

BEYOND ACADEMICS

BELONGING AND THRIVING

At Kent State, we meet students where they are, wherever they come from, and wherever they are going. We walk with them throughout their collegiate career, providing the personalized services and programs that pave their way to graduation. Every student's journey is personal, charted by their own life's experiences. We support each student through their college years and beyond, encouraging them to reach their full potential and experience their brightest future.

Kent State University provides an accessible avenue to higher education, offering nationally ranked academic programs at a public university price point. But that's only part of what makes this university exceptional. To truly position students for success, we also excel in other programs and resources that foster belonging, academic preparedness and wellness. This encourages students to stay enrolled, stay on track and earn their degrees – the ultimate goal.

We Focus on Belonging

You belong here. It's a promise we make to our students when they arrive, and it's one that we fulfill through award-winning programming and resources that go beyond academics to make Kent State feel like home. We then take it a step further by helping them find purpose and meaning for themselves and their life's work. They uncover passions and engage in experiences that enrich their lives both academically and personally. They are cared for through a holistic framework of wellbeing that considers all their needs – emotional, spiritual, intellectual, physical, environmental, financial, occupational and social.

They thrive here and overcome challenges they encounter along the way to achieve their goal of graduation and career preparedness.

Where Students Thrive

Students feel belonging when they experience acceptance, self-esteem and personal value.

At Kent State we provide the foundations that celebrate that compassion, kindness and respect in all we do. We are committed to ensuring that sense of belonging to all students through an inclusive culture that demonstrates our commitment each day.



"CommUNITY Lab is more than people to help me when I'm struggling, it's my family and friends that I can count on just like they can count on me."

- Arlissa M.



"The LGBTQ+ Center has become a home away from home to me and, after entering the center, I was able to meet and become friends with other students."

- Holly L.

STUDENTS FIRST

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SUCCESS



We Support All Students

One of our guiding principles is ensuring that we put “students first in all we do.” That means offering the best resources and programming to address the wide variety of student needs across the eight campus system. Many of these programs receive ongoing national recognition.

Kent State is proud to be considered an access institution where 31 percent of the Fall 2024 entering class were PELL grant eligible, 20 percent are historically disadvantaged and 33 percent would be the first in their family to earn a college degree.

Kent State is home to students from all 50 states and 101 countries, from every background and walk of life. We strive to meet students where they are through our academic success programs, identity centers and campus resources, which are available to all undergraduate and graduate students.

Graduation Matters

The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities states that “bachelor’s degree holders typically have earnings that are 84 percent higher than those with only high school diplomas and are likely to make an average of \$1.2 million more during their lifetime. College graduates are also half as likely to be unemployed.”

Philanthropy Transforms

How do we continue to offer these prestigious programs and resources that differentiate us?

Most of these programs and support services have costs that are not provided through state funding. We depend on additional financial resources to ensure they can exist and, most importantly, serve the students who need them most. Philanthropy supports a wide variety of needs including scholarships, programs and operations that propel our students on toward graduation.