Dear Kent State Parents and Families:

Welcome to Kent State University! I am most pleased that your student has chosen Kent State and that you are now a part of the Golden Flashes family!

The Kent State Parents and Families Association is here to help you and your family throughout your student’s undergraduate career. With timely programs and publications, the Parents and Families Association will let you know what is happening on campus and what opportunities are available to help your student enhance his or her experience both inside and outside the classroom. As we hope this guide will show, so many rewarding experiences are awaiting your student at Kent State. A strong support network of Kent State faculty and staff is available to help your student succeed academically.

The college experience can sometimes be confusing and stressful for family members of students, and that is why we have created this association. We are here to ensure you have the information, support and access you need to feel secure in the knowledge that your student is on the road to success at Kent State. Whenever you have a question or concern, you can turn to the Parents and Families Association for help. You can reach us Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. by calling 330-672-4050 or emailing parents@kent.edu. You can also find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/pages/Kent-State-University-Parent-Association). Do not hesitate to contact us whenever we can be of assistance.

Welcome to the family! I look forward to working together with you to help your Kent State student soar to excellence. Go Flashes!

Shay Davis Little, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

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Thank you for registering to be part of the Parents and Families Association here at Kent State University. The association, housed under the Office of the Dean of Students in the Division of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, strives to be a one-stop, comprehensive service for parents and families of current students to understand not only the Kent State system but also the many academic and social opportunities available to enhance the student experience. We all want the same thing — student excellence — and we know that does not happen without a support system that includes both Kent State members and family members. The association is designed to allow us to work together to meet your student’s needs. Whenever you have questions, concerns or comments about your student’s progress, surroundings or safety, we want you to reach out to us.

As part of that association, you now have access to a number of great benefits and perks. Please be sure to like us on Facebook and also check out our website periodically. We are continually working to add to the benefits we offer our members. Currently, membership in the association includes:

**Exclusive E-newsletters:** Periodically we will email you a newsletter full of information on programs and activities on campus that you and/or your child can take advantage of, tips for parenting a college student, staff and faculty highlights and news updates on our colleges and programs. Freshman parents will also receive a second monthly newsletter from our Student Success Center, that provides useful information for helping start your student on the right academic path during his or her first year.

The newsletter provides tips on things like creating good study habits, balancing work and school and taking advantage of the many campus resources that provide tutoring, guidance and support to all students at Kent State.

**Special VIP Access on Parents’ Day:** Each year, Kent State honors the families of our students at a special Parents Day event that includes a variety of activities across campus. Association members will be given special advance RSVP access to all the events.

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**Kent State University Discounts:** Because you are part of the Golden Families family, we want you to be able to show your Blue and Gold pride! We’ve partnered with the University Bookstore to offer Parents and Family Members Association members a 15 percent discount on all Kent State apparel purchased at the on-campus bookstore. Just show your membership card to receive this great perk!

**Kent Community Discounts:** We also want our association members to get to know the community their students now live in. Kent has undergone some amazing transformations in the last few years that you will want to see for yourself. For more information, please see the “Visiting Kent” section. When you do visit, show your membership card at participating restaurants and businesses for 15 percent off your purchase. A listing of participants is included in the back of this guide, but also check our website for new partners before you visit!

**Kent State University:**

In 1910, State Representative John Lowry pushed through a bill that authorized the creation of two new normal schools (a school created to train high school graduates to be teachers) in Ohio. One of those schools would eventually be known as Bowling Green State University. But thanks to the vision and perseverance of the city of Kent, the Kent Board of Trade and other community players, the second school was founded in Kent, as the Ohio State Normal College. It was officially named the Kent State Normal School a year later in honor of William S. Kent, who donated the 53 acres of farmland the campus would reside on and who was the son of Kent, Ohio, namesake Marvin Kent. While the campus was being built, classes began in extension centers in 25 different cities around the area that would eventually give way to the Regional Campus system at Kent State. The first on-campus classes were held in 1919, and the first graduating class of 34 students had commencement on July 29, 1914.

With the addition of four-year degrees in 1919, the school was upgraded to college status. Kent State Normal College was well-respected and well-attended, having the largest summer attendance for teacher training of any school in the country by 1924. Building on this success, the campus continued to expand its programs and infrastructure, and in 1929 it became Kent State College with the establishment of a College of Arts and Sciences. The name Kent State University came into use in 1935.

Ohio Governor Martin L. Davey, a Kent native and a former member of Kent State’s very first class, signed a bill allowing Kent State to add both a School of Business and graduate programs to its degree offerings. This granting of university status is in large part due to the vision of Kent State’s very first president, John E. McGilvrey, who laid out the “Visiting Kent” section. When you do visit, show your membership card at participating restaurants and businesses for 15 percent off your purchase. A listing of participants is included in the back of this guide, but also check our website for new partners before you visit!

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**Notable Firsts and Accomplishments:**

1920: Kent State Airport opens to public under the name Stow Aviation Field.

1924: Dr. Arville C. DeWeese creates Kent State’s first health services and physical education departments.

1924: Undergraduate Student Government is formed.

1931: Kent State’s first health services and physical education departments.

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1939: Student Union opens its doors to students offering pool tables, a bowling alley, cafes, lounges and a bookstore.

1950: WKSU, Kent State’s award winning radio station, is born.

1969: Kent State’s last university president, Dr. Arville C. DeWeese creates Kent State University at Stark in North Canton, Ohio.

1970: University Library opens as the tallest building in Portage County.

1970: On May 4, 1970, four Kent State students are killed and nine wounded by the National Guard during a demonstration protesting the U.S. invasion of Cambodia.

1971: Kent State establishes the Kent State University of Applied Conflict Management, as a living memory to the students.

1975: Kent State is the world’s oldest, most prestigious honor society, establishes a Kent State chapter.

1978: Kent State students continue to show their commitment to community service with the creation of the King-Kennedy Community Center in a blighted Ravenna neighborhood.

1991: The first student to receive their degree from the College of Business Administration.

1999: Kent State University at Stark in North Canton, Ohio.

2002: Kent State University at Stark in North Canton, Ohio.

2004: Kent State University at Stark in North Canton, Ohio.

2010: Kent State University at Stark in North Canton, Ohio.

2010: Kent State University at Stark in North Canton, Ohio.
Kent State University has been helping students fulfill their life goals for more than 100 years. As a top university in Ohio, Kent State has numerous campuses offering more than 228 bachelor’s degree programs and hundreds more certificate, associate, master’s, educational specialist and doctoral degree programs. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has ranked Kent State University among the nation’s top 74 public high-research universities and among the 76 top colleges and universities in community engagement. Each of our campus locations is highlighted below. We are one of the largest universities in the nation.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT ASHTABULA**

Opened in 1965, Kent State Ashtabula resides on 80 acres in Ashtabula, Ohio, and has an average attendance of 2,500 students each semester. The campus boasts a state-of-the-art Health and Science Building that was completed in 2009, housing a variety of health programs including nursing and physical therapy.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT CLEVELAND**

Located in Independence, Ohio, the College of Podiatric Medicine is one of nine accredited podiatry colleges in the United States. It is a four-year, graduate-level medical college, granting the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

This program, housed in the second story of the historic Cowell and Hubbard Building in the Playhouse Square district of downtown Cleveland, provides real-world learning opportunities for Kent State architecture and design students. Urban Design Collaborative staff provide design services to the entire region that is served by Kent State’s eight campuses, with a particular emphasis on Cleveland’s community development corporations and the network of nonprofit organizations supporting them.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT CRESCENT UNIVERSITY**

Located in Independence, Ohio, the College of Podiatric Medicine is one of nine accredited podiatry colleges in the United States. It is a four-year, graduate-level medical college, granting the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT DOWNTOWN KENT**

Located in downtown Kent, Ohio, the Kent Campus is ideally situated in Northeast Ohio, amid rolling terrain dotted by creeks and small lakes. It is the home away from home to more than 22,000 undergraduate students and 3,000 graduate students enrolled from all 50 states and nearly 100 countries. The campus is easily accessible from all directions via major interstate highways; Ohio, Pennsylvania and Indiana turnpikes; and nearby Cleveland Hopkins Airport and Akron-Canton Airport offer access to the nation and the world.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT GEauga**

Kent State Geauga consists of the campus in Burton, Ohio, and a satellite location in Twinsburg founded in 1981. The Burton location was founded in 1964 and is attended by 2,500 students each semester. The Twinsburg location moved to a brand new state-of-the-art building in 2012. In 2012, the Geauga Campus partnered with the Science Centers of Lake Erie and Great Lakes to create the Geauga Observatory Park, Observatory Park is designed for local communities to learn about and experience astronomy, meteorology and geology through the installation of the Oberlu telescope, one of the largest telescopes in Ohio. In addition, a state-of-the-art planetarium connects public programming visitors to the stars whether there is a goal for clouds.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT KENT**

Kent State Stark is the largest Regional Campus of Ohio. It also is home to Ohio’s only one of only seven programs in the state to give first-generation, college-bound students each semester a college access program designed to provide the downtown area and is composed of several buildings utilized by 1,900 students each semester. One unique program at the campus is the Rural Scholars program. This collaboration with local K-12 schools offers a college access program designed to give first-generation, college-bound students from Columbiana County and neighboring areas and their families the knowledge, rigorous academic exposure and social support they need to be successful at a world-class university.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT SUMMIT COUNTY**

Kent State Summit sits on 100 acres and includes nature trails, a lake and spectacular gardens that are open to the public. Kent State Salem is the lead campus for Kent State’s horticulture program, as well as the new insurance studies program. Kent State Salem attended by 1,900 students on average each semester; also recently added a multimillion dollar Health and Science Along with state-of-the-art nursing and radiology laboratories. Kent State Salem and Kent State East Liverpool are sister campuses and share a dean, as well as many resources.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT TUSCARAWAS**

Located on 170 acres in New Philadelphia, Ohio, Kent State Tuscarawas has an average semester enrollment of 3,000 students each semester and enrolls 438 acres in addition to a spectacular 2-acre natural resource in Lake Ave. Unique programs include the Ohio Basic Police Academy and a corrections training program.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT TRUMBULL**

Kent State Trumbull, located in Warren, Ohio, also started out in a high school in 1964 and became an official Regional Campus in 1965, moving to its own 150-acre site in 1970. Today, Kent State Trumbull is attended by 3,000 students each semester and is attended by 3,000 students each semester and enrolls 438 acres in addition to a spectacular 2-acre natural resource in Lake Ave. Unique programs include the Ohio Basic Police Academy and a corrections training program.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT URBAN DESIGN COLLABORATIVE**

Urban Design Collaborative staff provide design services to the entire region that is served by Kent State’s eight campuses, with a particular emphasis on Cleveland’s community development corporations and the network of nonprofit organizations supporting them.

**VISITING KENT**

Kent is located at the junction of state routes 42 and 59 with easy access to several interstate highways: I-80 (Ohio Turnpike), I-480, I-271 and I-76. It is easily accessible from nearby Cleveland, Akron, Canton and Youngstown.

When visiting the Kent Campus, be sure to spend some time in downtown Kent. There you will find unique shops, live music and a variety of restaurants. Acorn Alley alone has 25 outstanding retail and dining locations! There are also hiking and biking trails within a short distance of downtown.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER**

Stay near the Kent State University campus. After years of planning and collaboration between alumni, university officials and the Kent State Foundation, the Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center is providing the finest in accommodations, superb dining, lobbies and meeting facilities, all adjacent to the Kent Campus.

- Boutique-Style Guest Rooms and Suites
- 5,000 Square Feet of Versatile Meeting Space

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- 5,000 Square Feet of Versatile Meeting Space

- Heated Indoor Pool and Spa
- Zenas Restaurant and Nineteen10 Bar and Lounge offer specials and events for guests and the community.
KENT STATE ACADEMICS

Kent State students have access to more than 282 bachelor’s degree programs and minors on the eight campuses located throughout Northeast Ohio in the following nine colleges and one independent school:
- College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology
- College of Architecture and Environmental Design
- College of the Arts
- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Business Administration
- College of Communication and Information
- College of creep Health and Human Services
- College of Nursing
- College of Public Health
- School of Digital Sciences

For more information visit: www.kent.edu/academics.

Academic Calendar

Family members are encouraged to bookmark the link to the Kent State Academic Calendar and help their students keep track of important deadlines, school closings and exam periods.

www.kent.edu/academics/resources/academic-calendar.cfm

Test for Academic Credit

The Career Services Center offers students the option of participating in the College-level Examination Program (CLEP). The CLEP program gives students the opportunity to earn college credit through testing for knowledge acquired through independent study, prior coursework, on-the-job training, professional development, cultural pursuits or internships. Kent State encourages all qualified students to consider taking these tests, as passing scores result in college credit that saves time and money.

www.kent.edu/career/testing/clep.cfm

First-year Student Success

First-year Student Success

Family members of freshman students are encouraged to register with Kent State's First-Year Experience program. This program provides targeted information about freshman year and sends family members newsletters and resources to complement the Parents and Families Association materials you will also receive.

The mission of the Office of Student Success Programs, which manages First-Year Experience, can be summed up in three words: transition, persistence and connection. The goal is to ensure freshman students’ success by connecting them to the necessary support and resources to assist with a successful transition from high school to Kent State and encourage progress toward graduation.

www.kent.edu/success/families/index.cfm

Accessibility Services

If your student requires assistance to thrive in the learning environment, including interpretation, extra test time or other accommodation, he or she can apply, qualify and register through our Student Accessibility Services division.

www.kent.edu/has/index.cfm

Advising Services

A great way family members can assist their students is to encourage them to connect with our undergraduate advising services. Each college has an advising component that can help students navigate the Kent State degree program they are enrolled in and ensure they meet all necessary requirements for graduation. Advisors can also guide students in choosing classes and providing suggestions and referrals if they are having trouble in a class.

First- and second-year students are required to meet with an advisor each semester, and third-year students and above need to meet with an advisor at least once per year. (Additional appointments are encouraged and may be required by individual colleges or campuses.)

To learn more or help your student schedule an appointment, visit www.kent.edu/advising/index.cfm.

Writing Commons

Located on the fourth floor of the University Library, the Writing Commons supports Kent State students at all levels and in every academic discipline with projects that include writing. Assistance is provided to students at every stage of composition and revision. Students can take advantage of individual in-person tutoring, workshops and online tutoring sessions, as well as using the Commons as a quiet place to write that they can return to when needed.

For more information or to help your student schedule writing support, visit www.kent.edu/writing/commons/about/questions.cfm.

Career Counseling and Internships

Career counseling is offered through the College of Communication and Information. The Career Services Center located in the Schwartz Center. It isn’t just for seniors, but for all students desiring help with career and major selection through résumé, interview and job search preparation. Students can drop in to the center or schedule a more in-depth appointment with one of the career counselors.

For more information on counseling services, visit www.kent.edu/career/careermaj/or/counseling/index.cfm.

In the Career Services Center, the center manages an internship search program and has relationships with more than 500 employers throughout the Midwest region.

www.kent.edu/career/internships/index.cfm

Tutoring Through the Academic Success Center

The Academic Success Center (ASC), located in Room 207 Schwartz Center, provides a variety of free academic and personal development services to Kent State students. The Academic Success Center has a proven record of enhancing student achievement, as well as significantly boosting graduation rates. Historically, students who regularly attend Academic Success Center tutoring sessions for their courses increase their performance by a full letter grade on average compared to their peers. The Academic Success Center is committed to making a positive impact in the lives of Kent State's students by providing the highest quality and most innovative array of programming possible.

Supplemental Instruction

Supplemental Instruction is also available to students for selected classes in the fields of art history, biology, chemistry, economics and psychology. Under this program, the students can go to peer-facilitated group study sessions. Supplemental Instruction leaders attend class along with the students they are tutoring. Each leader has already taken the course and earned A- or better. Sessions are offered multiple times each week. Supplemental Instruction is voluntary, free and available to students on a drop-in basis.

www.kent.edu/si/index.cfm

Trio Student Support Services

Trio Student Support Services provide academic support for qualified students (first-generation college students and students with disabilities), as well as advising and skill development sessions in areas such as: study strategies, note-taking, test anxiety, time management and personal computer proficiency. The Trio program is designed to promote academic achievement while inspiring participants to graduate in a timely manner.

www.kent.edu/asc/trio/index.cfm

Univere student tutoring program

The University Tutoring Program provides assistance through scheduled, drop-in, group-based and online tutoring formats. All Kent State students are eligible to use these academic services for a large number of study disciplines including science, math and history.

www.kent.edu/asc/tutoring/index.cfm

Student Ombuds

The primary goal of the Office of the Student Ombuds is to provide students confidential consultation in assisting with the possible resolution of any university-related concerns, grievances or appeal. Students work closely with the Student Ombuds in developing both formal and informal strategies that will assist them in resolving their university-related concerns.

The Ombuds Office also works directly with faculty and staff, providing consultation related to university policies and procedures. It has established itself as an objective, nonbiased organization that continues to work towards developing a fair and equitable university community.

The Office of the Student Ombuds has continued to grow in the number of students it serves, and this trend is expected to continue in the years ahead. On an annual basis, more than 650 students use the services of the office.

For more information on counseling services, visit www.kent.edu/careerservices/index.cfm.

For more information visit: www.kent.edu/academics.
Residence Services

Living on campus is a wonderful experience for a college student. We are committed to giving students a safe and secure environment in which they can grow academically. College students spend more than half of their time outside of class so it's important to provide students with the resources that will make the transition from living at home to living independently a smooth one.

The Department of Residence Services offers many opportunities for students to receive a fulfilling college experience. We encourage our residents to use their free time to engage in activities, develop new friendships and learn more about themselves. We also offer many leadership and employment opportunities for your student.

College is a time for adjustment, both for you and your student. We hope that with the information we have provided, we can help make the transition easier for everyone.

Although Kent State can seem like a large place, your student can do a lot to make it feel like home, and you can do a lot to help ease the transition.

URGE YOUR STUDENT TO CHECK OUT LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITIES.

Living-Learning Communities at Kent State University are on-campus housing-based communities of students living together in the same building and who share similar academic or special interests. Students, faculty and staff choose to participate in these groups with the intended purpose of enhancing and enriching in-class instruction with focused out-of-class learning experiences. Each Living-Learning Community is a great way to get involved with students with similar interests and classes and makes the university seem a little smaller.

LET YOUR STUDENT KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING INVOLVED ON CAMPUS.

Students at Kent State will spend an average of 11-18 hours a week in the classroom, so it's important for students to consider how they will spend their time outside of the classroom. Most students are a little skeptical about getting involved right away in college. Involvement does not necessarily mean stepping right into a leadership experience. Involvement means finding something that is important to you and applying yourself to that.

TO SPEAK WITH YOUR STUDENT'S RESIDENCE HALL DIRECTOR, CONTACT US AT 330-672-7000 OR 1-800-700-9440. INDICATE IN WHICH HALL YOUR STUDENT LIVES AND ASK FOR THE HALL DIRECTOR'S NAME AND PHONE NUMBER.

Dining Services

When students live on campus, their dining choices are limited only by their imaginations. There's sushi and fast food, quick dining and a sit-down restaurant, coffee carts and national chains.

The key to accessing all of those options is the FLASHcard. The FLASHcard acts as student identification, meal card and debit card.

LITE PLAN

The Lite Plan is designed for the student with a light appetite, someone who just gets by on less food than most or who frequents home on the weekends. This plan entitles the user to a 10 percent bonus when money is added to the plan and does not roll over past the spring semester. All leftover funds at the end of the spring semester will revert back to the university.

BASIC PLAN

The right plan for first-year students! Don't always eat breakfast but enjoy a late-night snack? Then this plan is for you! Known as the dealplan for most students on campus, the Basic Plan is a great starter plan for incoming Kent State students, as well as those returning. This plan entitles the user to a 10 percent bonus when money is added to the plan and does not roll over past the spring semester. All leftover funds at the end of the spring semester will revert back to the university.

PREMIER PLUS PLAN

PLUS an extra $50 sign-on bonus! This plan is for students who plan to eat and live on campus most of the time but who may not snack as much as their Premier Plus friends. Purchasing this plan also entitles the user to a 20 percent bonus on any amount added to the plan during the semester. Additionally, this plan can carry over from semester to semester and year to year with the purchase of another Premier plan or Premier Plus plan for the following fall semester.

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INTERCOLLEGiate ATHLETICS AND RECREATION OVERVIEW

In 1920 the first Kent State University athletics team played. The sport was football. The “field band” was there and played in the stands. From then until now Kent State community brings that Golden Flashes pride to every game and every team that plays for Kent State. Kent State colors are navy blue and gold and our mascot is Flash, the golden eagle. Kent State University is an NCAA Division 1 School in the Mid-American (East Division) Conference.

There are several ways your student can get involved and stay in shape on campus.

KENT STATE INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Kent State University’s athletics program includes baseball, softball, basketball (men and women), cross country, field hockey, football, golf (men and women), gymnastics, soccer, track and field, volleyball and wrestling. Kent State University has developed state-of-the-art facilities to support our student athletes: Indoor and outdoor track and field facilities, gymnastics center, baseball stadium, convocation center, golf learning facility, soccer and softball fields and football stadium.

For schedules, ticket sales or other information about these teams, visit KENTSTATESPORTS.COM. Parents and families association members qualify for discounts on tickets; so be sure to mention your membership when you order tickets through Athletic Services.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Intramural Sports, managed by Recreational Services, aids in the promotion of lifelong healthy and active lifestyles. Participants have positive experiences in recreational sports competition through structured use of leisure time. Annually, more than 9,000 students, faculty, staff and spouses participate in intramural activities including flag football, outdoor soccer, softball, volleyball, team handball, badminton, sand volleyball, frisbee and basketball.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/recservices/SPORTS/INTRAMURALSPORTS.CFM.

CLUB SPORTS

A club sport is a student organization formed by students with oversight from Recreational Services. Club sports can best be described as the combining of the team elements of varsity athletics with the recreational atmosphere of intramural sports. Some clubs can be highly competitive and compete in conferences and leagues, while others may be instructional or recreational in nature. The goals and the purposes of the club sports are set by their student leaders. Currently, club sports on the Kent Campus include ice hockey, bowling, dodge ball, lacrosse, rugby, skating, fencing and tennis.

The full listing and more information can be found at www.kent.edu/recservices/SPORTS/CLUBS/INDEX.CFM.

RECREATION AND WELLNESS CENTER

The Campus Center is a state-of-the-art fitness center that offers students access to a variety of fun and interactive ways to stay in shape free of charge. The expansive facility features the latest in top-of-the-line exercise equipment, including a full complement of aerobic exercise machines, a complete weight room, lap and leisure pools, a running track, indoor soccer field, racquetball courts and several college-regulation basketball courts. It also has a climbing wall, a comprehensive offering of group exercise classes and personal training offerings. For more information, visit: www.kent.edu/recservices/SPORTS/FITNESS.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a FLASHcard?

The FLASHcard is your student’s Kent State University ID card and much more. The card will let students check out materials from University Libraries, access the Student Recreation and Wellness Center and athletic events and purchase goods and services both on and off campus. If students have a food plan, they will use their FLASHcard to purchase meals in our dining halls.

Students may also deposit money on their FLASHcard and create a debit account. This plan, known as FLASHcash, will allow them to make purchases both on and off campus wherever the FLASHcard is accepted. Financial aid may also be deposited to their FLASHcash account. Avoid credit card fees and keep the safety and convenience of paying with a card. Visit the Bursar’s Office at 138 Schwartz Center.

How does my son/daughter find a job?

• Visit the Career Services Center.
• Experience Job and Internship Board
• Apply to positions posted year round by employers (profit and nonprofit) and view organizations interviewing at Career Services.

On-campus student jobs and graduate assistantships are posted daily by departments across all eight campuses.

What is my son/daughter’s mailing address?

You should address all mail and packages (including UPS and Fed Ex) as follows:

Student Name
Residence Hall Name — KSU
Area Desk Name
Area Desk Address
Kent, Ohio 44243

How do I send a care package?

The Basket Shoppe is a way for families and students to send great gifts for any occasion. From birthdays and anniversaries to exams and special holidays, you can find the perfect gift. This is an exciting and incredibly easy way to delight family members, friends on campus or anyone else you are thinking of with something great from our extraordinary basket collection. Visit the dining services Website for more information.

How safe is the campus?

Kent State is kept safe by an award-winning police department. The department has been honored with the designation of “Flagship Agency” twice, recognizing law enforcement agencies that represent extraordinary examples of excellence in law enforcement accreditation.

Every residence hall is patrolled by Residence Services security aides. These aides are in constant contact with University Police via two-way radio. The aides are instantly recognizable by their yellow coats and shirts. They can be called to act as an escort or to assist a student 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To get an escort, contact the security aide dispatcher at 330-672-7004. Residence halls remain locked 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Visitors must be escorted at all times.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a FLASHcard?

The FLASHcard is your student’s Kent State University ID card and much more. The card will let students check out materials from University Libraries, access the Student Recreation and Wellness Center and athletic events and purchase goods and services both on and off campus. If students have a food plan, they will use their FLASHcard to purchase meals in our dining halls.

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Write - Even If They Don’t Write Back

Even if your new student doesn’t write back, the first few days/weeks of college are activity-packed and friend-jammed, and the challenge of meeting new people and adjusting to new situations takes a majority of a freshman’s time and concentration. So, unless your student is reticent about it (by a well-meaning parent), he/she will probably be able to escape the loneliness and frustration of homesickness. Even if they don’t tell you during those first few weeks, they do miss you.

Ask Questions - But Not Too Many

Although new students are typically eager to experience all the away-from-home independence they can fit in those first weeks, most are still anxious for family ties and the security those ties bring. This surge of independence may be misinterpreted by sensitive parents as rejection, but most new students (although most would not admit it) would give anything for some news of home and family, however mundane it may seem to you. There’s nothing more depressing than a week of empty mailboxes. So write your new student. Although they may not answer you (like you, write-one, they-write-one rule doesn’t always seem to apply to college students), they will appreciate your thoughtfulness. Letters are better than phone calls because letters are tangible connections to home. They can be read and re-read at especially lonely moments.

Expect Change - But Not Too Much

Your new student will change. It’s natural, inevitable, and it can be inspiring and beautiful. Often, though, it’s a pain in the neck. College, and the experiences associated with it, can affect changes in social, vocational and personal behavior. An up-to-now wallflower may become a fraternity member or a pre-med student may discover that biology is not his or her thing after all. Remember that your son or daughter will be basically the same person you sent away to college, aside from interest changes and personality revisions. Don’t expect too much too soon. Maturation is not an instantaneous or overnight process, so be patient.

Don’t Ask Them If They’re Homesick

Don’t be a wallflower or wallflower. They have enough difficulty selecting classes and they feel enormous pressure to make that lifelong decision even before they have proved their academic capability. Pushing them to focus on the future can have an adverse effect on their present performance. Their main job during their first year is to adjust to college life and be the best student they can be academically. As they take classes in many disciplines and prove their capabilities, they will identify their interests and talents. If they fail to develop an academic goal by the time they are in upper-level coursework, encourage them to seek career counseling.

Don’t Tell Them “These are the best years of your life!”

Life at college can be full of indecision, insecurities, disappointments and, most of all, mistakes. It’s also full of discovery, inspiration, good times and people. However, except in retrospect, it’s not the “good” that stands out. Any parent who believes that all college students get good grades, know what they want to major in, and always have activity-packed weekends is wrong. So are the parents who think college-educated means mistake-proof. Parents who perpetuate and insist upon the “best years” stereotypes are working against their son or daughter’s self-development. Those who accept their new student’s highs and lows are providing the support and encouragement where it is needed most.

Trust Them

Finding oneself is a difficult enough process without feeling that the people whose opinions you respect most are second-guessing your own second-guessing. One of the most important things you can say to your new student is something like this: “I love you and want for you all the things that make you happiest, and I guess you, not I, are the one who knows best what those things are.” If you’re smart, you’ll believe it, mean it and say it to your new student as soon as possible. It can make a difference!

HELPFUL TIPS FOR PARENTS OF NEW COLLEGE STUDENTS

Don’t Ask Them If They’re Homesick

The power of suggestion can be a dangerous thing. A friend once told me, “The idea of being homesick didn’t even occur to me, with all the new things that were going on, until my mom called one of the first weekends and asked if I was homesick. Then it hit me.”

First-year students are “cool” (or so they think) and have a tendency to resent interference with their new-found lifestyles, but most still desire the security of knowing that someone is interested in them. Parental curiosity can be obnoxious and alienating or relieving and supporting, depending on the attitudes of the persons involved. “I have a right to know”-tinged questions with ulterior motives should be avoided. However, honest inquiries and other “between friends” communication and discussion will do much to further the parent-new student relationship.

Don’t Ask Them What They Are Going To Do After Graduation

Parents who think college-educated means mistake-proof. Parents who perpetuate and insist upon the “best years” stereotypes are working against their son or daughter’s self-development. Those who accept their new student’s highs and lows are providing the support and encouragement where it is needed most.

Visit - But Not Too Often

Visits by parents (especially when accompanied by shopping sprees and/or dinners out) are another part of first-year events that new students are reluctant to admit liking but appreciate greatly. Pretended disdain of those visits is just another part of the new student syndrome. These visits give both student and parent the opportunity to learn more about the new things that both parties are experiencing. However, spur of the moment “surprises” are usually NOT appreciated (preemption of a planned weekend of studying or other activities can have disastrous results). Prior planning of visits is an act of courtesy in general and a very important recognition that they have responsibilities and plans that they may not be able to or want to change at the last minute.

Don’t Worry (too much) About Sad Calls or Letters

Parenting can be a thankless job, especially during the college years. It’s a lot of give and only a little take. Often troubles become too much for a new student to handle, and the only place to turn, write or call is home. Unfortunately, this is often the only time that the urge to communicate is felt so strongly, so you never get to hear about the “A” paper, the new significant other or the domestic triumph. In these “crisis times” your son or daughter can unload troubles or tears and, after the catharsis, return to routine, while you inherit the burden of worry. Be patient with these calls/letters. Know that you are providing a real service as an advice dispenser or sympathetic ear.

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DISCOUNTS

These local businesses offer Kent State families a 15 percent discount:

Baked in the Village Café
123 N. Water St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-0380

Belleria Pizza and Italian Restaurant
135 E. Erie St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-6360

Domino’s Pizza
1413 S. Water St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-0380

Hungry Howie’s Pizza
1444 E. Main St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-6360

Laziza Restaurant
195 E. Erie St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-7000

Little City Grill
802 Mantua St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-7000

Main Street Continental Grill
911 E. Main St.
Kent OH 44240
330-677-7000

Rise and Shine Café
135 E. Erie St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-7000

Tree City Coffee
135 E. Erie St.
Kent, OH 44240
330-677-7000

LODGING

Comfort Inn and Suites
4423 State Route 43
Kent, OH 44240
330-671-1818

Wingate Hotel
9705 State Route 14
Streetsboro, OH 44241
330-422-9900

CONTACTS

The Parents and Families Association is here to be your one-stop information resource. If we don’t have the answer, we will do the research and contact the right person on your behalf! So please reach out to us with any and all questions, concerns or ideas you may have as a family member of a Kent State University student. We look forward to hearing from you and working together to make your student’s time here exceptional!

PARENT AND FAMILIES ASSOCIATION OFFICE
Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Office: Room 250 of the Kent Student Center
PO Box 5190
Kent, Ohio 44242-0001
330-672-4050
kentparents@kent.edu

Additional phone numbers

ADMISSIONS OFFICE
161 SCHWARTZ CENTER
330-672-2444

ANNUAL GIVING
1001 FRATERNITY CIRCLE
330-672-2222

Bursar’s Office
131 SCHWARTZ CENTER
330-672-2626

CAMPUS BUS SERVICES (PRTA)
2000 SUMMIT ROAD
330-678-1287

CAMPUS POLICE
STOCKDALE BUILDING
330-672-3070

CAREER SERVICES
281 SCHWARTZ CENTER
330-672-2360

CENTER FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT
226 KENT STUDENT CENTER
330-672-2480

DEWESEE HEALTH CENTER
EASTWAY DRIVE
330-672-2322

FLASHCARD OFFICE
KENT STUDENT CENTER
330-672-2273

HONORS COLLEGE
20 STOPHER/JOHNSON HALL
330-672-2312

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
MEMORIAL ATHLETIC AND CONVOCATION CENTER
330-672-5974

MAIL SERVICES
101 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUILDING
330-672-2164

OFFICE OF GLOBAL EDUCATION
106 VAN CAMPEN HALL
330-672-7980

OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR
108 SCHWARTZ CENTER
330-672-3131

PARKING SERVICES
123 SCHWARTZ CENTER
330-672-4432

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES
DEWESEE HEALTH CENTER EASTWAY DRIVE
330-672-2322

RESIDENCE SERVICES
FIRST FLOOR KORBI HALL
330-672-7000

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES
GROUND FLOOR DEWESEE HEALTH CENTER
330-672-3391

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID OFFICE
103 SCHWARTZ CENTER
330-672-2972

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES
164 EAST MAIN STREET #203, KENT, OH
330-672-9550

STUDENT OMBUDS
250 KENT STUDENT CENTER
330-672-9494

STUDENT RECREATION AND WELLNESS CENTER
161 SCHWARTZ CENTER
330-672-4732

STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS
ROOM 510 UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
330-672-9292

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE
FIRST FLOOR KENT STUDENT CENTER
330-672-7282

UNIVERSITY DINING SERVICES
SECOND FLOOR BEALL HALL
330-672-2541

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES
DEWESEE HEALTH CENTER EASTWAY DRIVE
330-672-2322

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
330-672-3456

WOMEN’S CENTER
125 MIDWAY DRIVE
330-672-9230

Visit www.kent.edu/families for additional discounts.
DICtionsary audit as associate degree alternative loan advanced placement (ap) program act aa educational program. a class meeting for an hour on three days a week typically college dormitory or other campus housing. credit in this way. signed a promissory note. crn credit hour or clock hour commuter students consolidation – the combination of several types of federal education loans into one new loan that can simplify repayment. conversion scholarship/loan – either a scholarship or loan that requires the recipient to provide federal Stafford Loans services for prescribed periods or pay back the funds received with interest. credit-by-examination – a process in which students can earn credit for college-level knowledge by passing a test. the college-level examination program and the advanced placement program allow students to earn college credit in this way. credit hour or clock hour – a unit of measurement for a school’s educational program. a class meeting for an hour on three days a week typically counts for 3 credit hours. most community colleges, four-year colleges and universities use credit hours. many private proprietary schools use clock hours. crn – course registration number.

D DEGREE – a certificate of completion of a course of study. DEGREE PLAN – a specific list of required courses and electives to be completed for a degree. DIPLOMA – a program lasting up to two years in a vocational or technical area to prepare for a job. this diploma is not the same as your high school graduation diploma. DIRECT LOANS – loans made by the U.S. department of education. students and parents can receive Direct Loans only if the school participates in the direct loan program. DOCTORAL DEGREE – the most advanced degree that can be earned. DUAL CREDIT – courses that count for both high school and college credit. they can save time and money in pursuing a college degree.

E EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC) – what the federal government formula says your family should be able to pay toward yearly college costs. the EFC amount is based on financial aid information submitted on the free application for federal student aid about your family’s income and assets. EXPERIENTIAL CREDIT TRANSFER – a process whereby students can receive credit for learning that has occurred in a nonstandard or nontraditional environment. Not all institutions grant transfer credit for experiential credit.

F FAFSA – free application for federal student aid. FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM (FFELP) – the term for the federal family education loan programs provided by the Student Loan People and other lenders and insured by state agencies. FEES – course-related costs to attend college. FINANCIAL AID – money that can come from state and federal governments, schools, private organizations, associations and companies to help pay the costs of a college education or technical training. FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE – the total financial aid awarded received by a student. it may consist of several types of aid, including grants, scholarships, loans, work-study, and other aid. the student’s financial need, availability of funds, school aid policies and the number of students who need financial assistance all influence the financial aid package. FINANCIAL NEED – the amount of higher education expenses that a student’s expected family contribution (EFC) fails short of paying. Financial need equals the cost of education minus the EFC.

FLASHCARD – Kent state university ID. FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) – the need analysis form which must be completed by all students applying for federal and state student aid. FREE ELECTIVES – the elective requirement can be filled by taking any course desired. FRESHMAN – a student who has completed less than 30 hours of college credit. FULL-TIME – twelve (12) or more credit hours per semester for undergraduate students.

G GPA – grade point average, the average of your class grades, generally based on a 4.0 scale. GRADUATE STUDENT – a student who has earned a bachelor’s degree and is working toward a master’s, doctoral or professional degree. GRANT – a financial aid award, usually based on financial need, to help pay the cost of higher education. a grant generally does not have to be repaid. GUARANTOR – a state or nonprofit private agency that administers the Federal Family Education Loan Program (ffelp) in each state.

H HALF TIME – six (6) credit hours per semester for undergraduate students. INSTITUTIONAL AID – various types of student financial assistance administered by the school. INTEREST – a charge for a loan, usually a percentage of the amount borrowed. INTERNSHIP – a job in a student’s field of study, may be required in some academic programs and may include salary and college credit. J JUNIOR – a student who has completed 60 to 89 college credit hours. L LENDER – the organization (can be a school, bank, credit union, other financial institution or the U.S. department of education) that makes a loan. LOAN – money borrowed to help pay for college costs. Loans must be repaid with interest. LOAN FORGIVENESS – When the balance of a loan is no longer due, and is without negative impact on the borrower.

M MAJOR – the primary field of study chosen by a college student. MINOR – the secondary field of study chosen by a college student. MASTER’S DEGREE – a graduate degree that usually requires two or more years of study beyond the bachelor’s degree.

N NEED ANALYSIS – a process used to determine how much students and their families can reasonably be expected to pay toward college expenses. Need analysis forms are updated each year by the federal government and other organizations to reflect changes in the economy. NONRESIDENT – any student who lives out of state or does not meet specific state residency requirements.

P PERKINS LOANS – low-interest loans made under the federal Perkins Loan Program to undergraduate and graduate students through your school. You repay the school or the agent the school hires to service the loan. These loans are made based on financial need.

PLUS LOANS – loans made to parents to help pay college expenses. POST-SECONDARY – a term that means “after high school.” Post-secondary education can be received through study at a college, university, community college, technical college or trade school, on or off campus.

PREREQUISITE – A course that must be taken prior to enrollment in another course. PRINCIPAL – The total sum of money borrowed. Loan principal includes the original amount borrowed plus any interest that has been added to the loan.

PRIVATE UNIVERSITY – A non-state-assisted college or university that relies on private funding, tuition and fees. PROMISSORY NOTE – A binding legal contract between a loan holder and a borrower. The promissory note contains the loan terms and conditions, including how and when the loan must be repaid. By signing, the borrower agrees to repay the loan.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS – Post-secondary institutions that are supported by state funds.

R REGISTRATION – Enroll in classes. REPAYMENT SCHEDULE – A statement the loan holder gives the borrower showing the amount borrowed, the monthly payment amount and the date payments are due.

S RESIDENT – A student who meets state residency requirements.

T TRANSFER – An academic record that lists the courses taken, grades received and credits or credit hours received.

U UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT – A college student who has not yet earned a degree.

W WAIVER – An arrangement under which a school does not charge specific costs if a student meets certain qualifications.

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