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
“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?