

HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE TRANSITION

**FOR KC SCHOLARS PARENTS OF
TRADITIONAL AWARDEES**

MARCH/APRIL

- **Financial Aid Award Letters**
 - Make sure student has received, reviewed, compared, and accepted
 - If there are gaps after KCS scholarship, set up payment plan or find alternative funding
- **School Choice**
 - Help your student make their final decision
 - KCS appeals decisions announced by April 15
- **Housing**
 - Keep track of payment/paperwork deadlines
 - Contact financial aid to defer deposit fees
- **Orientation**
 - Sign up for orientation, even if not required
 - Attend with student, if possible
- **Senioritis!**
 - Encourage your student to stay engaged with schoolwork

MARCH/APRIL

- **KC Scholars Documentation**
 - Several documents have May 1 deadlines
 - College Admissions Letter
 - Financial Aid Award Letter
 - Information Release Waiver
 - Enrollment Details Form
 - Submit documents early to avoid last-minute crises

MAY

- **Decision Day!**
 - Notify the college that your student is planning to attend (complete all required paperwork, pre-testing, etc.)
 - Inform other colleges that your student will not be attending
 - Make sure that the college knows that your student is a KC Scholar
- **KC Scholars Documentation**
 - HS Transcript – May 30
 - Highest ACT Score – May 30
- **Email Transition**
 - Migrate from school email to personal/college email

JUNE/JULY

- **Social Media**

- Encourage your student to connect with institution student groups on social media (e.g. UMKC Class of 2022)
- Find online parent groups through your student's institution
- Remind your student to be mindful of their social media behavior

- **Summer Melt**

- Make sure your student is completing all institutional deadlines
- Help your student stay engaged with their institution (in person and/or online)

- **KC Scholars Documentation**

- College Course Schedule – June 30

AUGUST

- **KC Scholars Payments – August 1**
 - Contact financial aid office if payment has not been applied
- **Move-in!**
 - Be prepared for additional expenses
 - If your student is living on-campus, connect with your institution's Residential Life department for questions and helpful hints

TRANSITION ISSUES

Fall Semester

- Move-in and Welcome Week
- Homesickness
- Roommate conflicts
- Finals

Spring Semester

- Academic recovery
- Money
- Campus Life
- Moving out

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE FIRST YEAR

- **Academics**—college courses, faculty interactions
- **Social** transition—homesickness, friends, involvement
- **Independence**—decisions, finances, first visit home
- **Mental Health**—stress, relationships, time mgt.
- **Physical Health**—eating, sleeping, exercise, illness

Happy, Happy, Happy...Crisis, Crisis, Crisis

“everything is terrible” e-mails, calls or texts from your student

ENCOURAGE SELF-RELIANCE

- Move from “parenting” to “coaching”
 - Resist the urge to take the lead
- Discuss basic life skills
 - Money management, time management, conflict resolution
- Support student problem-solving
 - Student development is key and they will/should encounter challenges

BEFORE STEPPING IN, CONSIDER...

- Has your student tried to address this situation?
- Would your own parents have gotten involved?
- Will he/she be expected to manage these kinds of situations after college?
- Can you direct your student to campus resources?

DISCUSS OVERALL EXPECTATIONS NOW!

- Assess current contact vs. what you'll expect
- How will you communicate? Phone calls, text, e-mail, Facebook?
One parent, both parents, siblings, extended family?

“I wish my mom knew that when I didn't answer her call the first time that doesn't mean to call a second, third, or even fourth time right after that. I am most likely in class and unable to answer my phone. So don't go into freak-out mode!” -Taylor

EMBRACE CHANGE

“Someday, when I’ve graduated and am financially independent, I’ll remember how great you were during the college years and buy you great birthday gifts. So when I call for more money, remember that I love you.” -Jessica

- Don’t minimize your own transition
- Know your resources; recommended readings
- Your student will change

QUESTIONS?