



GOLD RUSH

MARCH 2024

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

GO FIGURE

NKU FOUNDERS DAY 2024

56TH

Birthday of NKU

1,968

Minutes of Giving

\$305K+

Raised



NKU IMPLEMENTS DIRECT ADMIT PROCESS TO STREAMLINE STUDENT ENROLLMENT

In an effort to enhance the accessibility and efficiency of its admissions process, Northern Kentucky University is proud to implement its new Direct Admit Program. This innovative approach will expand access to higher education in the region by simplifying the enrollment process for prospective students, providing them with a straightforward pathway to securing their spot. NKU will be the first public university in the tristate and Commonwealth of Kentucky to offer direct admission.

The college admissions process can often be complex and time-consuming. Recognizing the need to streamline this process and reduce barriers to entry, NKU has developed the Direct Admit Program to offer a more seamless experience for applicants. Under the Direct Admit Program, qualified students will have the opportunity to bypass the application process and application fee and receive a direct offer of admission to NKU based on predetermined criteria.

"The introduction of the Direct Admit Program reflects NKU's commitment to fostering an inclusive learning environment by removing barriers to higher education," says Dr. Ryan Padgett, associate provost for strategic enrollment planning and student success for the university. "By simplifying the admissions process—including removing the application and application fee—and offering a transparent pathway to enrollment, NKU hopes to empower students from all backgrounds to pursue their academic aspirations."

The program will launch on August 1, 2024, for students considering enrollment to NKU in the fall of 2025. High school students with a GPA above a 2.75 will be contacted about their direct admission, at which time they can begin the formal enrollment process.

"The Direct Admit Program is another example of how NKU is supporting our students and families within the region," says NKU President Cady Short-Thompson. "By offering direct admission to qualified students, we are leading the region and Commonwealth of Kentucky in what it means to be a higher education university in the 21st century."

COLLEGE CORNER

Two online programs in Northern Kentucky University's Haile College of Business have been ranked as top online programs in the country by U.S. News and World Report. Haile College's Master of Accountancy (MAcc) program is ranked No. 71 in the country, and the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is ranked No. 102.

This is the first time the Master of Accountancy program has made the list. In addition, NKU's online MBA program has been ranked No. 62 when it comes to MBA programs for veterans.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkuhaileonlineprograms>

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkudirectadmit>

**REAL AMBITION
REAL SUCCESS**



NKU LAUNCHES VETERAN LEADERSHIP MINOR, FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE REGION

Northern Kentucky University is launching groundbreaking Veteran Leadership minor, designed to recognize and credit the valuable skills and experiences gained by military and veteran students during their service in the military. This innovative program aims to bridge the gap between military training and higher education, allowing military students and veterans to translate their extensive knowledge and expertise into academic credit.

The Veteran Leadership minor acknowledges the unique leadership skills learned through military service. It will give students up to 21 credit hours toward their minor for Joint Service Training hours. That time spent learning and training in the military will now translate directly into a minor in Veteran Leadership. The only program of its kind in the region, NKU understands the immense dedication and sacrifice required of military personnel and aims to honor that commitment. "Our new Veteran Leadership minor not only honors the dedication of our military and veteran students but also recognizes the immense value they bring to our campus community," says Rusty Mardis, NKU coordinator of veteran student services. "It's an honor to be a part of this initiative, empowering our veterans to leverage their expertise and seamlessly transition into academic success. This minor will save our students time and money in their pursuit of a degree."

The Veteran Leadership minor will be available for veteran students starting in fall 2024. **LEARN MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/veteranleadershipminor>



THE SCOREBOARD

The Northern Kentucky University Athletics department welcomed eight new Norse greats into the David Lee Holt Hall of Fame with a special induction ceremony on the morning of Saturday, December 9, inside Truist Arena.

NKU Athletics celebrated the accomplishments and contributions of Christie Freppon (1987-81), Drew Harris (2007-09), Angie Lindeman (2002-05), Kevin Listerman (1995-99), Jeanna Martin (1998-01), Dave Middendorf (2008-11), Emily Schwaeble (2010-13) and Tom Walters (1992-96) in front of a packed crowd of family, friends, former teammates, former coaches and past and current administrators.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkuhalloffame>

BRIEFS

NKU TO MOVE DEADLINE DUE TO FAFSA DELAYS

Northern Kentucky University is moving the deadline for incoming freshman to accept merit scholarship awards from May 1, 2024, to June 1, 2024. This decision comes in response to the delays universities across the country are experiencing as the federal government navigates the changes implemented to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

NKU expects to start learning of financial awards for students beginning in mid-March and is committed to sending financial aid packages out as soon as possible.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkufafsadeadline>

NKU PROFESSOR APPOINTED AS SIGMA LIAISON TO UNITED NATIONS

NKU Associate Professor Dr. Jitana Benton-Lee received a prestigious appointment by Sigma Global Initiatives to the post of Sigma liaison to the United Nations.

A two-time graduate of Northern Kentucky University, Dr. Benton-Lee has been an associate professor at NKU in the School of Nursing since 2019. Dr. Benton-Lee has taught nearly a dozen different courses at NKU, including Health Care Policy, Quality Improvement Strategies, and Epidemiology and Population Health.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/drjitanabentonlee>

FACULTY FOCUS

The Haile College of Business at Northern Kentucky University proudly announces the dedication of a conference room in honor of the late Professor Sandra "Sandy" Easton. Professor Easton dedicated more than 30 years of her life to the pursuit of academic excellence and the advancement of knowledge within the business field. "We are honored to commemorate the legacy of Professor Easton through the dedication of this conference room," said Dr. Hassan HassabElnaby, dean of the Haile College of Business. "Her dedication to excellence and her family's continued support are testaments to the profound impact that individuals can have on our institution and the wider community."

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkusandyeaston>

NKU TO HOST FIRST KENTUCKY NATIONAL PERSONAL FINANCE CHALLENGE

Northern Kentucky University will host the inaugural Kentucky National Personal Finance Challenge, happening on NKU's campus in April. The National Personal Finance Challenge (NPFCC) is a nationwide competition that offers high school students the opportunity to build and demonstrate their knowledge in the concepts of earning income, spending, saving, investing, managing credit and managing risk.

The first round of the competition is an online 30-question challenge. The highest-scoring student teams will be invited to the state finals at NKU on April 5, 2024.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkufoundersday2024>

NKU RECEIVES DOZENS OF PIECES OF ART DEPICTING MOBY-DICK, LIKELY SETTING A RECORD

Northern Kentucky University is excited to announce a donation of 66 charcoal drawings interpreting Herman Melville's "Moby-Dick" by retired Boston College art professor and artist Aileen Callahan. With the addition of the new drawings, NKU likely has the largest collection of art depicting the literary classic at any college or university.

The new additions will be added to Steely Library's Special Collections, which already houses more than 200 works of art depicting "Moby-Dick."

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkumobydick>

ALUMNI NEWS

HOW I SHOW UP



Most days, Dr. Tynisha N. Worthy ('08, '21) splits her time between serving as director of organizational excellence at Youth at the Center, and teaching in Northern Kentucky University's Ed.D. program on a part-time basis. She credits her perspective to her eye-opening experiences at NKU.

"My experiences at NKU are core to how I show up in my work," she says. "In the MPA program, I had conversations with people from so many different experiences and disciplines. We explored ideas about how our government systems and nonprofit systems advance our ideals. Having those robust conversations helped me understand who I am, what I value and how I show up."

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/nkutynishaworthy>