

June – August 2019

Inside this issue:

Outstanding Participant Edina Purser	1-2
Outstanding Participant Eric Vazquez	3
Recent Campus Visits	4
Congratulations!	5
ASL & PTK Graduates	6
CKEOC's Class of 2019 Graduates	7-12
ACT Dates	13
BCC Information	14
GED Info & CKEOC Staff and locations	15
CKEOC Information	16

Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center



CKEOC Outstanding Participant: Edina Purser

When Edina Purser came to the United States from Hungary as the newlywed spouse of a soldier, she spoke very little English. She knew that language would be a significant barrier, but because education was such an important goal for her, she got to work right away. With hard work, perseverance, support from her husband, and help from television, college staff, and TRiO-Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center (CKEOC), Edina has already achieved so much. With a Certificate in Veterinary Medicine and an Associate of Science in Liberal Studies already under her belt, Edina has just put the finishing touches on a Bachelor's of Science in Social Science with a minor in Psychology.

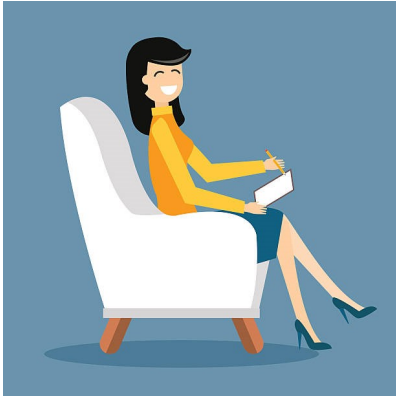
In order to overcome the language barrier, Edina turned to a more non-traditional method. Edina explains, "My English skills were self-taught by watching TV sitcoms with sub-titles all the time. With hard work and a lot of frustration I learned how to speak, read, and write enough to pursue my education." Unfortunately, as soon as she was ready to start college, she was confronted by another barrier. Edina needed a high-school transcript in order to start her college program. She had a high school education from her native country, but there were several issues in trying to get her transcript translated to a format that schools would accept. Edina relates, "At that point I thought it would be better to get my education here. So, I went back to school and received my GED Diploma from College America."



Edina Purser



CKEOC Outstanding Participant: Edina Purser Cont.



With all barriers removed, she then enrolled at the Colorado Academy of Veterinary Technology, eventually graduating with a Certificate of Veterinary Medicine.

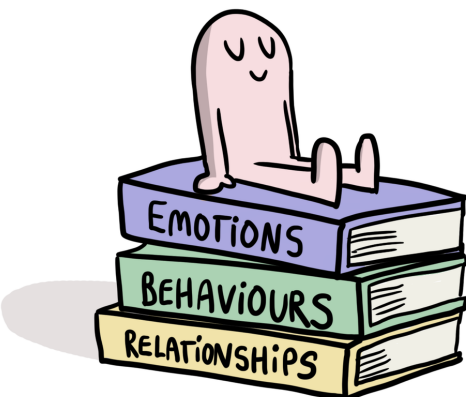
When Edina’s husband, Scot, received orders to Fort Riley, KS, Edina decided to return to school – this time to pursue an Associate’s degree in Liberal Studies at Barton Community College. It was during her time at Barton that she was referred to CKEOC by her academic advisor to receive assistance with the transition to a Bachelor’s Degree program. CKEOC staff assisted her with weighing her options and applying for federal aid.

With funding in place, Edina was able to make the transition from Barton Community College to Upper Iowa University. Edina conveyed, “CKEOC helped me every time I had a question about something. I am very thankful for having such a helpful person at hand who cares about people and their education. Without CKEOC and the staff I would not have known how or where to go to get any kind of government funding to keep going with my education. If the CKEOC advisor wouldn’t have shown me the way, I possibly would have stopped at the Associate in Science degree.”

Thankfully she did continue her education and proudly walked the stage recently to receive her Bachelors of Science in Social Science with a Minor in Psychology. Edina’s primary career goal will require her to now take the next step in her education. She explains, “I am going to now pursue a Master’s Degree in Social Work. My dream is to become a counselor or therapist and open up my own practice so that I can help people.”



When reflecting on her education, Edina remembers the challenges. She recounts, “Many times it was very hard for me with English being my second language. A lot of times I did not understand what the professors were talking about, but college made me stronger and smarter. It made me realize I can do anything and has given me friends and people I know I can count on when I call.” In closing, Edina indicated, “I would like to thank my husband, family and friends for their continued support. I also want to recognize my Barton Academic Advisor, Sicilee Lansbury, Psychology Instructor, Angela Campbell, CKEOC advisor Ray Kruse, and Cecelia Mallams and Andrea Guilday from Upper Iowa University who all helped me to get me where I am today.”



Outstanding Participant: Eric Vazquez



Eric and Crystal Vazquez

TRiO – Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center (CKEOC) first met with Eric, a recent graduate of Great Bend High School, in September 2018 at a CKEOC workshop introducing program services to his Jobs for America’s Graduates – Kansas (JAG*K) class. His participation in JAG*K was helpful because the program provides guest speakers from different career fields, giving students an understanding of what types of jobs are available. At this point, Eric had already taken a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) class as well as some General Education Courses at Barton Community College. Focused and motivated, Eric was already thinking about college and a career beyond high school.

After learning about CKEOC through participation in the JAG*K program, Eric and his mother made an appointment to complete the FAFSA, fill out scholarship applications, and apply for admission to Barton Community College. Since this first appointment, he has continued to meet with CKEOC staff and take advantage of services. Eric indicated that CKEOC “is a great program” which has “helped me a lot!”



Eric currently works at Great Bend Health & Rehab Center as a CNA. This experience, along with the satisfaction he receives from helping others, has helped guide him to select healthcare as his academic focus. He is considering Medical Lab Technician and Licensed Practical Nursing as his educational choices. Regardless of which program of study he selects at Barton Community College, his main goals are to do something he enjoys, be able to find employment, and get paid well for his work. Eric adds his experience at Barton thus far has been “pretty great!”

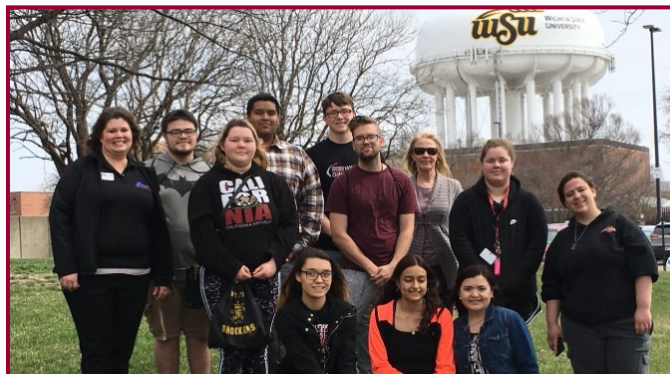
Now that Eric is transitioning to post-secondary education, he hopes to continue being active in and out of the classroom. In high school he made contributions to the school district by serving as a translator, as well as interpreting for parents during conferences. These activities contributed to his earning the Seal of Biliteracy - an award given by a school, school district, or state in recognition of students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation. Eric was successful in the classroom and in sports balancing academic and athletic pursuits in wrestling, basketball, and football.



When Eric’s time isn’t occupied by work or school, he enjoys spending time with his family and friends. His family consists of his father, mother, and younger sister, Crystal, who will be a senior at GBHS in the fall. Eric wants to “just try to reach the top because my parents never had this opportunity.” His ambition for success and achievement is an example for others to follow. CKEOC is pleased to assist Eric in accomplishing his goals and is pleased to name him an Outstanding Participant.

Recent Campus Visits

One of the excellent free services provided by The Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center (CKEOC) is college campus visits and they sure have kept the Great Bend office busy for the last two months! Three campus visits at Barton Community College and one at Wichita State University were arranged and supervised by CKEOC Program Director, Susie Burt and Secretary, Kendall Meyer. These recent campus visits have included participants from three CKEOC partner organizations: Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG*K) at Great Bend High School, Barton Academy, and Barton Community College Center For Adult Education. All three programs are focused on assisting their participants with receiving high school diplomas to help them either enter the workforce or move on to obtaining a post-secondary education. CKEOC works hands-on with all of these local programs, providing workshops and assistance to make the transition to college as seamless and stress-free as possible for the participants.



JAG*K participants pictured with instructor Jennifer Hopkins and CKEOC Director Susie Burt at WSU



Adult education participants receiving a tour of Barton Community College by a student ambassador

Not only were participants given a tour of campus and student areas, but all of the campus visits included valuable discussions with student ambassadors and advisors. These ambassadors provide helpful information concerning college life and their enthusiastic attitudes demonstrate how welcoming and fun college can be! During advisor discussions, students are explained all the different types of education they have the potential to receive such as: certificate/vocational, associate, and bachelor programs. Financial Aid is also touched on to help participants understand how to obtain funds for an affordable (and hopefully debt-free) education. Campus visit attendees are also explained the wide array of class options that are offered, including online and evening classes, to help them receive an education that works with their busy schedules. Participants always seem surprised and

encouraged by the amount of student services college campuses deliver. Services such as tutoring, counseling, campus jobs, and social clubs/events help provide the support students need in order to succeed in college. The campus visits do a great job of keeping the participants involved and receptive of the information they receive and the students always ask the speakers valuable questions.

CKEOC staff always look forward to providing campus visits and enjoy working with these local programs that do so much to help improve the lives and educations of their participants! CKEOC would also like to thank Barton Community College for their continued support of providing meals and transportation for these campus visits.



Barton Academy participants receiving discussion by Barton Community College advisor

Congratulations!



Class of
2019

CKEOC Congratulates ASL and PTK Graduates

Graduating members of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the world's largest and most prestigious honor society for two-year college students and Alpha Sigma Lambda (ASL), a national honorary that celebrates the scholarship and leadership of adult students, are being recognized for their accomplishments. CKEOC would like to recognize its participants that count themselves as members of these prestigious organizations.



First In Scholarship & Leadership

Travis Wallace



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

Barton Fort Riley Chapter President - Vera Gaer

Elvia Beck

Samantha Griewahn

Kyle Bridges

Jade Whiterock

2019 CKEOC GRADUATES

Barton County Academy

Iris Agustin
Ana Bravo-Gonzalez
Corbin Cale
Maribel Hernandez

Barton Community College Center for Adult Education

Leonard Alvarez
Daniel Ayala
Jesse Bellany
Darren Bobo
Dillan Bowlby
John Brown
Bryan Butler
Bradlee Campbell
Tyler Campos
Juan Cantu
Steve Cherry
Bryan Corral
Ana Cramer
Charles Cunningham
Roger Duckett
Christopher Dunn
Charles Everett
Chase Garnett
Ryan Greve
Kourtney Haggerty
Brandon Hamilton
James Harrington-Booth
David Hatcher
Sarah Hauser
Jessie Hayslett
Ronald Haywood
David Headgepath

Adam Hersh
Marco Hinoestroza
Rashaad Hollingsworth
Jamaul Holmes
Anthony Hooks
Tristin Howard
Jerry Jett
Johnny Keener
Cody Keeton
Justin Kendrick
Karltez Lewis
Nathaniel Lewis
Freddy Leyva
Jerrid Logan
Justin Martinez
Jacob May
Peter McSpadden
Zoalton McWilliams
Jack Mockerman
Matthew Nimmo
Daedrionna Perez
Osvaldo Pinedo
Jason Poje
Kristy Pollock
Carolina Ramirez Hernandez
Juan Ramos
Talyn Rhoades
Philip Rine
Frankie Lee Rodriguez
Austin Rose
Arion Russell
Christopher Sader
Jacob Sanders
Chayce Sargent
Brandon Scott



2019 CKEOC GRADUATES

Angel Serrano
Zachariah Sharp
Darius Silas
Derrick Smith
Justin Smith
Dalton Spinner
Juleon Thomas
Moises Trevizo
Moises Villa
Dasjon Washington
Timothy White
Mercedes Darnell Williams
Teondre Young
Isaac Zambrano
Central Plains High School
Paxton Hammeke
Chase High School
Trinity Williams
Great Bend High School
Isiah Gilliam
Bryce Greene
Annelly Valdovinos
Great Bend High School
JAG*K
Kourtney Adams
Yulizza Barrera
Natalie Garza
Nicole Haberman
Jesseca Hames
Jacob Lane
Hunter McEachern
Mikyla Meza
Fernando Moreno

Monika Perales
Emily Perez
Koryn Ramsey
Destiny Sanchez
Eric Vazquez
Searra Vsetecka
Jace Whetham
Cierra Wood
Jamal Wright
Dominik Zimmerman
Hays High School
Jazmin Juhan
Mia Phillips
Lucas Rupke
Taylor Schiffelbein
**Learning Center of Ellis
County**
Kira Denny
Sofia Edmonds
Jazmine Harper
Hayden Giebler
Lacy Miller
Spencer Munk
Jada Waldschmidt
Nicole Welch
**Manhattan Area Technical
College Adult Learning
Center**
Bridget Davis
Samantha Kinderknecht
Melevaihi Mauga
Francisco Palomino
Brittany Thomas



2019 CKEOC GRADUATES

Russell High School

Baily Dauer-Cable
Tiffany Dortland
Joshua Foster
Brandon Fowler
Kyler Fritschen
Tayla Goodenough
Hannah Gruber
Cara Hardie
Megan Hare
Clayton Huffman
Glen Law
Braden Mai
Brenda Neal
Brayden Nuss
Caden Pfeifer
Austin Price
Skylar Steinle
Mackenzie Thomas
Tyler Whipple
Trevor White
Cassandra White

Stockton High School

Savanna Baumgart

Barton Community

College

Susana Aguirre Recinos
Demetrius Alexander
Andrew Allwood
Susana Amos
Elvia Beck
Dillan Bowlby
Lauren Breedon

John Brown
Tristan Byers
Louie Cabrera
Bradlee Campbell
Keyama Carter
Steve Cherry
Robert Cox
Brandon Cunningham
Drew Danner
Jeffrey Echeverri
Michael Eichhorn
Neandra Ellis
Andres Escarcega
Jessica Estrada
Angelica Escobedo
Kristin Fairbank
Nicole Florio
Jayden Flowers
Jerome Forbes
Eric Foryah
Joshua Foster
Jamahal Fountain
Marilu Garcia
Vera Gaer
Amanda Gallardo
Erick Gitonga
Angela Gray
Samantha Griewahn
Eben Guerin



2019 CKEOC GRADUATES

Ivan Gutierrez
Adam Hagestein
Ronald Haywood
Mickel Henson
Dennis Herbin
Jenise Hiram
Danielle Hoapili
Anthony Hooks
Angela Irvine
Melanie Jeter
Jerry Jett
Ginny Klitzing
Tabitha Krick
Stephanie Langer
Yailin Langomas
Linda Lavigne
Jerrid Logan
Emilio Lopez
Cristina Lugo
Tiffany Martin
Justin Martinez
Kaitlin Maxon
Andrea Montes
Paige Morgan
Eden Mulligan
James Naab Frizzell
Matthew Nimmo
Gavin Odell

Boluwatife Obaniyi
Christopher Pafford Marcum
Osvaldo Pinedo
Roy Prevatte
German Ramirez
Jordan Rector
Donald Reid
Edwin Reyes
Frankie Rodriguez
Laura Sanchez
Angel Serrano
Kejuan Shugart
Justin Smith
Danielle Tetteh
Juleon Thomas
Danny Tran
Darci Vercher
Joana Vicuna
Moises Villa
Travis Wallace
Michael Ware
Dasjon Washington
Jade Whiterock
Mercedes Williams
Marianna Wright
Teondre Young
Isaac Zambrano
Amber Zordel



2019 CKEOC GRADUATES

Central Texas College

David Bari
Sean Frazier
John Kane

Cloud County Community College

Christopher Adams

Fort Hays State University

Nicole Dankenbring
Merritt Hammeke

Hutchinson Community College

Andrew Allwood
Danielle Williams
Tasha Gray
Elizabeth Wambua

Kansas State University

Gene Coker
Michael Eichhorn
Logan Medrano
Scott Millar
Cesar Rivera

Manhattan Area Technical College

Cory Anderson
Katelyn Coker
Kyle Bridges
Jeffery Dancy
Christopher Griffin
John Kane
Samuel Righter
Christina Rodriguez
Jacob Sanderson

Denton Tajchman Chudney Williams North Central Kansas Technical College

Rachel Gilbert
Austin Seltmann
James Coleman
Robert Yost
Lindsey Villarreal
Demetria McCoy
Chloe Beougher
Whytney Herrman
Crista Michaud
Michelle Snell

Christopher Erickson Southwestern College

Elizabeth Lancaster
University of Kansas
Shea Curley
Andee Marquardt
Sierra Mortimer

Upper Iowa University

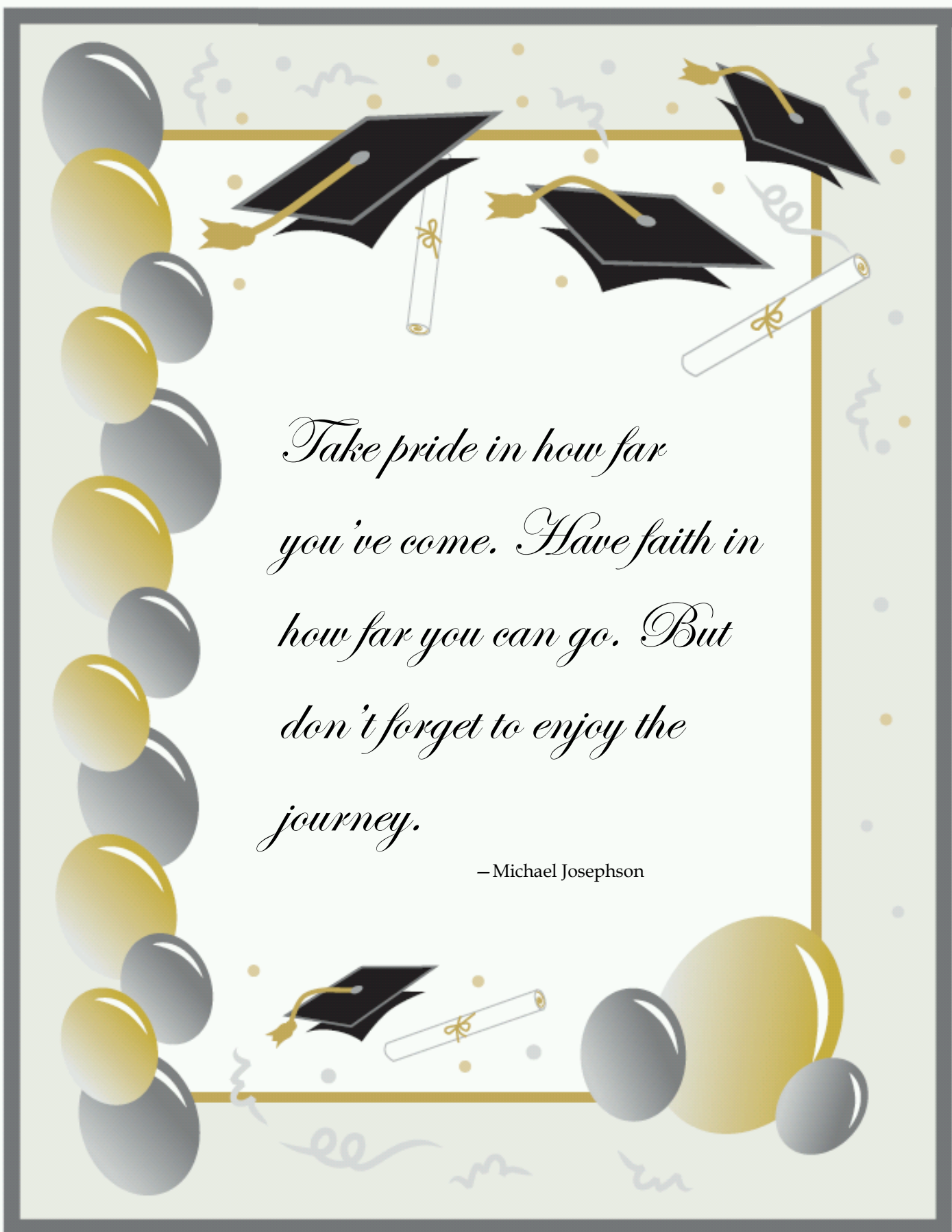
Grace Antillon
Laura Blaga
Jasmine Dickerson
Charles Fisher
Keith Gaither
Edina Purser

Washburn University

Aldrick Scott

2019



A decorative border surrounds the central text. On the left side, there is a vertical column of alternating yellow and grey oval shapes. At the top and bottom, there are clusters of these oval shapes. The background is light grey with scattered yellow and grey dots and wavy lines. In the upper and lower corners, there are illustrations of black graduation caps with gold tassels and rolled-up white diplomas tied with gold ribbons.

*Take pride in how far
you've come. Have faith in
how far you can go. But
don't forget to enjoy the
journey.*

—Michael Josephson

ACT Test Dates

If you or someone you know are planning to attend a post-secondary college in 2019-2020, it is time to mark your calendar for the following dates for the ACT test. ACT is still approving dates for this fall. Information will be available in the near future.

The following ACT test centers will provide the ACT:

Abilene	Abilene High School	June 8	
Clay Center	Clay Center Community High School	TBD	
Concordia	Cloud County Community College	June 8	July 13
Great Bend	Barton Community College	TBD	
Hays	Fort Hays State University	TBD	
	Hays High School	June 8	
Hoisington	Hoisington High School	TBD	
Junction City	Junction City High School	June 8	
Manhattan	Kansas State University	June 8	July 13
	Manhattan High School	TBD	
Marysville	Marysville High School	TBD	
Pratt	Pratt Community College	June 8	
Russell	Russell High School	TBD	
Salina	Kansas Wesleyan University	June 8	July 13
	Salina High School South	June 8	
Wamego	Wamego High School	June 8	

You may register online or by mail. The online address is www.actstudent.org and you can request a registration packet from ACT.





MAIN CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

Jul 4 4th of July (Campus Closed)
 July 29 Summer Classes End (All Sessions)
 Aug 2 Fall 2019 Registration End
 Aug 5-9 Fall Late Registration
 Aug 14 Fall 2019 Classes Begin
 Aug 23 Last Day For Full Refund
 Sep 2 Labor Day (Campus Closed)



BARTonline Summer Session 3
 June 24 – Aug 4 (6 Weeks)
 BARTonline Fall Session 1
 Aug 12 – Oct 6 (8 Weeks)
 BARTonline Fall Session 2
 Aug 19 – Dec 8 (16 Weeks)

FORT RILEY CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

LSEC CYCLE 6 AUG 1 — SEPT 13
 LSEC CYCLE 7 SEPT 16 — OCT 28

Check with CKEOC for Forthcoming Enrollment Start Dates
 1st Day of Class—Last Day to Enroll (All)

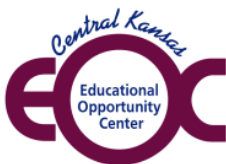
COLLEGE PROGRAM CYCLE 5 AUG 7 — OCT 1
 COLLEGE PROGRAM CYCLE 4 OCT 9 — DEC 3

Check with EOC Staff for Forthcoming Enrollment Start Dates
 1st Day of Class—Last Day to Enroll (All)

CKEOC STAFF AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU WITH QUESTIONS & EOC SERVICES

Mark Ricketts
 Academic Advisor

Kendall Meyer
 Secretary and Data Specialist



Ray Kruse
 Coordinator and Academic Advisor

Mary Shane
 Secretary and Data Specialist

**CENTRAL KANSAS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER IS PROUD TO BE A PART OF
 BARTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO SUPPORTS OUR PROGRAM AND SERVES AS
 OUR HOST INSTITUTION**

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE:

Barton Community College is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
 Visit equal.bartonccc.edu for more information.

GED Class Orientation

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Dates:</u>	<u>Contact Number:</u>
BCC/Great Bend 1025 Main St.	July 22 – 25 September 23 – 26	620-793-5794
Cloud CCC – Geary County Campus 631 Caroline Ave, Junction City	August 7 – 8	785-238-8010
Hays 1011 Fort St. (Corrections Building)	August 13	785-460-5486
Manhattan 3136 Dickens Ave	August 20 – 22	785-320-4845
Salina 2620 Centennial Road	July 9 – 13	785-309-4660

*Please note GED Orientations may have a sign-up window prior to the actual orientation date.
Please contact the orientation location for more information



CKEOC Staff and Locations

Great Bend

1025 Main St
620-793-8164

Grandview Plaza

100 Continental Ave
785-238-5200

Project Director

Susie Burt

Academic Advisor

Mark Ricketts

Secretary/Data Specialist

Kendall Meyer

Coordinator/Academic Advisor

Ray Kruse

Secretary/Data Specialist

Mary Shane



1025 Main Street
Great Bend, KS 67530

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About CKEOC



The Educational Opportunity Center is 100% funded by the U.S. Department of Education and is one of eight TRiO programs. TRiO began with Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, in response to the administration's War on Poverty.

TRiO programs include eight outreach and support programs targeted to help disadvantaged students progress from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs.



33 Counties Served by CKEOC

Barton	Mitchell	Rice
Clay	Morris	Riley
Cloud	Ness	Rooks
Dickenson	Norton	Rush
Ellis	Osborne	Russell
Ellsworth	Ottawa	Saline
Geary	Pawnee	Smith
Graham	Phillips	Stafford
Jewell	Pottawatomie	Trego
Lincoln	Pratt	Wabaunsee
Marshall	Republic	Washington