

Storm announces more than \$13.3M in state financial aid awarded for local students

KENTUCKY SENATE MAJORITY CAUCUS

FRANKFORT — Sen. Brandon Storm, R-London, announced Thursday that students in the 21st Senate District received more than \$13.3 million in financial aid during fiscal year 2025 through programs administered by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

The aid supported thousands of students and families as they pursued postsecondary education and workforce training opportunities across the commonwealth.

“Education and workforce development remain critical to the long-

term success of our region and our state,” Storm said. “These scholarship and grant programs help remove financial barriers and give students the opportunity to pursue college degrees, technical certifications and career training that strengthen both their futures and our local economy.”

During FY 2025, students in the district received funding through the following programs:

- Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES): 1,546 recipients — \$2,751,190
- College Access Program (CAP) Grant: 2,124 recipients — \$7,044,597

— Kentucky Tuition Grant (KTG): 699 recipients — \$1,957,168

— Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship (WRKS): 141 recipients — \$464,425

— Dual Credit & WRKS Dual Credit: 855 recipients — \$366,264

— Teacher Scholarship & Teacher Recruitment Loan Program: 37 recipients — \$309,129

— Student Teacher Stipend Program: 47 recipients — \$220,900

— Other Programs: 35 recipients — \$256,151

Total aid awarded: \$13,369,824

Students may have received awards from more than one program.

Storm noted that these investments reflect Kentucky’s continued commitment to expanding access to higher education, career and technical training, and teacher recruitment efforts.

“When we invest in our students, we invest in Kentucky’s workforce and future prosperity,” Storm added. “I’m grateful for the work of KHEAA and its outreach counselors and college coaches who help students navigate the financial aid process and access these important resources.”



SEN. BRANDON STORM

KHEAA administers state financial aid programs and supports students across Kentucky through a statewide network of outreach counselors and college coaches who assist families in planning and paying for postsecondary education.

For more information about state financial aid programs, visit kheaa.com.

KBE seeking applicants for KHSAA Board of Control at-large position

KY DEPT. OF EDUCATION

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE), through the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), is seeking an individual to serve on the Kentucky High School Athletic Association’s (KHSAA’s) Board of Control to fill an at-large position that will become vacant on June 30. The individual currently holding the position is eligible for reappointment.

The KHSAA is the KBE’s designee to manage statewide interscholastic athletic programs. The Board of Control supervises KHSAA, establishes staff salaries, sets goals for the association, and has the authority to set rules and review proposed changes to the KHSAA constitution and bylaws. Regular attendance at KHSAA Board of Control meetings is a requirement of the position. The KBE appointed Board of Control member must not be a current employee of a Kentucky public school district.

All interested individuals are encouraged to submit a letter of interest, a resume and a minimum of two written letters of recommendation to the Kentucky Department of Education. Letters of recommendation should be from individuals with whom the applicant has an established professional or personal relationship and has first-hand knowledge of the applicant’s skills and dispositions.

The deadline for applications is March 30. Materials should be mailed to Todd Allen, General Counsel, Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40601, or emailed to Todd.Allen@education.ky.gov. The Kentucky Board of Education will review applications for the KHSAA Board of Control at-large position and anticipates appointment at its June meeting.

Default cliff looms for Kentucky student loan borrowers

BY NADIA RAMLAGAN
KY NEWS CONNECTION

Around 45 million student loan borrowers nationwide collectively owe nearly \$2 trillion in federal and private student loan debt, and student loan interest is accruing for one in five Kentucky borrowers.

Economic hardships are expected to worsen, as collections start up again for those in default, along with new changes to federal student loan forgiveness programs.

Amy Czulada, outreach and advocacy manager with the advocacy group Protect Borrowers, said student loan debt is the second highest type of consumer debt after home mortgages.

“We’re expecting a huge default cliff,” said Czulada. “So, we’re expecting the

number of defaults to rise to up to 10 million people for this year, and that’s because a lot of the payment pause protections that were in place during the pandemic have ended.”

The U.S. Department of Education recently made changes to the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness program that allows for the denial of forgiveness to public service workers whose employers have a “substantial illegal purpose.”

Critics say the move is an attempt to punish organizations whose views on immigration, race, and other political hot-button issues don’t align with the Trump administration.

The new rule is set to go into effect on July 1, 2026.

More than 600,000 Kentuckians have

student loan debt.

The Trump administration’s One Big Beautiful Bill Act has provisions that put new caps on the amounts that borrowers can rely on from federal student loans.

Czulada said people may simply choose not to return to school because they can’t afford it, or they’ll turn to the private market to make ends meet.

“And these private loans are much riskier,” said Czulada. “They have higher interest rates and many fewer protections and no cancellation programs that the federal government offers.”

The Louisville Office of Financial Empowerment offers information on how federal student loan borrowers can access cancellation programs and steps to avoid the consequences of default and delinquency.

Milk Bank Depot available at all KBC fixed sites with Tri-County expansion

KENTUCKY BLOOD CENTER

LEXINGTON — All Kentucky Blood Center fixed sites feature a milk depot with the expansion of The Milk Bank’s partnership to KBC’s Tri-County Donor Center in Corbin.

The Tri-County Donor Center — located at 1466 W. Cumberland Gap Pkwy. in Corbin — is now accepting donations of frozen breast

milk from approved donors of The Milk Bank.

Once approved for donation through The Milk Bank, donated milk can be dropped off at any KBC donor center during normal operating hours. Donations are then transported to The Milk Bank to be pasteurized and distributed to NICUs and

outpatient families, primarily in Indiana, Kentucky and Missouri.

KBC has eight donor centers in six cities (Lexington, Louisville, Corbin, Frankfort, Pikeville and Somerset), offering convenience for mothers who want to become milk donors. Most KBC donor centers are open Monday

through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., but please see below for specific hours of operation.

Interested donors can visit themilkbank.org/donate-milk or contact The Milk Bank at 317.536.1670 to get pre-screened or ask questions on eligibility.

WKU

Continued from page 10A

School who plans to major in Organizational Leadership in the College of Education & Behavioral Sciences.

— Monique Mwasumbi of London, a senior at London Christian Academy who plans to major in Biology in the Ogden College of Science & Engineering.

— Sophie Pressley of Henderson, a senior at Henderson County Senior High School who plans to major in Business Economics in the Gordon Ford College of Business.

— Kaitlyn Rundle of Rineyville, a senior at North Hardin High School who plans to major in Elementary Education in the College of Education & Behavioral Sciences.

— Campbell Smith of Lanesville, Indiana, a senior at Floyd Central High School who plans to major in Psychology in the College of Education & Behavioral Sciences.

— Makayla Throckmorton of Walton, a senior at Walton Verona High School who plans to major in Nursing in the College of Health & Human Services.

— Leah Wheeler of Crestwood, a senior at South Oldham High School who plans

to major in Nursing in the College of Health & Human Services.

— Alayna Williams of Frankfort, a senior at Anderson County High School who plans to major in Accounting in the Gordon Ford College of Business.

Line Ads

APARTMENT FOR RENT

2 Bedroom apartment for rent. No Dep. Req.

(606) 312-3730

NOTICE

Jordan Chesnut of 108 Brown Road, London, KY 40741 passed away in June 2024. If there is anyone that he owes debt to, please respond with invoice and proof of the debt by: March 27, 2026 to Micah Chesnut 108 Brown Road London, KY 40741

COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS RENT

FOR RENT/LEASE Commercial office and retail spaces for rent at London Shopping Center.

Sizes range from 950 square feet to 2800 square feet.

Prime location on most traveled highway. Call 606-878-2660 for information or to view these properties.

Call 606-528-2464 and ask for Trish to place your line ad here

SECTION 00010 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for “Sinking Creek Road Sanitary Sewer Extension – Phase 2” for the London Utility Commission, will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time) on March 11, 2026, and then publicly opened and read aloud.

The primary scope of work includes the installation of approximately 2,255 LF of 6-inch PVC force main, 2,190 LF of 8-inch PVC gravity sewer, 10 manholes, one 220 GPM duplex pump station and valve vault, and related appurtenances.

The Instructions to Bidders, Bid Form, Agreement Forms, Performance and Payment Bonds, Plans, Specifications and other Contract Documents may be viewed online at lynnimaging.com or examined at the following locations:

London Utility Commission
801 North Main Street
London, KY 40741
(606) 864-2103

Eclipse Engineers, PLLC
113 West Mt. Vernon Street
Somerset, KY 42501
(606) 451-0959

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained from Lynn Imaging, 328 Old Vine Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507 (859-255-1021) upon payment of a non-refundable price of \$300.00 for each set (including shipping and handling). No bid will be accepted unless the BIDDER is a registered plan holder. To become a registered plan holder, BIDDER must purchase at least one set of documents from Lynn Imaging and provide accurate name and contact information. Partial sets of documents will not be provided. Half-sized sets may be purchased for the full price. Digital download sets may be purchased for half of the full price. Questions shall be addressed to Alan R. Robinson, P.E. of Eclipse Engineers, PLLC, 113 West Mt. Vernon Street, Somerset, Kentucky 42501 (606-451-0959) as stated in the Specifications or by email to arobinson@eclipseengineers.net.

The OWNER reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids.

Each BIDDER must deposit with his Bid, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders.

No BIDDER may withdraw his/her Bid within sixty (60) consecutive calendar days after the actual date of the opening thereof.