IMPORTANT KU DATES

November 23-27
Thanksgiving Break
(No classes, University offices open on the 23rd)

December 9
Stop Day (No classes, University offices open)

December 12-16
Final Examinations

January 17, 2012
First day of Spring Semester

March 19 -25
Spring Break
(No classes, University offices open)

May 4
Stop Day (No classes, University offices open)

May 7 -11
Final Examinations

May 13
Commencement

June 6
First Day of Summer Term

July 27
Last Day of Summer Term

August 20
First Day of Fall 2012 Classes

December 14
Last Day of Finals

IMPORTANT KU PHONE NUMBERS

Vice Provost for Student Affairs (785) 864-4060
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Academic Services (785) 864-3500
Counseling & Psychological Services (785) 864-2277
Department of Student Housing (785) 864-4560
Financial Aid & Scholarships (785) 864-4700
Office of University Registrar (785) 864-4422
Student Health Services (785) 864-9500

KU PARENT ASSOCIATION

KU Parent Association online
KU Parent Assistance Line (785) 864-5872

Please do not use the "Reply" key to send e-mail messages. Address your questions or comments to parents@ku.edu.

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NOVEMBER TOPICS

Text Version  Printer Friendly Version

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ACADEMIC SUCCESS VIDEOS
The Academic Achievement and Access Center has a variety of videos on tips for academic success. With finals coming up, your student may want to watch these, http://www.achievement.ku.edu/~achieve/guides/videos.shtml.

ALTERNATIVE BREAKS
Alternative Breaks is a student-run organization that provides service trips for more than 350 students each year through their Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall and Weekend Break programs and classes. The Winter and Spring Break programs are accompanied by a for-credit class that serves as a basic introduction to the non-profit sector, volunteerism, and several social issues covered by the season’s trips. All KU students are eligible for an Alternative Break. Now is the time to learn more and consider an "AB" for the future. To learn more visit http://kualternativebreaks.com.

ASK A LIBRARIAN
The KU Libraries offer a full service “Ask a Librarian” program. Students may ask any research or library related question and receive help. Questions can be asked in person, by email, via Instant Message and even by text message. For more information about this helpful service visit www.lib.ku.edu/askalibrarian.

HAVING YOUR STUDENT HOME AT THANKSGIVING
Many students head home for the Thanksgiving Break. You will probably notice some changes in your student. This may be the first time they have seen their friends who aren’t at KU. Expect some friendships to be strained and others to remain vibrant. Expect your student to flex some of that independence that he is used to while at school. Expect some students to be reluctant to come back to campus after being home for four days. The visit will go better for both of you if you share your expectations. You may enjoy this article about college students returning home for Thanksgiving, http://youngadults.about.com/od/parentinggrownups/a/Thanksgiving.htm.

KU SERVICES REFERRAL GUIDE
KU offers many services for students. A handy referral guide is available online to provide easy access to the resources available on the Lawrence campus. You will find the guide at www.vpss.ku.edu/referralguide.pdf.

LATE NIGHT AT THE LEARNING STUDIO
The Learning Studio on the 4th floor of the Anschutz Library is offering free walk-in help for KU students in math & sciences. From November 1st to December 7th, help will be available from 9 p.m. until midnight for Math 115, Math 121, Chemistry 184 and Physics 114. Learn more at www.learningstudio.ku.edu/latenight.

MAY COMMENCEMENT
Commencement is May 13, 2012, at 10:30 a.m. in Memorial Stadium. In March, graduating seniors and their parents (if the student has provided that information in the student’s records) are each mailed an informational packet to help them prepare for commencement weekend. Look for information at www.commencement.ku.edu.
NOT TOO LATE TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID!
The University of Kansas cares deeply about how the economy is affecting KU students. We know that some students will need additional assistance to cover costs and we encourage you to make the University your first point of contact for help with options for financing your student's education.

Although priority dates have passed and resources are limited, funding is still available for some aid programs, such as student and parent loans. To apply, your student should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Once your student submits the FAFSA, your student should receive communication from the Financial Aid and Scholarships office within two weeks.

If you have questions about financial aid options or your family's situation has changed since filing the FAFSA, please do not hesitate to contact the Financial Aid and Scholarships office at (785) 864-4700 or financialaid@ku.edu. Additional information is available at [www.financialaid.ku.edu](http://www.financialaid.ku.edu).

OCCUPANCY REGULATIONS IN LAWRENCE
If your student lives off campus, it is important that your student understand the city's laws on occupancy. Properties in single-dwelling zoning districts are limited to no more than three unrelated people living together even in owner occupied homes. When there is a group of four or more persons living together as a single housekeeping unit, all of the persons are required to be related by blood, marriage or legal adoption.

In zoning districts other than single family zoning, no more than four unrelated people can live together in a single home. An occupancy violation is often unintentional but has consequences for the tenants. Property owners, managers, realtors and tenants may call Code Enforcement at (785) 832-3111 with questions about legal occupancy.

ON-CAMPUS LIVING

Halls closed during Thanksgiving Break
KU residence and scholarship halls close at 11 p.m., Tuesday, November 22, for Thanksgiving Break. Halls reopen at 8 a.m., Sunday, November 27, and dining service begins the next day. McCollum Hall and Jayhawker Towers remain open throughout Thanksgiving break. Dates and rates for McCollum break housing are available. A complete calendar of hall closings is also available.

Winter Break schedule for hall closing
Residence halls close for the semester at 11 p.m., Friday, December 16. Scholarship Halls close at noon on Saturday, December 17, so that students may complete final cleaning responsibilities. The halls will reopen for the spring semester 8 a.m., Saturday, January 14. Before leaving for winter break, students must:

- Turn off, clean out, and defrost refrigerator.
  - The refrigerator door should be left open.
- Unplug all electrical items.
- Turn off room lights.

McCollum Hall and Jayhawker Towers remain open during all break periods. Dates and rates for special break housing are available. A complete calendar of hall closings is also available.

Withdrawing from Student Housing?
A student who plans to leave KU at semester's end should complete a Contract Cancellation Request available at the Department of Student Housing Office in Corbin Hall. Students who withdraw should consult the contract cancellation policy or call (785) 864-4560 if you have questions. Contract cancellation charges do apply. Students who are graduating in December or have other qualifying circumstances, such as Study Abroad that are outlined in the policy, may not be charged a penalty.
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 by December 1. Students interested in moving to the scholarship halls should have submitted all required materials so their application may be considered.

SUSTAINABILITY AT KU
The Center for Sustainability at KU works across campus to support sustainable practices in operations, education, research and campus life. The University recently celebrated Sustainability Week with the unveiling of Building Sustainable Traditions, a sustainability plan for the Lawrence Campus. The plan calls for several initial activities, including increased contact and coordination throughout campus, review of standards for facilities and for landscaping and open spaces, expanded recycling efforts, and new standards for environmentally and socially preferred purchasing practices. You can learn more about KU’s efforts at http://www.sustainability.ku.edu.

TAKE YOUR PROFESSOR TO LUNCH
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will pay for you to Take Your Professor to Lunch. First, schedule time with the faculty member you would like to take to lunch. You can even make your request online. The faculty member must teach in a department or program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and cannot be a TA. To learn more check out http://clas.ku.edu/students/lunch/index.shtml.

WITHDRAWING FROM A CLASS OR KU
The last day to withdraw from a class or to withdraw completely is November 16. The transcript will reflect Ws (for Withdraw) that are not included in the GPA calculation. More information is available at www.withdraw.ku.edu.

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

Please do not use the "Reply" key to send e-mail messages. Address your questions or comments to parents@ku.edu.