



knoxAchieves

Transforming
Lives
Changing
Communities

CLASS OF 2011 MENTOR HANDBOOK

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MENTOR TIMELINE

October 29: _____knoxAchieves Application Deadline

Pre-November 24: _____ Letter to knoxAchieves Students

November 25-28: _____ Thanksgiving Holiday

November 29-December 17: _____ First Team Meeting

December 7: _____ Mentor Reception

December 22-January 6: _____ Winter Holiday

January 1-20: _____ Second Team Meeting

January 23: _____ FAFSA Day at Magnolia (PSCC)

January 30: _____ FAFSA Day at Hardin Valley (PSCC)

February 1: _____ FAFSA Deadline

March 1-20: _____ Third Team Meeting

March 4: _____ ACT Registration Deadline

March 14-18: _____ Spring Holiday

April 9: _____ ACT Deadline

April 15: _____ College Application Deadline

April 22: _____ Good Friday Holiday

May 19-21: _____ High School Graduations

June 21, 23, 28, & 30: _____ Transition from HS to College

July 1: _____ Class Registration Deadline

August 29: _____ First Day of College Classes

December 1: _____ Community Service Deadline

BACKGROUND

knoxAchieves began 2 years ago and will begin serving its third class of graduating seniors in October 2010.

knoxAchieves provides an opportunity for Knox County high school graduates to receive up to \$3000 annually for community college tuition.

knoxAchieves is a last dollar scholarship that primarily serves first generation and lower income students who wish to attend Pellissippi, Roane, or Walters State community colleges.

While we do provide funding, knoxAchieves also fosters a relationship between students and volunteer mentors who assist in eliminating the barriers often associated with college access.

Another component that makes knoxAchieves unique is our emphasis on creating a culture of giving back to our community. Thus, we require our students to complete one day of community service every semester they participate in the program.

Our key stakeholders are students, parents/guardians, volunteer mentors, high school counselors, and community college representatives from various departments (e.g. admissions and financial aid). We serve all of Knox County's 13 public high schools.

knoxAchieves is a special project of the East Tennessee Foundation and is supported by six board members: Randy Boyd, Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam, Rich Ray, Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale, Buzz Thomas and Tim Williams.

knoxAchieves has various requirements; however, the most critical to the program is early completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). We also require students to maintain at least a 2.0 GPA upon entering college.

knoxAchieves ultimately hopes to rejuvenate our workforce and increase educational attainment opportunities in our community. We hope to improve a student's quality of life, increase the value of education in Knox County, and create more lifelong learners.

"I enjoy being in the program because knoxAchieves believed in me and helped me through high school." –Denisha, Fulton High School

"When my little brother was born eight years ago, I knew then that I would someday want to be a nurse, or get the chance to work with children in a hospital setting. I could not wait to have the chance to attend college and start receiving a better education, nor could I wait to start learning more and more about the profession that I love. Receiving knoxAchieves lifted such a weight off my shoulders. My parents cannot pay for my education and knowing I had an opportunity to attend college without having to worry about the financial aspects of it excited me." –Alexandria, Powell High School

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Randal Boyd is the Chairman, CEO, majority shareholder and founder of Radio Systems Corporation. He received a degree from the University of Tennessee in Industrial Management in 1979 and a Masters Degree in Liberal Studies from Oklahoma University in 1988.

Bill Haslam was elected Knoxville Mayor in 2003 and again in 2007. During his time as Mayor, he has focused on stronger, safer neighborhoods, reliable city services at a competitive price, an energized downtown, and more and better jobs. He is a graduate of Emory University.

Mike Ragsdale is a partner in a consulting company, Tennessee Strategies, LLC. He was elected to serve as Knox County Mayor in 2002 and again in 2006. The first in his family to attend college, he completed a doctorate in education at the University of Tennessee where he also received the Torchbearer award as an undergraduate student.

Rich Ray is co-founder and CFO of 21st Mortgage Corporation. He is the first in his family to receive a college degree due to the encouragement and support of his parents. Rich is a graduate of old East High School and holds an accounting degree from the University of Tennessee.

Tim Williams is co-founder and CEO of 21st Mortgage Corporation. 21st Mortgage is the highest volume lender in the manufactured home industry. In 2003, 21st Mortgage was acquired by Berkshire Hathaway Company. Tim holds a BS and MBA from the University of Tennessee.

Oliver “Buzz” Thomas is the President of the Great Schools Partnership. He was formerly the Executive Director of the Niswonger Foundation. He has a M.Div. from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, a JD from the University of Tennessee, and a LLM from the University of Virginia.

“Most have dreams that they plan on fulfilling, but never get the chance to do so for multiple reasons. My dreams, I feel as if I have no other choice but to fulfill them. I have watched my parents make poor decisions which caused life to be way harder for them than it had to be. Not to mention, they were unable to financially support their daughter. My goal in life is to have a family, and to be able to support them with the money and education that I earned. If this money is still granted to me it will be the reason that I am able to fulfill these dreams that I have had for so long.” –**Maya, Central High School**

“I took it upon myself to get a part-time job while going to school because I knew that college expenses would be my responsibility. I am very grateful KnoxAchieves can assist during these tough times and help make college costs feasible” –**Daniel, Bearden High School**

OUR CLASSES: BY THE NUMBERS

CLASS OF 2009

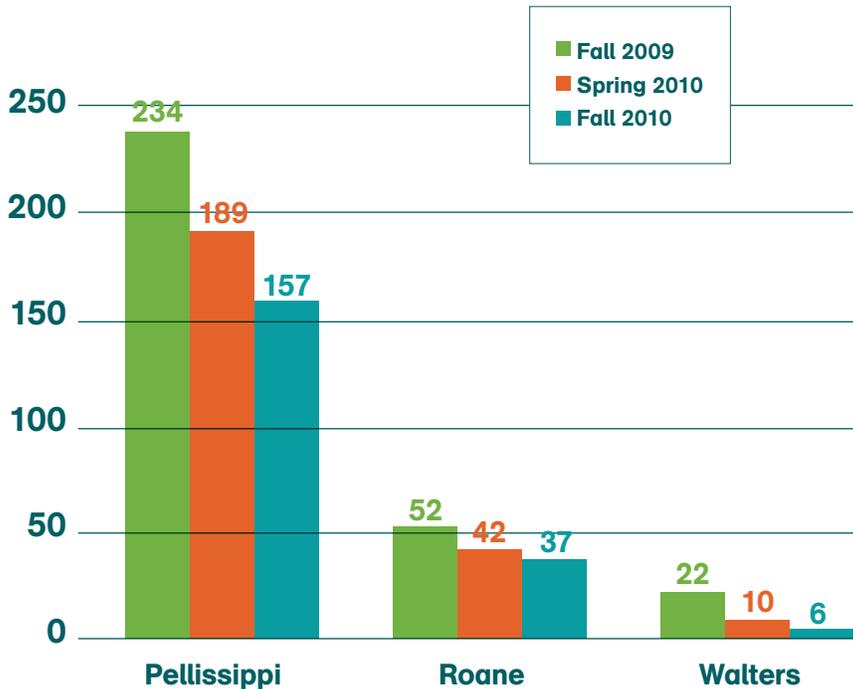
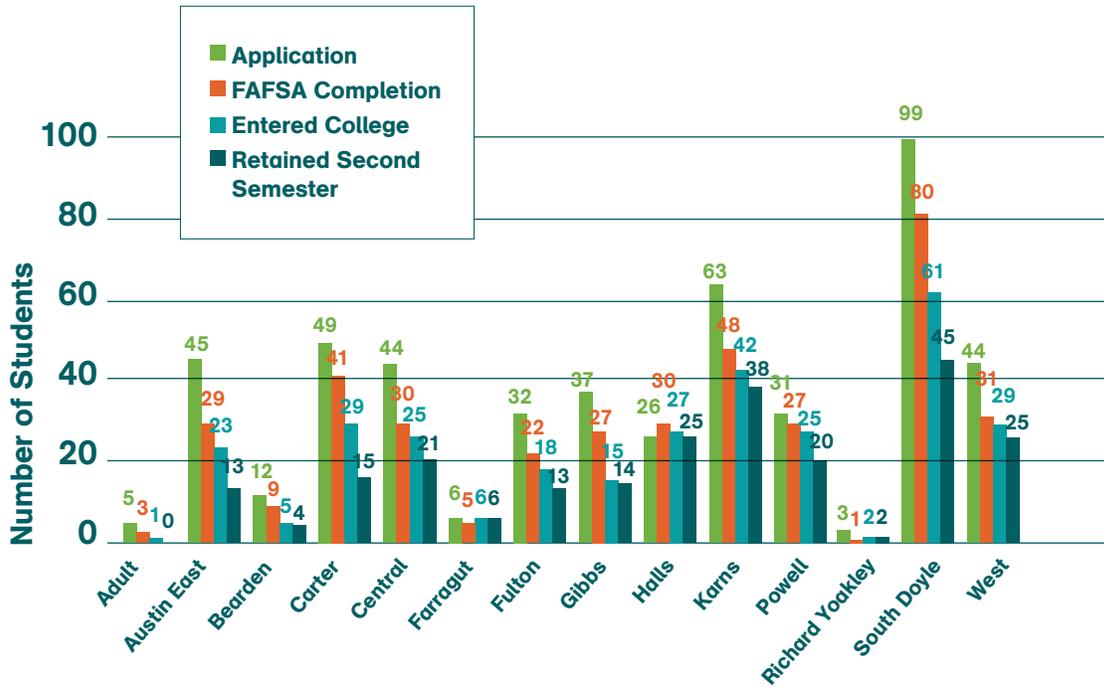
- 493 applications
- 308 began college
 - 76% to Pellissippi
 - 17% to Roane
 - 7% to Walters
- 52% of enrolled are first generation college students
- 60% of enrolled have a family earning less than \$50,000
- 50% of our students said they would not have attended college without the KnoxAchieves
- 70% hope to transfer to a 4-year college
- Approximately 3,000 community service hours completed
- 176 mentors trained
- Raised over \$2 million
- Gave \$370 per student, per semester

CLASS OF 2010

- 803 applications
- 596 completed FAFSA
- 408 enrolled
- 64% of enrolled are first generation college students
- 62% of enrolled have a family earning less than \$50,000
- 210 mentors trained
- Implemented monthly meetings in the high schools to make the college access process easier on students and their families
- Hosted a “Transition from High School to College” Day for students to be hosted at the community college campuses
- Creating our own 501c3

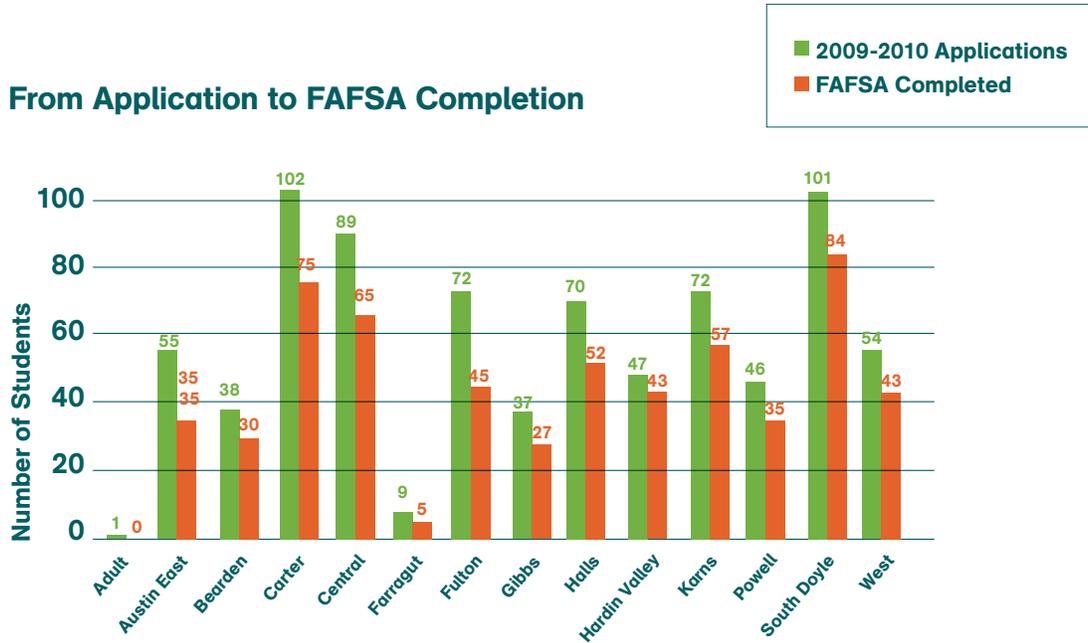
“With the help of the KnoxAchieves scholarship and my contributions, my mom will be at ease knowing everything will work and knowing she won’t have to dish out as much will make life easier on all of us.” –Malea, South Doyle High School

CLASS OF 2009

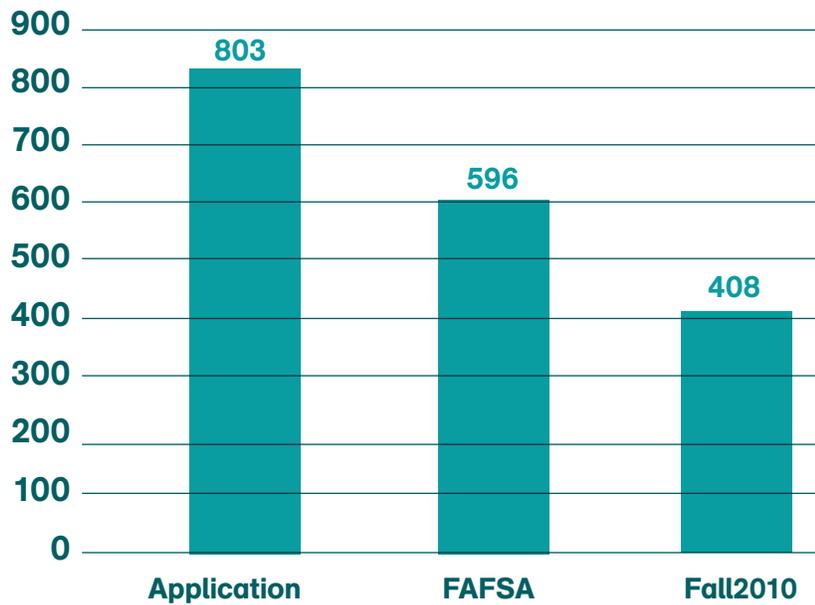


CLASS OF 2010

From Application to FAFSA Completion



■ Number of Students



A SUCCESSFUL MENTOR

A successful mentor is:

- Someone whose student files FAFSA by the February 1, 2011 deadline
- Someone whose student graduates from high school
- Someone whose student is enrolled in college for the 2011 Fall semester
- Someone whose student completes the 2011 Fall semester
- Someone whose student completes his/her community college experience
- Someone who receives as much as he/she gives from the mentor role

What must you do to be a successful mentor?

- Personal time commitment
- Respect for the mentee
- Ability to empathize and understand
- Ability to see solutions, opportunities and barriers
- Good listener with open and flexible attitude
- Ability to give positive feedback
- Ability to remain with the student during frustrating times

A MENTOR...

May be a:

Guide
Teacher
Listener
Cheerleader
Coach
Task Master

May not be a:

Savior
Therapist
Cool Peer
Person with all
answers
Confidant
Bank

“The family goal is for me to be the first one in my family to attend college and receive my bachelor’s degree. My parents were not presented with the same opportunities that I have today. After graduating high school, my parents entered into the workforce and did not have the chance to attend college. I am very thankful for the sacrifices my parents have made for me throughout the years and I am excited about stepping up to this challenge and meeting the goal my family has set for me. Not only has Knox Achieves committed to support a large portion of financial needs, but they have already assisted me with a counselor that guided me through the entire Knox Achieves process. It will be my responsibility to achieve an above average GPA and find a way to lend my abilities to better my community.” –Tyler, Karns High School

BEST PRACTICES TIPS FROM OUR ALUMNI

The Generation Gap

knoxAchieves students will text a friend sitting right next to him/her. They Facebook, IM, and Twitter. They believe email and voicemail are old, obsolete, and “lame!”

Text messaging is the best way to quickly receive a response from the student. Often times, students do not listen to their voicemail.

The Parents

Introduce yourself to the student’s parents/ guardians. The first letter sent to the students strongly encourages the parents to attend the first team meeting with the student.

The student application that knoxAchieves will send you after pairing will include the parent’s information as well. If the parent decides not to attend the team meeting, give them a call or send them an email introducing yourself.

Be Encouraging

While you are the student’s task master, it is often important to send your student small words of encouragement. Write their birthdays in your calendar and mail them a card. If they are taking the ACT, send them a “good luck” text. These little gestures will greatly enhance your bond.

Attendance

Attend all the knoxAchieves activities your schedule permits. For example, Pellissippi State hosts a breakfast in early January for knoxAchieves mentors. They provide a wealth of information to pass along to your students. Keep in mind, 76% of knoxAchieves students currently attend Pellissippi, so all this knowledge can help you assist your student through the process.

Other Advice

Rely on knoxAchieves for help with students. We are happy to answer any questions or intervene if you need assistance.

Follow-up with these students is so critical to their success. Some need more hand holding than others. If you receive three students and you successfully help one begin school, this is a great success! You helped transform this person’s life! It is often easy to get frustrated, but trust us, they will need you at some point! Hang in there!

“Ever since I was little I would tell my mom I wanted to be everything from the president to a teacher. I later realized all the things I wanted to accomplish in my life meant I had to be committed to school and my future. Neither my mom nor my dad ever demanded I focus on school or punished me if I slacked off. It was always up to me, and that never seemed hard because I have such a passion for learning. If it wasn’t for knoxAchieves I may not have the money to further my education and go on to accomplish all those things I said I would. I don’t come from a family with the money to put me through school, but I do come from a family that instilled in me what a future with an education can hold. I can’t tell you that I’m going to be the president one day, but I can say I am going to be a great person who does great things with her life.” –Caitlin , Karns High School

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: _____ **High School:** _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Parent Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

High School: _____

College: _____

Career Interests: _____

Job History: _____

Transportation: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Hobbies/Sports: _____

Likes/Dislikes: _____

Other Notes: _____

Completed

Date

____ Attended First Meeting _____

____ Attended Second Meeting _____

____ Attended Third Meeting _____

____ Attended Transition Meeting _____

____ Registered for the ACT _____

____ Completed the ACT _____

____ Application to college completed _____

____ High School transcript sent to college _____

____ FAFSA pin number application _____

____ FAFSA completed by February 1, 2010 _____

____ College visit scheduled _____

____ Scheduled appointment with an academic advisor for course registration _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: _____ **High School:** _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Parent Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

High School: _____

College: _____

Career Interests: _____

Job History: _____

Transportation: _____

Date of Birth: _____

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Email Address: _____

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Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Parent Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

High School: _____

College: _____

Career Interests: _____

Job History: _____

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Date of Birth: _____

Hobbies/Sports: _____

Likes/Dislikes: _____

Other Notes: _____

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_____ Scheduled appointment with an academic advisor for course registration _____

CONVERSATION STARTERS

Introduce yourself to the students in a manner that you are most comfortable. Definitely tell your students:

- Academic History
- Were you a first generation college student?
- Occupation
- Employer
- Talk about the best time for the student to contact you
- Discuss the best method of contact that works with the student and the mentor
- Make a pledge to “talk” at least once a week or bi-weekly

Do you like UT Football?

What is your favorite type of music?

What is your favorite television show?

Do you play sports?

Do you have a job?

Are you excited about graduating from high school?

Where do you want to go to college?

What makes you the most excited about going to college?

Are you nervous about college?

“I will be the first in my family to go to college and my sisters would look up to me and I would be an inspiration to them to further their education also.” –La'Treese, South Doyle

“knoxAchieves has already opened my eyes and has shown me that dreams really do come true if you work hard and never give up.” –Candice, South Doyle High School

TEAM MEETINGS

knoxAchieves hosts three team meetings at the high schools. Each school has a team leader that conducts the meetings then turns the students over to their mentors for questions, concerns, or to merely catch up!

While knoxAchieves does not require mentors to attend these meetings, it is strongly encouraged. The students whose mentors cannot attend often feel a little lost.

knoxAchieves will post the locations as well as the dates at www.knoxachieves.org. Each meeting will have a specific purpose. The December meeting focuses on getting to know knoxAchieves. The January meeting is all about FAFSA. The March meeting will host our community college recruiters who help with admissions and registration.

Most importantly, it is the mentor's responsibility to remind the students of these mandatory meetings.

Meeting Schedule

School	December	January	March
Austin East			
Bearden	9th at 6:00	27th at 6:00	24th at 6:00
Carter	7th at 6:00	4th at 6:00	1st at 6:00
Central			
Farragut	14th at 6:00	25th at 6:00	8th at 6:00
Fulton	7th at 5:30	11th at 5:30	1st at 5:30
Gibbs	2nd at 5:30	13th at 5:30	10th at 5:30
Halls	6th at 6:30	10th at 6:30	
HVA	6th at 6:30	10th at 6:30	7th at 6:30
Karns	6th at 6:00	10th at 6:00	7th at 6:00
Powell			
South Doyle			
West			

High School Meetings

School Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Fulton High School dismisses at 4:00 p.m.)

Suggested Meeting Times: 3:40 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Fulton HS: 4:10 - 5:10)

Another option would be during the student's lunch (this could be anytime between approximately 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.).

Suggested Meeting Areas: School Library, College/Career Center (Farragut, West and South-Doyle), Conference Room (often located in the Counseling Office or the Front Office)

Please contact the Principal or Lead Counselor to arrange for your school visits. Let them know the date and time of your visit and where you would like to meet the student(s). Students are expected to leave school grounds immediately after school; however, if the school knows you will be visiting, they can make arrangements for you to have a place to meet students. If you plan to meet during the school day (lunch or advisory), please register as a visitor in the main office.

*Please do not ask the Counselors to set up student meetings for you. They are merely there to serve as a resource.

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR CONTACTS

Knox County High Schools

School	Name	Email	Phone#
Austin East	Cheri Boring	boringc1@k12tn.net	594-1890
Austin East	Tammi Campbell	campbellt4@k12tn.net	594-3792
Austin East	Jenny Heaton	heatonj@k12tn.net	594-4401
Bearden	Amanda Martin	martina11@k12tn.net	539-7800
Bearden	Janet Slabbekorn	slabbekornj@k12tn.net	539-7800
Bearden	Lee Hodges	hodgesl5@k12tn.net	539-7800
Bearden	Linda Mongeon	mongeonl@k12tn.net	539-7800
Bearden	Beverly Anderson	andersonb4@k12tn.net	539-7820
Carter	Susan Vines	viness@k12tn.net	932-8143
Central	Emily Fiveash	fiveashe@k12tn.net	689-1400
Farragut	Susan Bollinger	bollingers@k12tn.net	966-9775
Fulton	Shayla Bullock	bullocks@k12tn.net	594-1240
Fulton	Terreka Holloway	tholloway@projectgradknoxville.org	594-1240
Gibbs	Kitty Pruett	pruettk@k12tn.net	689-9130
Halls	Brad Byrd	byrdb1@k12tn.net	922-7757
Halls	Jodie Overton	overtonj3@k12tn.net	925-7712
Hardin Valley	Anna Graham	grahama2@k12tn.net	690-9912
Karns	Scott Blanton	blantons3@k12tn.net	539-8670
Powell	Kelly Nash	nashk@k12tn.net	938-2171
South-Doyle	Anne Jackson	annejackson@hotmail.com	579-8298
South-Doyle	Grace Anne Cannon	cannong1@k12tn.net	577-4475
West	Rebecca Brookshire	brookshirer1@k12tn.net	594-4492

Team Leaders Contact Information

School	First	Last Name	Email	Home #	Cell #
AE	Robin	Davis	davisrd55@yahoo.com		384-8628
Bearden	Mike	North	mnorth@pstcc.edu		456-4007
Carter	Chris	Caldwell	chris.caldwell@knoxcounty.org		919-3700
Central	Julie	Howe	julie.howe@pnfp.com	804-6045	776-3045
Farragut	Jessica	Morris	jmorris@petsafe.net		(615)688-6808
Farragut	Sandy	Garber	sandyg@chartertn.net	966-5251	250-1515
Gibbs	Lynne	Liddington	laliddington@aqm.co.knox.tn.us	281-2516	705-6817
Halls	Sharon	Smith	svcsmith@yahoo.com	688-0323	705-2912
HVA	Laurie	Macnair	lmacnair@petsafe.net	966-0246	621-5818
Karns	Owen	Driskill	owendriskill@gmail.com		(423)552-1971
Powell	Ranee	Randby	ranee.randby@knoxcounty.org	777-1405	388-6186
SD	Hugh	Holt	hugh.holt@knoxcounty.org	983-5019	257-2862
SD	Jenny	Cook	jennycook@charter.net	681-0105	387-3468
West	Angela	Taylor	taylora11@k12tn.net	771-2876	771-2876

HOW THE MONEY WORKS

knoxAchieves funding is:

LAST DOLLAR (What does this mean? This means knoxAchieves pays only the balance of the student's tuition and fees. It is often explained as the amount the family would pay following the payment of all other state and federal aid or scholarships.)

UP TO \$3000 ANNUALLY (What does this mean? This means that the knoxAchieves student begins with a balance of \$3000 each year for college tuition and fees. For example, the student may use \$1200 his/her first semester, leaving a \$1800 balance for the second semester. knoxAchieves does not pay in equal quantities like the HOPE scholarship.)

STILL AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENT IF HE/SHE RECEIVES THE HOPE (What does this mean? This means that a full-time student will owe a balance to the college each semester even after the HOPE is credited to his/her account. Again, knoxAchieves pays the remainder of the student's tuition and fee balance.)

NOT PAID UNTIL AFTER THE COLLEGE DEADLINE (What does this mean? This means that the college will bill knoxAchieves on behalf of the student following the drop/add period and after all other funding is credited to the student's account. The student will not lose his/her classes due to this later payment date.)

NOT FOR BOOKS (What does this mean? This means knoxAchieves will not cover books or any other expenses outside of tuition and fees.)

CONTINGENT UPON MEETING REQUIREMENTS (What does this mean? This means the student will lose his/her knoxAchieves funding if the student fails to meet the 2.0 GPA, 8-hour a semester community service project, and annual FAFSA deadline. Also, the student must verify his/her attendance with the college before knoxAchieves funding applies.)

ALSO CONTINGENT UPON OTHER REQUIREMENTS (What does this mean? This means the student must begin in the Fall semester directly following his/her high school graduation date. The student must attend all four semesters uninterrupted, not including the summer. The student must attend all knoxAchieves monthly meeting held at his/her high school and meet all knoxAchieves deadlines. Finally, the student must keep in regular contact with his/her mentor.

PAID DIRECTLY TO THE COLLEGE (What does this mean? This means the student will never receive any money directly from knoxAchieves. The money is paid directly to the college.)

“My dad never went to college and after he passed I made it my goal to make him proud by going to college. This means so much to me because he died before he could even see me graduate. Going to Pellissippi would be a mile stone that I cannot hope to reach without the help of knoxAchieves.” –Malcolm, Fulton High School

OTHER FUNDING (FAFSA)

FAFSA and HOPE Funding

www.fafsa.ed.gov

www.tn.gov/CollegePays

What is FAFSA?

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
- Application for all federal aid including PELL grants.

Why is FAFSA important?

- You must meet the February 1, 2011 deadline to remain KnoxAchieves eligible.
- Allows your family to maximize funding for college.

What do I need to complete FAFSA?

- Student's social security number.
- Student's driver's license.
- Student's 2010 W-2 forms.
- Parent's income tax return.
- If you are not a US citizen, your alien registration card or permanent residence card.

How do I file FAFSA?

- First, go to www.pin.ed.gov to receive a PIN for both the student and the parents.
- Next, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov. You will file your FAFSA there. All of the information you need is provided here.

What if I need help?

KnoxAchieves hosts two FAFSA days where you can sit down with a counselor that will help you fill out FAFSA. Dates and locations:

- **January 23, 2011** at Pellissippi's Magnolia Street Campus; 1 - 4 p.m.
- **January 30, 2011** at Pellissippi's Hardin Valley Campus; 1 - 4 p.m.

Other information

FAFSA is also the form required to apply for the HOPE Scholarship.

HOPE eligible student are required to:

- Have scored a minimum composite score on the ACT of 21.
- Graduated with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

In Summary

- **DO NOT miss the February 1, 2011 deadline to file FAFSA.**
- KnoxAchieves strongly encourages you to attend one of the FAFSA days for help filing.

"I have a ten-year-old brother who looks up to me, and he needs to see that going to college is important. The only way I can accomplish this is by having KnoxAchieves by my side."

-Sarah, Central High School

OUR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Pellissippi State

Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services:

Leigh Anne Touzeau
latouzeau@pstcc.edu
(865)694-6400

Financial Aid Coordinator:

Barbara Wilson
bcwilson@pstcc.edu
(865)539-7012

Director of Advising:

Rachael Cragle
rccragle@pstcc.edu
(865)539-7219

Pellissippi offers a wide array of classes, many emphasizing focus on technology in engineering and business. Pellissippi offers numerous associate's degree programs as well as industry certificate programs. Pellissippi offers the following degrees: Associates of Arts, Associates of Science, Associate's of Science in Teaching, and Associate's of Applied Science. Pellissippi just accepted their first group of nursing students in August. Nursing classes are offered on the Magnolia Street Campus.

The Office of Student Success and Enrollment Management exists to facilitate the successful transition to college and support student learning and goal attainment. For information contact Dr. Rebecca Ashford at; (865)539-7188 or rlashford@pstcc.edu.

Website: www.pstcc.edu

Roane State

Director of Admissions:

Maria Gonzales
gonzalesmr@roanestate.edu
(865)882-4523

Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services:

Joy Goldberg
goldberdj@roanestate.edu
(865)882-4659

Director of Advising:

Amy Keeling
(865)354-3000 ext. 4257
keeling@roanestate.edu

Roane State offers the following degrees: Associate of Science in Teaching, Associate of Applied Science, and numerous technical certificate programs. Roane State's Associate of Science in Teaching is designed for students to complete the first two years of their degree in elementary education before transferring to a four year institution. Roane State also offers a nursing program providing students the option to become a RN in just two years.

Roane State has started a new program, Students Achieving Improved Learning Strategies (SAILS), to help students become more successful in their classes. The program focuses on helping students become more prepared for their specific major as well as college in general.

Website: www.roanestate.edu

Walters State

Associate Director of Financial Aid:

Matthew Hunter
matthew.hunter@ws.edu
(423)585-6812

Advisor:

Everett Painter
everett.painter@ws.edu
(865)774-5812

Website: www.ws.edu

Walters State offers over 100 different programs of study ranging from art education to web developer specialist. Walters State will prepare students to become nurses, pharmacists, golf course superintendents, chefs, or successfully transfer to four year institutions. Walters State's pharmacy program prepares students to immediately transfer to a graduate program without ever attending a four year university. Walters State has been voted one of the best places to work by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

One unique department at Walters State is the Enrollment Development and Retention Services Department. This department exists to prepare students as they begin college and help guide them along their college journey. This might mean one-on-one counseling with a struggling student or helping a student face an issue that could keep him/her from being successful. Kimberly Gunnin is the Director and can be reached at; 423-585-6925.

WEBSITE

www.knoxachieves.org

Register

- Go to: www.knoxachieves.org
- Click on the “Mentors” tab
- Click on “Register”
- Fill out the short form
- Role Option should be set to “Mentor”

Benefits

- News
- Add students and their contact information to your profile
- Blogs
 - Connect with other mentors
 - Share Successes
- Meeting Dates and Times
- Deadline Reminders

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com

Register

- Go to www.facebook.com
- Fill out the brief form
- Set up your own Facebook page
- Add [knoxAchieves](http://www.knoxachieves.org) and your students as friends

Benefits

- Connect with [knoxAchieves](http://www.knoxachieves.org), other mentors, and students
- Share successes
- Receive updates from [knoxAchieves](http://www.knoxachieves.org)
- Free

FAQS

What are the knoxAchieves requirements?

knoxAchieves requires you to work closely with your mentor, to attend all mandatory team meetings held at your high school, to file FAFSA by February 1, 2011, to complete one community service project each semester you receive aid, to maintain a 2.0 grade point average each college semester, to carry a minimum of six college credit hours each semester, and to refile the FAFSA by February 1, 2012.

Failure to comply with any of these requirements will result in termination of your knoxAchieves funding. If you lose your scholarship, it will not be reinstated at any time.

How many times should I reach out to my mentor?

You must communicate with your mentor at least bi-weekly from December 2010 thru September 2011. If you have questions, you can always communicate more often. It is your responsibility to reach out to your mentor!

What are the community service deadline dates?

December 1, 2011
May 1, 2012
December 1, 2012
May 1, 2013

What if I want to take a semester off from school and begin college in the Spring?

If you decide to take a semester off, at any point during the next two years, this will result in a termination of your knoxAchieves funding. You must remain in school for four consecutive semesters to continue to receive this aid.

I have graduated from high school. What is the next step for college?

Make sure you have completed your application to one of the three eligible colleges. This includes sending your high school transcript and your ACT scores to the appropriate admissions office.

Now is the time to register for Fall semester classes. Prior to registration, you should make an appointment with an academic advisor. Please call the numbers below to set up your meeting.

Pellissippi State: (865)694-6400
Roane State (Oak Ridge): (865)481-2000 ext.2273
Roane State (Harriman): (865)354-3000 ext.4597
Walters State: (800)225-4770

What are the dates for the ACT?

Test Date: February 12, 2011
Deadline for Registration: January 7, 2011
Test Date: April 9, 2011
Deadline for Registration: March 4, 2011

You can register at www.act.org.

If I scored below a 19 on any subject component of the ACT, what do I need to do?

You will need to contact the appropriate college to discuss your options. This often involves a confirmation test to determine whether you must take developmental courses. The colleges offer these courses in reading, writing, and/or mathematics. You must complete these tests prior to meeting with your advisor and/or registering for classes.

How do I complete my community service requirement?

As a knoxAchieves scholar, you are required to complete at least one full day of community service per semester you receive funding. You may choose an organization or visit www.knoxachieves.org will provide you with a list of opportunities across Knox County. This is a great way to get involved and meet new people. knoxAchieves will need your organization, dates, times, supervisor, and the supervisor's contact information. You can submit this via the website at "Contact Us." A sign of a true scholar is giving back to your community!

What is the best advice you can give me as I transition from high school to college?

First and foremost, go to class! You attendance is a direct indicator of your success. Make studying your job! Remember, if you drop below a 2.0 GPA, you will lose your knoxAchieves funding.

Watch out for the first test! There are normally only a few tests per semester, so one test is often a large percentage of your final grade. And in college, professors rarely give extra credit assignments.

Get to know your professors. Introduce yourself. This lets them know that you are taking college and, in particular, their class seriously. Never be afraid to ask for help. Ask your classmates. Ask your professors!

Finally, don't stress if you are still unsure of the perfect career path. Take classes that interest you. It is certainly reasonable to use the first two semesters to decide on a major. Also, this time of uncertainty gives you an opportunity to get your prerequisites out of the way!



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