EASTERN RISING

The EKU Colonel Scholars Academy

An Eastern Kentucky University Cohort Experience for High Performing High School Students
President’s Leadership in Action Academy 2014 / 2015

Dr. Scott Arias – Construction Management

Dr. Ryan Baggett – Homeland Security

Dr. Kellie Ellis – Communication Disorders

Mrs. Katherine Fair – Mathematics and Statistics

Dr. Tom Otieno – Arts and Sciences

Mrs. Jennifer Strauel – Human Resources
BACKGROUND

- President’s Leadership in Action Academy (2014/2015)
- 18 Faculty and Staff Participants
- Propose a Solution to a University Challenge
IDENTIFIED CHALLENGE

- Myriad of EKU Programs that focus on under-prepared students
- Higher retention and graduation rates of high-achieving students
- Losing academically gifted students in close proximity to other institutions
- EKU must develop a stronger pipeline of talented high-potential high school students
To provide a unique pre-college interdisciplinary opportunity for a small group of high-ability, intellectually mature and motivated high school students who exhibit a high potential for academic success and leadership.
ACADEMY OVERVIEW

Eligibility
• High School GPA of 3.5 or higher
• Demonstrated Interest and Success in College Prep Coursework
• Class Standing in Top 10%
• SAT of 1100 or higher or ACT of 25 or higher

Application
• Sophomore Year of High School
• Program Application
• High School Transcript
• Teacher Letter of Recommendation
• Personal Statement
• Resume
• Parental Permission Form

Cohort Size
• Maximum of Twenty Students Annually
• Preference to EKU’s 22 County Service Region
• Consideration for Diversity in Support of EKU’s Diversity Plan

Logistics
• Throughout School Year (at least one Friday and one Saturday during fall and spring semesters)
• One week residential summer camps
• Virtual programming on Blackboard
• Held at One of EKU’s Campuses

Staffing
• University Faculty and Staff
• Graduate Assistant / Student Worker
• Work closely with Students
• Faculty/Staff to Student Ratio: 1:4
JUNIOR YEAR – HIGH SCHOOL
- University Life
- Fields of Study Orientation
- Intro to Dual Credit / AP Testing
- Campus Tours
- Hands-On Demonstrations
- Scholarship and Financial Planning
- Philanthropy / Service
- Mentorships (Student / Faculty)
- Cultural / Recreational Events

SENIOR YEAR – HIGH SCHOOL
- Leadership Development Seminars
- Career-Related Job Shadowing
- Degree Identification and Planning
- Interactive Panels: University, Community and State
- Career Building / Internships
- Philanthropy / Service
- Mentorships (Student / Faculty)
- Cultural / Recreational Events

FR. / SOPH. – EKU
- Resume Writing
- Interview Skills
- Career Counseling
- Academic Success Seminars
- Serve as Mentors to Future Academy Participants
- Philanthropy / Service
- Mentorships (Student / Faculty)
- Cultural / Recreational Events
**STUDENT / PARTICIPANT BENEFITS**

- Scholarship Opportunities
- College Preparedness
- Social Opportunities
- Mentorship / Counselor Opportunities for Future Academies
- Resume Building Activity

**UNIVERSITY BENEFITS**

- Enhanced Visibility and Reputation
- Higher Enrollment of High Achieving College Ready Students
- Increased Graduation and Retention Rates
ESTIMATED ACADEMY COSTS

- Website Development
- Curriculum Development
- Faculty Coordinator
- Faculty Participants
- Graduate Assistantships / Student Workers
- EKU Participant Gear
- Catering / Facilities Expenses
- No Participant Costs Other than Travel / Incidentals
## METRICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enrollment</strong></td>
<td>• Number of Program Participants who ultimately enroll at EKU</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dual Credit</strong></td>
<td>• Program Participants who take dual credit at EKU while still in High School</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Program Satisfaction</strong></td>
<td>• Surveys from Participants, Parents and Schools</td>
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<td><strong>Retention Rates</strong></td>
<td>• Retention Rates of Students who complete the academy and then enroll at EKU</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Graduation Rates</strong></td>
<td>• Graduation Rate of Students who complete the academy and then enroll at EKU</td>
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NEXT STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- Program Faculty and Staff
- Funding Sources
- Curriculum / Program Development
- Marketing / Web Presence / Social Media
- Applications / Selection of Participants
- Logistics Coordination
- Continuous Improvement
QUESTIONS / COMMENTS ?

PLAA 14/15 TEAM: ARIAS, BAGGETT, ELLIS, FAIR, OTIENO & STRAUEL