

# The Norse Parent

NKU Parents Association Newsletter

## Homecoming 2014

### Lights, Camera, NORSE UP

It's that time of year again for you to join your student and show your Norse spirit! This year's homecoming activities kick off Friday, February 21st with the Nearly Naked Mile and Yell Like Hell and conclude on Saturday, March 1st when the Men's basketball teams hosts Florida Gulf Coast at the Bank of Kentucky Center.

This year's [schedule](#) has something for everyone and the activities provide a great opportunity for you to spend some time with your student.



The Office of New Student Orientation and Parent Programs would like to invite you to attend the Parent and Royal Reception on March 1st, from 12pm-2pm in the Bank of Kentucky Center, Conference Room B. The Parent and Royal Reception is an annual event held during homecoming to recognize current court nominees & royalty, past royalty, and all NKU parents and families. This event provides a chance to celebrate NKU and all those who make our university great. NKU's president, Geoffrey S. Mearns will be present to greet and congratulate our NKU parents and families.

**To RSVP for the Parent and Royal Reception, please call 859-572-1967.**

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#### Important Dates:

##### All Month

NKU Basketball, Track and Field, Golf, Baseball, Softball and Tennis—

[Click here to see the full NKU Athletics schedule](#)

##### February 24

Spring Cancellation for Non-Payment

##### February 26

Job Expo

##### March 1

Summer Housing applications available

Parent and Royal Reception

##### March 3

Midterm grades available

##### March 9-16

Spring Break

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## Financial Aid at a Glance

By: Veronica Joiner

Upon entering college, you're presented with what may seem like an overwhelming amount of information about this important time in your life. Added to that load of information often includes navigating the world of financing a college education for the first time. Properly planning and gaining an understanding of the options for funding college are some of the most important steps new college students and their families can take towards college preparedness. The NKU Office of Student Financial Assistance is here to guide families through the financial aid and scholarship process, from the beginning stages during senior year in high school, to the final days before becoming a college graduate.

The Office of Student Financial Assistance administers scholarships, along with federal, state and institutional financial aid programs for our students. NKU awards more than \$1 million in academic scholarships each year to the incoming freshman class to highly motivated students who demonstrate strong academic performance and meet merit based guidelines. Scholarship opportunities don't end after freshman year has passed; continuing and transfer students also have the opportunity to apply for competitive academic scholarships during the early part of the each academic year's spring semester.

In addition to scholarship opportunities, students are highly encouraged to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to apply for additional financial aid. Guided by the US Department of Education, NKU administers millions of dollars in financial aid to qualifying students. From need-based aid such as the Federal Pell Grant to affordable loans including Federal Direct Subsidized, Unsubsidized and Parent PLUS loans, completing the FAFSA each year is the best way to assess financial aid eligibility.

Our goal is to share information and options to make the financial aspect of college manageable and more affordable for students and their families. Visit [financialaid.nku.edu](http://financialaid.nku.edu) for detailed information about financial aid opportunities, and contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance with questions or for help with any part of the application process.



NKU's Financial Aid School Code: 009275

### Student Health Insurance

**Attention Parents and Students: The deadline to apply for health insurance through the Kentucky Health Exchange is fast approaching!**

Despite the huge advertising campaign, many people are still unaware of the insurance option resulting from the Affordable Care Act. NKU's Department of Health, Counseling, and Student Wellness would like to remind parents and students that the **deadline to apply to get insurance through the Kentucky Health Exchange is March 31, 2014.**

If you or your student are uninsured and think you would benefit from applying, the time is NOW. There are informational pages you can print to assist you through the process. Applications can be [online](#), on paper, by phone or in person. Interpreters are available.

There is also a University-sponsored insurance plan available for NKU students. For more information, visit the [website](#) or call: (869) 572-5650.

## A Quick Look at the Inclement Weather Policy

The past few months have kept the snow plows busy on the roads of Northern Kentucky, and as a result many parents have reached out to the Office of New Student Orientation and Parent Programs seeking clarification regarding the inclement weather policy.

Adverse weather, especially during the winter months, will not affect University operations and classes scheduled unless one or more of the following additional conditions occur:

- Campus facilities are damaged and determined unsafe.
- Essential utilities, such as heat and electrical service, are lost.
- Extremely hazardous travel conditions exist.



There is much discussion that goes on about these three conditions between the decision makers prior to making the call. But ultimately, the safety of our students, faculty, and staff is always the top priority. The university will make the best decision at that time given the best information available at the moment. Typically NKU will follow Campbell County's advisories when it comes to closings/delays.

Hopefully we are nearing a point in which we can put away our snow boots for next year, but this information also applies when dealing with other weather threats, such as flooding, severe storms, etc.

### "Wish I Had Known..." Workshop Series

Helping parents (and students) understand the cost of attendance

This workshop is for **parents** of soon-to-be NKU students OR **parents** of students already attending NKU. With hands-on practice and a breakdown of real costs, you will leave this session with all the information you need to prepare your student and your entire family for the financial commitment that comes with college. Topics covered will include:

- The **real** cost of college (*what should you be considering when you come up with the "total price"?*)
- Types of student aid and what they mean to you
  - NKU financial resources available to students and families
  - Tips for effectively and realistically budgeting for college
  - And much more!

Monday, March 24, 2014 .  
6-8 pm

Saturday, April 26, 2014 .  
9-11 am

*Call to RSVP Today! Space is limited!*

*RSVP at 859-572-1967*

## Dinner with President and Mrs. Mearns

How would your student like to increase his or her network on campus? The Parent Advisory Board is hosting a drawing for eight lucky students to win dinner with President and Mrs. Mearns in their home. Tickets cost \$2 for 1 ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets. All proceeds benefit the Parent Advisory Board Scholarship. Tickets may be purchased in the Office of New Student Orientation or may be purchased during the Parent and Royal Reception. The drawing will be held at 2pm on March 1st.

## Office of Education Abroad

Is your student looking for ways to stand out from the crowd or searching for a unique way to enhance his or her educational experience while at NKU? Encourage your student to stop by the Office of Education Abroad to explore a realm of learning possibilities.

You can choose from over 40 countries for any length of time, ranging from one week to one year. Most programs offer credit, and scholarship opportunities are available.

Employers are reporting a greater desire to hire global learners. What better way for your student to convey they possess this characteristic than by participating in an educational opportunity abroad?

## Featured Resource

## Tip of the month:

As midterms approach, talk with your student about how he or she is performing in the classroom. Now is a great time to take advantage of services such as tutoring or the Learning Assistance Program. Encourage your student to schedule a visit with the professor during office hours if he or she needs advice regarding the best way to study or prepare for a particular class. This can also help your student build a network with his or her professors that can last a lifetime!

### Contact Us:

#### Office of New Student Orientation and Parent Programs

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[Connect with us on Facebook!](#)

#### Next Parent Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, April 25th  
6:30-8:30 pm

[Need to unsubscribe?](#)  
Email [parents@nku.edu](mailto:parents@nku.edu)