

# Countdown to KU

## Financial Aid Checklist for High School Seniors

### AUGUST

- Learn more about Admitted Senior Jayhawk Days, Jayhawk Days, and other visit opportunities. [visit.ku.edu](https://visit.ku.edu)
- Look into taking the Advanced Placement (AP) or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. [credtran.ku.edu](https://credtran.ku.edu)
- Submit your KU admission application as soon as possible. All documents must be postmarked or submitted online by Nov. 1 for you to be considered for KU scholarships. [apply.ku.edu](https://apply.ku.edu)
- Get on our mailing list so you'll have the latest information about what's going on. [admissions.ku.edu/signup](https://admissions.ku.edu/signup)
- Contact your high school counselor for registration materials and dates for the ACT or SAT. **You must take either the ACT or SAT before Nov. 1 for scholarship consideration.**
- Review scholarships available to you. [scholarships.ku.edu](https://scholarships.ku.edu) [fastweb.com](https://fastweb.com)

### SEPTEMBER

- Contact your high school counselor about applying for national, state, and local scholarships.
- To sign your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) electronically, you and your parent must apply for an FSA ID. (See Oct. 1.) [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov)

### OCTOBER

- Have you visited KU yet? Learn more about campus visits at [visit.ku.edu](https://visit.ku.edu).
- Oct. 1:** The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) becomes available online.  

The FAFSA will ask for information from your federal tax return. Save time by using the IRS data retrieval tool to pull your financial information directly over from your tax return to complete your FAFSA. It is fast, accurate, and simplifies the filing process.
- Attend financial aid nights in your area.
- Submit your KU admission application by Nov. 1 for scholarship consideration.

### NOVEMBER

- Kansas students may apply for state financial aid. For the Kansas Scholars Curriculum, state financial aid options, and eligibility requirements, visit [kansasregents.org](https://kansasregents.org).
- Nov. 1:** Admission application deadline for scholarship consideration.
- If you want an estimate of the financial aid you'll be eligible to receive, go to [affordability.ku.edu/netprice](https://affordability.ku.edu/netprice).
- Submit your FAFSA by the Dec. 1 priority date to ensure consideration for the best possible financial aid award package. **The KU federal school code is 001948.**

### DECEMBER

- Dec. 1:** KU FAFSA priority date
- Your December score is the last ACT or SAT score that can be used for scholarship reconsideration. **Submit any updated scores by Feb. 1.** [admissions.ku.edu/update](https://admissions.ku.edu/update)
- Apply for outside scholarships. [fastweb.com](https://fastweb.com)

### JANUARY

- Beginning in mid-January, we send award notifications weekly, as financial aid files are completed. **Please accept aid at [sa.ku.edu](https://sa.ku.edu).**
- Review the financial aid application process checklist at [affordability.ku.edu/forms](https://affordability.ku.edu/forms).
- If your overall GPA improved after your seventh semester or your ACT/SAT score improved in December, update your application by Feb. 1.
- If you haven't already, set up your KU online ID and email using the student ID number found on your admission letter. [myidentity.ku.edu/setup](https://myidentity.ku.edu/setup)

### FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1:** Deadline to submit improved ACT/SAT scores and/or seventh semester GPA for scholarship reconsideration.
- Complete all steps necessary to receive financial aid. Check your To Do list at [sa.ku.edu](https://sa.ku.edu).

### MARCH

- Research taking Advanced Placement (AP) or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. [credtran.ku.edu](https://credtran.ku.edu)
- Pay your deposit or request a deferment as soon as you decide to attend KU. The deposit is due by May 1. [deposit.ku.edu](https://deposit.ku.edu)
- Once you have information about your financial aid package, you can finalize your budget for college using the Financial Planning Worksheet at [affordability.ku.edu/forms](https://affordability.ku.edu/forms).

### APRIL

- The Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) request form becomes available at [studentloans.gov](https://studentloans.gov). This form is required for parents who plan to borrow the PLUS loan. [studentloans.gov](https://studentloans.gov)

### MAY

- May 1:** Enrollment deposit due. [deposit.ku.edu](https://deposit.ku.edu)
- May 1:** Priority deadline for Kansas students to apply for state financial aid. [kansasregents.org](https://kansasregents.org)
- Take Advanced Placement (AP) examinations that are given in high schools nationwide.

### JUNE/JULY

- Continue to monitor your financial aid To Do list at [sa.ku.edu](https://sa.ku.edu).
- Attend your Orientation session.

### AUGUST

- Arrive on campus.
- If you need assistance with developing a budget, visit Student Money Management Services. [money.ku.edu](https://money.ku.edu)

# Financial Aid Checklist for High School Juniors

## AUGUST

- Study hard. Most scholarship awards are based on your GPA through the spring term of your junior year.
- Go to [scholarships.ku.edu](https://scholarships.ku.edu) to learn about KU scholarships based on your high school GPA. Make sure you understand what GPA you need to get for your junior year.
- Sign up for our mailing list so you'll always know what's going on at KU. [admissions.ku.edu/signup](https://admissions.ku.edu/signup)

## SEPTEMBER

- Study and register for the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT). Taking this test is a great way to prepare, and it is the qualifying exam for National Merit awards.
- Check with your high school counselor's office for dates and locations of financial aid and scholarship nights in your area.

## OCTOBER

- Take the PSAT and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQST).
- Research outside scholarships by searching scholarship websites like [fastweb.com](https://fastweb.com) or [finaid.org](https://finaid.org) and speaking to your high school counselor.

## NOVEMBER

- Use KU's Net Price Calculator to understand how much you could receive in financial aid and scholarships at [affordability.ku.edu/netprice](https://affordability.ku.edu/netprice).
- To learn about managing your finances in college, visit [money.ku.edu](https://money.ku.edu).

## DECEMBER

- Start planning to take the ACT or SAT.** Ask your high school counselor about registration deadlines. Learn more about ACT or SAT requirements for admission to KU. [apply.ku.edu](https://apply.ku.edu)

## JANUARY

- Learn more about Junior Days, Jayhawk Days, and other opportunities to visit campus. [visit.ku.edu](https://visit.ku.edu)
- Attend financial aid nights, if you have not already done so.

## FEBRUARY

- To view scholarships that might be available to you as a senior, go to [affordability.ku.edu](https://affordability.ku.edu).
- Make sure your GPA is on track to get a KU scholarship.
- Register and study for the ACT or SAT.

## MARCH

- Register and study for the ACT or SAT exam, if you have not already done so.
- Make sure you understand what Federal Student Aid options are available to help you pay for school. [studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types](https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types)

## APRIL

- Visit KU. Learn more about campus visits at [visit.ku.edu](https://visit.ku.edu).
- If you're interested, check out Advanced Placement (AP) or summer college courses that may be available to you. [credtran.ku.edu](https://credtran.ku.edu)
- Take an ACT or SAT prep course to help prepare for the upcoming test.
- Once your taxes are filed, practice filing your FAFSA by using the FAFSA forecaster at [studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/estimate](https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/estimate).

## MAY

- If you want to try for a higher ACT or SAT score, you may take these exams through the fall of your senior year.
- Start compiling information about organizations that award scholarships to graduating seniors. You may have to begin applying the summer after your junior year.
- Take the ACT or SAT.**
- Take **Advanced Placement (AP) exams**, available nationally in early to mid-May.

## JUNE

- Enhance your success in future ACT or SAT tests by keeping a solid reading list and polishing your math skills over the summer.
- If possible, find a summer job related to your career interests. Save money from your summer job to help pay for college-related expenses like application fees.
- If you travel this summer, consider visiting KU. [visit.ku.edu](https://visit.ku.edu)

## IMPORTANT WEBSITES

### The University of Kansas

[admissions.ku.edu](https://admissions.ku.edu)  
[affordability.ku.edu](https://affordability.ku.edu)  
[housing.ku.edu](https://housing.ku.edu)  
[ku.financialaidtv.com](https://ku.financialaidtv.com) (videos)  
[money.ku.edu](https://money.ku.edu)  
[registrar.ku.edu](https://registrar.ku.edu)  
[scholarships.ku.edu](https://scholarships.ku.edu)  
[student-account-services.ku.edu](https://student-account-services.ku.edu)

### Kansas Student Financial Aid and Scholarships

[kansasregents.org](https://kansasregents.org)

### ACT

[actstudent.org](https://actstudent.org)

### KU Net Price Calculator

[affordability.ku.edu/netprice](https://affordability.ku.edu/netprice)

### Federal Student Aid Resources

[studentaid.ed.gov](https://studentaid.ed.gov)  
[studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/estimate](https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/estimate)

### FAFSA

[fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)

### SAT

[collegeboard.com](https://collegeboard.com)

### Scholarship Searches

[fastweb.com](https://fastweb.com)  
[scholarships.ku.edu](https://scholarships.ku.edu)  
[bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search)

