates are further decreased when they pay by auto debit.

## **FIXED interest rates, flexible payment options.**

Advantage Education Loans are available for students and parents, with FIXED interest rates based on creditworthiness and choice of payment plan. Borrowers can pay while in school or postpone.

## **Save more than \$4,000.**

With our fixed rates and low fees, we can save borrowers more than \$4,000 over the life of a \$10,000 loan compared to other lenders.

Don't let your students be fooled by others' teaser rates. With us, they'll know their rate at the beginning of the process, and it will never go up once the loan is made.

## **Helping Your Students Get Started**

[kheslc.com](http://kheslc.com) – Go to either the student or parent section for more information and to apply.

[advantageeducationloan.com](http://advantageeducationloan.com) – This is the direct portal to the Advantage Education Loan site.

Call KHESLC at 1.800.988.6333 – Borrowers may call to have an application sent via email.

*Both student and parent Kentucky Advantage loans  
are owned and serviced by KHESLC.  
Loans are originated and disbursed by KHEAA.*

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### **Immediate Repayment – Principal plus Interest**

5.79 to 7.09% FIXED interest rate

2% Guarantee fee

0.50% Interest rate reduction for auto debit

Repayment begins as soon as the loan is fully disbursed.

### **Immediate Repayment – Interest Only**

5.79 to 7.09% FIXED interest rate

2% Guarantee fee

0.50% Interest rate reduction for auto debit

Interest payments begin as soon as the loan is fully disbursed. Full repayment begins six months after the student leaves school or drops below half-time status.

### **Postponed Repayment**

6.49% to 7.59% FIXED interest rate

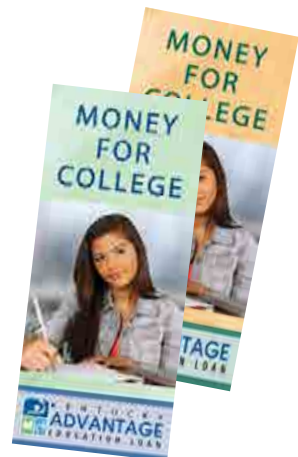
3% Guarantee fee

0.50% Interest rate reduction for auto debit

Repayment begins six months after the student leaves school or drops below half-time status.

The fees associated with these loans are among the lowest in the nation.

If the borrower has a limited credit history, questionable credit or no income, then we recommend a creditworthy cosigner.



# KHEAA VERIFY

Now that verifications are winding down for the spring semester, this is the perfect time to get your plan together for this fall.

When you sign up for KHEAA Verify, our specially trained and professional staff will conduct all the verification chores for you, leaving your staff to focus on other important tasks. Frustrated students and overworked staff could be a thing of the past!

Our verification process is easy to use. You send us the file of students needing to be verified, regardless of the level of verification required, and we do the rest.

KHEAA staff will contact the students on your behalf, advising them of what is needed and how to supply the documentation. The students upload the data required via a secure student portal. We will follow up with the students if additional information is required. Once verification is complete, we will submit the changes to CPS.

At any time during the process, you are able to monitor our progress via MyKHEAA (formerly Zip Access), which gives you full control over the process and ensures your students' verification needs are met.



**To receive pricing details or more information on KHEAA Verify, please contact your KHEAA marketing representative. 1.888.678.4625 or [marketing@kheaa.com](mailto:marketing@kheaa.com)**



# NOT HAPPY WITH YOUR DRAFT COHORT DEFAULT RATE?

Turn to KHEAA's Cohort Default Management Service as part of your default prevention plan. We'll help lower your CDR and get your student borrowers back on track.

Even if your cohort default rates are low, the number of borrowers in default and the dollars in default may be significant. We'll help to implement additional cost-saving procedures.

Our Cohort Default Management Service offers varying components from which to choose. Pick one or incorporate all three. We will help you find the right choices for your institution!

**Early Intervention** reaches out to your students who will soon enter repayment through graduating, withdrawing or dropping below part-time status. For those students who have withdrawn, we determine the reason and encourage them to re-enroll. This program offers proactive help to keep students from missing or being late on payments.

**Default Prevention** contacts borrowers in your cohort who are delinquent but not yet in default. These borrowers are counseled on their repayment, deferment and forbearance options. Once we determine the reason for the delinquency, we can offer the proper assistance to get them over their hurdle. Getting the borrower into successful repayment terms is the main objective in this service.

**Student Transition Service** provides customized email messages and videos geared to students at critical times during their college career. The information is designed to:

- Support transition into higher education.
- Promote financial literacy.
- Navigate college life.
- Encourage persistence and completion.
- Educate students preparing to enter the workforce.
- Promote successful management of student debt.



**To learn more about our  
Cohort Default  
Management Service  
and how it can help you  
and your students:**

- Call 1.800.564.6068
- Email [cdms@kheaa.com](mailto:cdms@kheaa.com)

## CHANGES IN KHEAA OUTREACH STAFF

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Spring has been an exciting time in KHEAA's Outreach Area. West Central Kentucky Outreach Counselor Jo Newton resigned in February to accept a position as the school counselor at LaRue County High School. Newton worked diligently in her region over the past 3½ years, establishing school and community contacts and helping thousands of Kentucky students and families make informed decisions about their higher education options.

Toni Wiley has been named KHEAA's new West Central Kentucky Outreach Counselor. Wiley, who was the KHEAA outreach counselor in the southern part of the state but lives in the Bardstown area, said, "I've loved serving the thirteen southern counties but am looking forward to helping students closer to home. I want to help our students get the most KEES money they can and become more prepared for life after high school."

Wiley is a native of New Albany, Indiana. She has a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from St. Catharine College and a master's in fine arts from Spalding University.

Wiley will now serve Anderson, Boyle, Hardin, LaRue, Marion, Meade, Mercer, Nelson and Washington counties. She can be reached at [twiley@kheaa.com](mailto:twiley@kheaa.com) or 270.403.9468.



Toni Wiley

Audrey Fowler joined KHEAA in March as the new Southern Kentucky Outreach Counselor. She said, "I can't wait to begin traveling in my new territory and meeting people in the community. I love to help students realize their potential and to explain their options for college and how to afford higher education."

"We're thrilled to welcome Audrey to the KHEAA Outreach Team," KHEAA Director of Outreach Services Susan Hopkins said. "Her work as a recruiter in the southern Kentucky region gives her a head start in establishing relationships with professional school counselors and other contacts in much of her new territory."



Audrey Fowler

Fowler is a native of Madisonville and a graduate of Western Kentucky University. Before joining KHEAA, she was an admissions counselor for WKU. Fowler will serve Adair, Allen, Barren, Clinton, Cumberland, Edmonson, Green, Hart, Metcalfe, Monroe, Russell, Taylor and Wayne counties. She can be reached at [afowler@kheaa.com](mailto:afowler@kheaa.com) or 270.991.4481.

# PASSWORD SECURITY INCREASED ON KHEAA.COM

In response to suggestions from a security audit, the password requirements on [kheaa.com](http://kheaa.com) have been made more secure.

Password must be eight or more characters that include:

- At least one uppercase letter
- At least one lowercase letter
- At least one number
- Special characters are optional

If your account has a password that does not meet those requirements, you will be prompted to change your password the next time you log in. The same changes have been made on [kheslc.com](http://kheslc.com), the website of the Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation.

*Beginning March 8, you may be asked to create a stronger password for your KHEAA account to make your information more secure.*



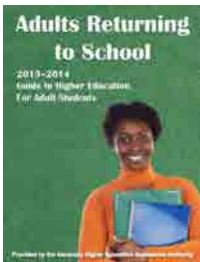
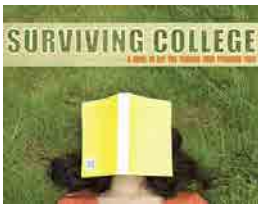
# PUBLICATIONS

KHEAA and KHESLC provide a wide variety of publications to help you and your students.

Most publications can be ordered from our website, although some are online versions only. The items below can be ordered [here](#).

**LIMITED SUPPLY AVAILABLE!**

Contact your KHEAA or KHESLC marketing representative or email Eleanor Kley at [ekley@kheaa.com](mailto:ekley@kheaa.com) to order our popular posters.



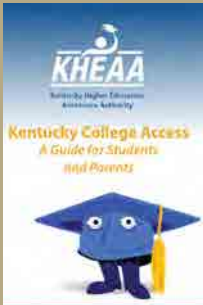
Pull a tab off the bottom of this poster for Kentucky Advantage Education Loan contact information.

The following brochures can be ordered [here](#):



## Download KHEAA's free Kentucky College Access mobile app.

- iPhone/iPad: ([App Store](#)>[Search Store](#)>[KHEAA](#))
- Android: ([Google Play store](#)>[KHEAA](#))



More ways for your students to get financial aid, scholarship and money tips!



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[@kheaa](https://www.twitter.com/kheaa)  
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**Know anyone in your office who would like to subscribe to KHEAAPartners?**

**KHEAAPartners** is an electronic mailing list designed to communicate important messages and information electronically with our industry partners. [Sign up here.](#)

## Mark Your Calendar

- April 6–9. TASFAA (TN) annual conference, Marriott Cool Springs Hotel, Franklin, TN. [Conference registration.](#)
- April 14–16. KASFAA Spring conference, Louisville Marriott Downtown. [Conference registration.](#)
- April 18. KHEAA/KHESLC offices will be closed a half-day in observance of Good Friday.
- April 23–25. AASFAA Spring conference, The Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel & Spa, Mobile, AL. [Conference registration.](#)
- April 24–25. WVASFAA Spring conference, Embassy Suites, Charleston, WV. [Conference registration.](#)
- May 14–16. MSASFAA annual conference, Natchez Grand Hotel, Natchez, MS. [Conference registration.](#)
- May 21–23. GASFAA annual conference, New Macon Marriott City Center Hotel, Macon, GA. [Conference registration.](#)
- May 26. KHEAA/KHESLC offices will be closed in observance of Memorial Day
- June 29–July 2. NASFAA conference, Music City Center, Nashville, TN. [Conference registration](#) is now available. <http://www.nasfaa.org/conference/>
- July 4. KHEAA/KHESLC offices will be closed in observance of Independence Day.

Cover photo: Floyds Fork, Jefferson County, Kentucky  
(photo courtesy of Stacey Knoop, KHESLC)

[Floyds Fork](#) is a 62-mile-long tributary of the Salt River, directly south and east of Louisville. It begins in Henry County, near Smithfield, flows through eastern Jefferson County and flows into the Salt River near Shepherdsville in Bullitt County.

Floyds Fork is named for John Floyd, an early surveyor of the area.

