KENT FIRST PLAN
Frequently-Asked Questions

Q: Can financial aid be used for the down payment?
A: No, the down payment must accompany the agreement. It may be check or money order.

Q: What happens when my child receives financial aid? Doesn’t the aid reduce my monthly payments?
A: Financial aid will first be applied to all elective charges (such as room and board fees) owed the University. If the financial aid exceeds the elective charges (or there are no elective charges), the excess is transferred via ACH (automated clearinghouse) to the current bank account used for monthly payments. Financial aid does not change the monthly payment. However, the excess financial aid may help reduce the amount of personal finances needed to make the Kent First monthly payments.

Q: My child is a non-resident and has been awarded aid that pays the out-of-state fees (ex: President’s Grant, University Award). Which fee structure is the correct one for us?
A: The student would choose the non-resident Kent First Plan. The financial aid is treated as in Question #2.

Q: When should I expect excess financial aid, over fees, to be deposited in my bank account?
A: The first refund of excess financial aid each semester should be processed by the third day of classes. Only aid that has actually transferred to the student’s account can be refunded. Most aid has a minimum hour requirement. Loans cannot transfer until a signed promissory note has been returned and processed. Kent First requires 11 or more hours (Fall and Spring—only). Not meeting any requirement will delay a refund.
Q: I need to buy books and need some of my excess financial aid to do that. What do I do?
A: The lesser of $500 or the excess financial aid may be transferred to your Flash Card. To use this option, visit the Bursar’s Office with your Flash Card the week before school starts or notify them of the amount not to be refunded. If the refund has already been processed, this option is no longer available.

Q: Does the Kent First Tuition Payment Plan cover summer school?
A: Yes, although the plan will be charged a minimum of 11 credit hours each fall and spring semester, there is no minimum for summer sessions. The plan also covers credit workshops. The Kent First plan may be used towards summer school credits beginning with the summer that follows the initial enrollment term at Kent State University. The Kent First plan may not be used the summer prior to the initial down payment.

Q: When exactly should I expect my bank account to be charged for the monthly payment?
A: Monthly payments are scheduled to be effective the second banking day of each month. The actual effective date may be later, but will never be sooner. If for some reason you need to stop a payment, you should notify the Bursar’s Office at least two (2) banking days prior.

Q: What do I do if I want to change the bank account that the monthly payment is coming from?
A: The request to change the bank account must be made in writing. It must include the student’s name, social security number, bank name, bank phone number, transit/ABA number, account number, type of account (checking or savings), name(s) on account, signature, and date. Indicate when the change should occur. The request should be received 15 – 30 days prior to when change should take effect.
Q: What happens if I drop my classes?
A: Kent First terms were established under the assumption that the student would be enrolled full-time. The plan will be charged a minimum of 11 hours each fall and spring semester even if you are enrolled in fewer hours. The refund schedule is published each semester online. You may log on to www.kent.edu/bursar/refunds to access this information. If you drop hours, the plan will be refunded for any reduction of tuition based on the refund schedule. Hours dropped after the 80 percent refund period are considered attempted and will count toward the maximum 144 hours covered by the plan. Dropping all classes does not cancel the plan.

Q: What do I do if we want to cancel the Kent First Tuition Payment Plan (transferring to another college, changed mind about benefits of the plan, etc.)?
A: The plan can be canceled anytime before completion of the last semester covered by the plan. This request must be in writing. The request must include the student’s name, social security number, a statement indicating your intent to cancel Kent First, a brief reason why, and dated signatures of all parties listed on the Kent First agreement. The note should be delivered to Room 131, Schwartz Center, or faxed to (330) 672-2606, or mailed to:

Bursar's Office • 131 Schwartz Center • (330) 672-2626 • bursar@kent.edu • www.kent.edu/bursar

If cancelled, the total paid into the plan is compared to the tuition covered by the plan. The excess paid into the plan is transferred to the student's account and applied to any unpaid charges. Any excess remaining is then transferred via ACH to the current bank account from which the payments were processed. This process generally takes one to three weeks from when the request is received. Cancelled plans cannot be reinstated.