

**TITLE:** KHEAA and KHESLC's Role in College Affordability

**DESCRIPTION:** The Executive Director of KHEAA and KHESLC will provide an overview of their work and how they are contributing to the affordability of higher education in Kentucky.

**PRESENTERS:** Jo Carole Ellis, CEO, KHEAA/KHESLC

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### **ABOUT KHEAA/KHESLC**

KHEAA is the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, a state agency established in 1966 to improve students' access to higher education. KHEAA provides state aid such as the Kentucky Education Excellence Scholarship (KEES) program, the College Access Program (CAP) Grant, the Kentucky Tuition Grant (KTG) and other scholarship and grant programs.

The Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation (KHESLC) was established in 1978 and is Kentucky's only not-for-profit student loan lender. They offer low-cost Advantage Education Loans to students and parents, as well as Advantage Refinance Loans to borrowers already in repayment.

### **ABOUT THE CEO**

Jo Carole Ellis of Frankfort was named the new executive director and chief executive officer of KHEAA and KHESLC on July 18, 2023. Ellis previously worked for KHEAA for 17 years, serving as program director for the Kentucky Education Savings Plan Trust and Kentucky's Affordable Prepaid Tuition programs, student aid branch manager and government relations director. She most recently served as committee staff administrator at the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission. In that role, she was the administrator of the Education Committee, drafted education-related legislation and advised legislators on education issues. She has a bachelor's in journalism from Eastern Kentucky University.