QUIET ZONE STUDY AREAS

Final exam week, Dec. 10-14, is almost here. Many students do not know that all KU libraries have quiet zones designated as study areas. Anschutz Library provides quiet study areas on Levels 1 and 2, while the Learning Studio offers group study rooms and as well as individual study carrels and tables.

Students can check out the Learning Studio at learningstudio.ku.edu. They can also reserve rooms in Watson Library and the Learning Center at calendar.lib.ku.edu

PARENT ACCESS TO GRADES AND INVOICES

Grades: The Enroll & Pay system allows students easy grade retrieval. By logging into Enroll & Pay and selecting “view my grades,” students can print a copy of their grades. KU neither mails grades to students nor offers online grade viewing for parents. For more information on how parents can obtain a copy of their student’s grades, visit registrar.ku.edu/parents/grade_request.shtml

Invoices: Students are sent an email when a new invoice has been posted to their Enroll & Pay account. If you would like access to your student’s invoice, the student must create an Authorized User account for you. You and your student can learn more about authorized user at bursar.ku.edu/paying_for_ku/authorized_user.aspx

The Bursar’s website also has an excellent Frequently Asked Questions page at bursar.ku.edu/faq

RETURNING HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Most college students look forward to returning home after finals for Winter Break, Dec. 15-Jan. 21. However, their return can be stressful for themselves and their parents. While at KU, your student has been changing intellectually, socially, and emotionally, and you also have been changing. This may be a time to reacquaint yourselves, set new expectations, and acknowledge that your relationship is evolving and growing.

Being flexible is the key to communication. Parents should let students know when they are expected at family events and when they may bow out. Your expectation for family time may be very different than your student’s — talk about it. Discuss
house rules, curfews, sleeping late, and even chores. Clear expectations can help avoid conflicts during the holiday season.

An article on winter break, written with input from students, is on the University Daily Kansan website, kansas.com/archives/2011/11/16/home-for-the-holidays-can-result-in-less-freedom

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**KU OPEN BETWEEN SEMESTERS**

Most university departments and administrative offices remain open over Winter Break. The university is closed Dec. 24-25, Jan. 1, and Jan. 21.

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**KU STUDENT HOUSING**

Winter Break schedule for hall closing

Residence halls close for the semester at 11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14. Scholarship halls close at noon on Saturday, Dec. 15. The halls will reopen for the spring semester at 8 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 19.

Exceptions

Jayhawker Towers remains open year-round. McCollum Hall is closed during break but is accessible to students who have made reservations for break housing. Dates and rates for McCollum Hall break housing and a complete calendar of housing-related dates and hall closings are at housing.ku.edu/news/break-housing and at housing.ku.edu/about/calendar

Withdrawal from Student Housing?

A student who plans to leave KU at semester’s end should complete a Contract Cancellation Request available at the KU Student Housing Office in Corbin Hall. Students who withdraw should consult the contract cancellation policy information or call 785-864-4560. Cancellation charges do apply. December graduates or students with other qualifying circumstances, such as study abroad, may not be charged a penalty. housing.ku.edu/contract/cancellation-policy

Requesting a housing change?

Students living on campus may request a room or building change for spring semester. Talk with hall staff and complete an Occupancy Change Request. Students interested in moving to the scholarship halls should submit all required materials for their application to be considered. housing.ku.edu/forms/scholarshiphallessay

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**FINANCIAL AID**

It’s time to start thinking about financial aid for 2013-14. We recommend that you file your taxes early and that your student use the Internal Revenue Service data retrieval tool to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Key dates

- Jan. 1 FAFSA is available at fafsa.gov
- Feb. 1 IRS data retrieval tool is available through the FAFSA website
- March 1 KU priority date for filing the FAFSA

Why use the IRS tool?

The tool pulls tax information directly from your records and transfers it to your student’s FAFSA application.

Can't file your taxes before March 1?

You can enter estimates of your income and taxes on the FAFSA application before the priority date, and your student can update the application later.

If you have questions or need assistance completing the FAFSA, please contact Financial Aid & Scholarships at 785-864-4700.

financialaid@ku.edu
affordability.ku.edu
ENROLLING FOR SPRING SEMESTER

There is still time to enroll for the spring semester, which begins on Tuesday, Jan. 22. You can find all academic deadlines on the University Registrar’s website, registrar.ku.edu/calendar.

CAREER FAIRS — SPRING 2013

It is not too early for your student to begin planning to attend the spring semester career fairs provided by university offices and professional schools.

The University Career Fair is 2-6 p.m. Feb. 13, in the Kansas Union. Before the fair, the University Career Center offers a variety of preparation workshops for students, including Make Your Resume Stand Out, Making the Most of the University Career Fair, Got the Interview, Now What? and Resume Review Day.

For more information on the career fair or the pre-fair workshops, go to University Career Fair.

Many professional schools offer specialized career fairs. If you do not see your student’s school listed below, contact the University Career Center for more information. KUCareerhawk.com

- Engineering and Computing Career Fair: Thursday, Feb. 14, Kansas Union
- Architecture, Design & Planning Career Fair: Tuesday, Feb. 26, Kansas Union
- Education Interview Day: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday, March 5, Kansas Union
- Journalism Career Fair: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, Kansas Room, Kansas Union
- Just In Time Career Fair: 1-4 p.m., Thursday, April 25, Kansas Union, sponsored by the campus career centers

DEGREE PROGRESS REPORT

The Degree Progress Report (DPR) is an online self-serve tool that allows students to track their progress toward degree completion. Students can also use the DPR to create “what-if reports.” The What-If Report shows students the requirements for different majors and their progress toward that major. This is a useful tool for students and their advisors. To learn more, visit www2.ku.edu/~vpssdata/degreeprogress

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR GRADUATES

For graduating students who need health insurance, the Kansas Alumni Association offers GradMed. This is an inexpensive, comprehensive, short-term health insurance for alumni as well as new graduates. Learn more, visit gradmed.com/av4

IMPORTANT KU PHONE NUMBERS

Parent Assistance Line 785-864-5872
CLAS Student Academic Services 785-864-3500
Counseling & Psychological Services 785-864-2277
Financial Aid & Scholarships 785-864-4700
First-Year Experience 785-864-4270
KU Student Housing 785-864-4560
Student Health Services 785-864-9500
University Registrar 785-864-4422
Vice Provost for Student Affairs 785-864-4060

CONTACT US

Send your questions or comments to parents@ku.edu.

Please do not use the Reply key to send email messages.

To change your email address, send your old and new email address to parents@ku.edu

To subscribe to the list, visit vpss.ku.edu/KUPA/listserv.shtml

To unsubscribe to the list, visit vpss.ku.edu/KUPA/listserv_remove.shtml
HELPFUL LINKS

- KU Parent Association
  parentassociation.ku.edu
- KU Information Center
  kuinfo.ku.edu
- KU Alumni Association
  kualumni.org
- KU Endowment
  kuendowment.org
- KU on Facebook
  ku.edu/facebook
- KU News—KU news releases are available online at news.ku.edu