ALLERGY IMMUNOTHERAPY ON CAMPUS
BY ROBIN BADING, HEALTH, COUNSELING & PREVENTION SERVICES

NKU’s Health, Counseling & Prevention Services is happy to announce a service that many parents have requested. If your son or daughter is currently receiving Allergy Immunotherapy (allergy shots), arrangements can be made to have the injections administered in our office. This service will be available to students who have previously had allergy testing and already have their allergy serum. Our office will follow the instructions and protocol ordered by your allergy practitioner at home and we will store your allergy serum in our lab.

To be eligible to receive allergy injections through our office, you will first need to have your doctor complete a referral agreement and schedule a physical examination with our nurse practitioner, Amy Fathman, APRN.

Visit the Health, Counseling & Prevention Services website at http://hcp.nku.edu/healthservices/npservices.php to download the necessary forms and read more information about our policy for the administration of allergy immunotherapy.

HAS A QUESTION OR FEEDBACK FOR NKU?

The Office of New Student Orientation & Parent Programs wants to partner with parents to best serve our NKU students. If you have a question, concern or just a comment you would like to share, e-mail our office at parents@nku.edu.

Parents can also connect with their peers through the Parent Advisory Board through our facebook page at www.facebook.com/nkuparents. To get assistance from a Parent Advisory Board member, visit their website at http://orientation.nku.edu/parent/pab.php
College textbooks are expensive! So what’s new? Textbooks costs have burdened college students for decades. What’s new are the many options that now exist to acquiring them. Here in The Student Achievement Center, Early Alert Specialists meet frequently with students during the initial weeks of the semester to help them sort through their options and to find resources to make college textbooks more affordable.

IMPORTANT: It is critical for college success that students start the semester with their college textbooks. To delay the purchase of critical textbooks can be a recipe for disaster as students get further and further behind by not attending class prepared having done the readings or homework.

How to sort through the options:

The First Step is knowledge of which books to purchase. The NKU campus bookstore maintains a website where students can find exactly which textbooks faculty are requiring for specific sections. Students have the option of purchasing all of their textbooks through the NKU Campus Bookstore. Keep in mind that faculty will go over the textbook requirements during the first week of classes. Any specific questions should be directed to them. Textbooks purchased unnecessarily may be returned at cost for a limited time in the beginning of the semester provided they remain in pristine condition.

The Second Step is price comparison. Textbooks are available through multiple sources, both brick and mortar stores and online. Clearinghouse websites function for textbooks like Hotels.com functions for room rates. Students see an array of vendors and prices and can choose the lowest price.

The Third Step is knowing the alternatives.

- Used textbooks: They can also offer significant savings, although, it is important to pay attention to the edition number. Consult with the individual faculty before purchasing an older edition!

- Rentals: A recent trend in textbook sales, companies, including the NKU campus bookstore, offer students this cost-cutting option with the option to purchase.

- eBooks: Increasingly textbook companies are offering online versions of traditional textbooks. Access codes to these books are purchased often with an expiration date.

- Libraries: The NKU Steely Library offers services to faculty and students such as The Reserve Desk and Net Library. Both services offer access to textbooks free of charge but for limited amounts of time.

Early Alert’s mission is to assist students eliminate barriers to persistence. The expense of textbooks can be one such barrier. With that in mind, Early Alert offers a Lending Library service to students in need. We have a holding of nearly 500 volumes that we have gathered almost exclusively by donation from faculty, staff, and students.

Would you like to help? Please ask your student to donate textbooks to the EA Lending Library once finals are over. We can offer you a receipt for tax purposes.
PARENTS & FAMILIES CAN MENTOR LOCAL CHILDREN
BY LYNN CAMERON, BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GREATER CINCINNATI

In February newsletter, parents were encouraged to volunteer in the community, and it also mentioned a fundraiser for children who have a parent in prison.

This month, we would like to combine those two opportunities and ask parents and families to consider mentoring a child who has a parent in prison (or any child in need of a role model). Big Brothers Big Sisters can help solve your empty nest syndrome by matching you with a child who needs positive companionship. Bigs can go to their little’s sporting events, fishing, bowling, to the park, teach them to scrapbook, etc.

Commitment to Big Brothers Big Sisters only takes an hour a week, on average, and local parents can mentor throughout the tri-state, either in the community or in one of our site-based programs (Cincinnati, Newport, and Cold Spring).

For more information, parents can contact Lynn Cameron at Cameron@bigsforkids.org or visit the website for the Greater Cincinnati Chapter at www.bigsforkids.org. Non-local parents can learn more about a Big Brothers Big Sisters chapter in their area at www.bbbs.org.

NKU’S MUSIC PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT
BY TONI SHEFFER, DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FACULTY

Were you aware that you and/or any member of your family can study music through the NKU Music Preparatory Department as a member of the community for no credit? Classes begin with pre-school Xylo Zoo and Suzuki Violin & Cello and continue through varieties of offerings for all ages. Private lessons are also offered in piano, voice, harp, guitar & guitar ensemble, percussion, wind instruments, string instruments and even fiddlin’, mandolin, and banjo. We do live in the Bluegrass state after all!

The Music Preparatory Department is also home to the Northern Kentucky Children’s Ensemble/Youth Ensemble which provides choral opportunities for singers from grades 2-12, including a great training ground in the Prep Choir, grades 2-5, covering “Voice for the Young Singer”, as well as performance and travel opportunities for the older groups. If violin, viola, cello, or bass is of interest, check your area Northern Kentucky schools where we house Beginning Strings after school, graduating into orchestras here at NKU, including Prep Strings, Concert Strings, Northern Kentucky Youth Orchestra, and Northern Kentucky Youth Sinfonia.

For more information, contact Ellen Stephens at stephense2@nku.edu or 859.572.7737 or Toni Sheffer at sheffer@nku.edu. Parents can also learn more or register online at http://musicprep.nku.edu.

TIP OF THE MONTH

March is priority registration! Priority registration is the early registration period for currently enrolled students.

Remind your student to schedule an advising appointment prior to their priority registration window. Some students will have advising holds that will not allow them to register for fall 2011 classes until they meet with their advisor.

To determine your student’s priority registration window, visit http://registrar.nku.edu/registration/priority.php

Contact Us:
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