



Kentucky Academy for Equity in Teaching Frequently Asked Questions



Eligibility

Question: Can you tell me what the criteria is to apply to be a candidate in the KY Academy for Teachers Equity.

Answer:

- United States citizen
- Kentucky resident
- Current enrollment, or a completed application with pending admission, in an EPSB-approved educator preparation program for initial certification at an IHE in Kentucky
- Be within 48 credit hours of completing an EPP
- Does not currently hold a Kentucky professional teaching certificate
- Minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0
- Minimum semester GPA of 2.75
- Financial need demonstrated through having an expected family contribution (EFC) within the Pell eligibility range

Question: If a student only selects one eligibility criteria, can they still apply.

Answer: The student must meet all eligibility requirements.

Question: Are the Kentucky resident requirements for this loan the same as for the MERR loan?

Answer: Yes. Students must be a resident of Kentucky as defined by [13 KAR 2:045](#).

Question: My permanent residency is Indianapolis. However, I now live in Kentucky for school and plan to stay here after school. Am I considered a Kentucky resident and eligible for this program?

Answer: Residency is determined in accordance with 13 KAR 2:045. Section 4 of that regulations sets out the following as presumptions that the individual is a nonresident:

- a) A person is, or seeks to be, an undergraduate student and admissions records show the student to be a graduate of an out-of-state high school within five (5) years prior to a request for a determination of residency status;
- b) A person's admissions records indicate the student's residence to be outside of Kentucky when the student applied for admission;
- c) A person moves to Kentucky primarily for the purpose of enrollment in an institution;
- d) A person moves to Kentucky and within twelve (12) months enrolls at an institution more than half time;
- e) A person has a continuous absence of one (1) year from Kentucky; **or**
- f) A person attended an out-of-state higher education institution during the past academic year and paid in-state tuition at that institution.

The IHE's determination of a student's residency status will typically be their residency status for KAET.

Question: Do you have to attend one of the eight state universities to be eligible for the KAET program.

Answer: No. The KAET program is open to all Kentucky institutions of higher education with an EPSB approved Educator Preparation Program

University Enrollment

Question: Must students be admitted to their institutions' EEP or MAT prior to applying?

Answer: No. They may be current students or students with completed applications on file waiting admittance.

Question: Is the loan open to freshman and sophomores or just juniors and seniors?

Answer: The loan is open to students who are enrolled in teacher preparation programs and conditionally to students who have completed and submitted all requirements for enrollment in the educator preparation program and are awaiting acceptance.

Question: Do students have to be in the professional phase of the EPP to apply or can they be in the pre-professional phase?

Answer: Students have to be in the professional phase.

Question: My child will be graduating high school this year and attending college in the fall. Would she qualify for the KAET program?

Answer: The loan is open to students who are enrolled in teacher preparation programs and conditionally to students who have completed and submitted all requirements for enrollment in the educator preparation program and are awaiting acceptance. Students must meet the minimum eligibility requirements detailed in the [KAET Promotional Packet](#) in order to qualify for the program.

Question: Are both options for students earning first time certification?

Answer: Yes

Question: The details for option 1 include "must be completed within three years." What must be completed, the degree or the scholarship?

Answer: The forgivable loan will not extend longer than three years. Ideally the student will finish the EPP within that timeframe.

Question: Are students still eligible when the GPA drops? What is the process for reapplying?

Answer: If a student's overall or semester GPA drops below the required 3.0 and 2.75 respectively, the student will not receive the loan the next semester but may continue to work with their mentor. If the student's GPA meets or exceeds the requirements the next semester and they receive a recommendation from their mentor, they may apply for reinstatement. Admittance will depend on recommendation of the mentor, GPA, and the availability of funds.

Certification

Question: Would this program be an option for a person holding a Master's degree in music performance, a person who is not K-12 certified but may interested in teaching music in the public schools?

Answer: Yes, if the person is pursuing an MAT, pursuing initial teaching certification and meet all of the eligibility requirements. This could be an option for the individual.

Question: I am doing alternate certification and have a temporary license. Are there any programs that would help pay for my Master's degree for this position before I have to take out student loans?

Answer: The Kentucky Academy for Equity in Teaching provides financial support and mentoring to pre-service teachers who are enrolled in, or are awaiting admittance to, an education professional standards board approved educator preparation program. It is designed for individuals seeking initial teacher certification. If you do not currently have teacher certification, only your alternate certification you could be eligible for this program. There is additional information on the [goTEACHKY](#) website. The [KAET website](#) includes a promotional packet which details all eligibility requirements.

Question: Is the KAET open to all MAT candidates including those in alternative certification programs?

Answer: KAET is open to all individuals seeking initial certification. You may watch the [goTEACHKY](#) website for additional information regarding alternative certification options and programs that are being made available.

Mentoring

Question: Who are the providers of the services mentioned (mentoring, PRAXIS support, networking opportunities)?

Answer: Mentoring will be provided by current and/or former educators across Kentucky selected through an application process. In addition to the mentors, additional partners will collaborate with KDE to provide networking and PRAXIS support.

Question: Who will assist students with the Promissory Notes?

Answer: KAET mentors will assist students to complete the Promissory Notes.

Question: Can university staff serve as student mentors?

Answer: Yes. There is an application on Central Kentucky Educational Coop's website.

Question: What are the specific job duties for the mentors?

Answer:

- Co-develop and support completion of (with KDE and KAET participant) a personalized learning plan
- Provide mentoring and/or professional learning opportunities for KAET participants outlined in personalized learning plan
- Fully participate in KDE technical assistance sessions related to KAET
- Provide all paperwork and reporting on time and in format requested by KDE
- Coordinate the completion of promissory notes and financial counseling

Funds

Question: I am a certified teacher. Can this program repay some of my loans?

Answer: No. This program is for students currently enrolled in initial certification programs. For information on other loan forgiveness programs please visit the Teacher Loan Forgiveness page.

Question: Can MERR participants receive KAET?

Answer: No

Question: The student is required to work in KY public schools for the number of semesters equal to those for which aid is received. If the student is enrolled in an Option 6 program and teaching do those semesters count towards the time repayment?

Answer: No, those semesters do not count. The program requires the KAET recipient to provide “qualified teaching service” which is defined as, “teaching with a professional certificate in a position that requires a professional certificate for the majority of the day for 70 days in one of Kentucky’s public schools or a non-public school certified through the Kentucky Board of Education.”

Student Participation

Question: What does participation in Ed Rising look like? Will they have to be volunteers?

Answer: Educators Rising has two competitions for students at the IHE level. KAET recipients have the option to attend the annual state conference and are encouraged to compete in one of the two IHE competitions starting in the 2019-20 school year.

Program Information

Question: What will be the application cycle moving forward? Once, twice, three times per year? Will it auto renew?

Answer: The current application that is posted is for the Fall 2019 semester. We anticipate having two application windows in the future. Applications for the Spring semester will be posted in November. Once a student is approved for the program, as long as they maintain their eligibility, they will receive the forgivable loan without the need to reapply. New promissory notes will be needed every semester.

For additional information email cathy.white@education.ky.gov