



OCTOBER RESOURCES & UPDATES

News for KCHA residents

This month: College Unbound opens to KCHA residents and voucher participants, and free internet is coming to subsidized housing in Auburn. Plus the new online portal, steps toward owning a home and KCHA job openings. KCHA's Yardi software transition ends October 5, so some services may take longer until then.

October 1 marks the start of the federal government's 2027 fiscal year.

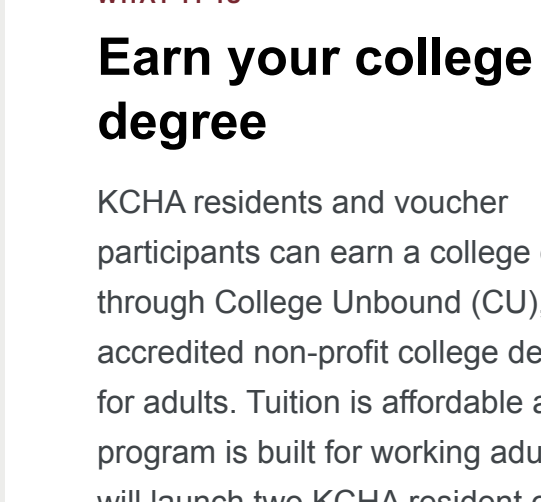
[Learn about federal funding and policy](#)

KCHA will be conducting a resident survey coming in November.

Watch for more information in your email inbox and around KCHA properties.

BIG NEWS FOR RESIDENTS

College Unbound for KCHA Residents



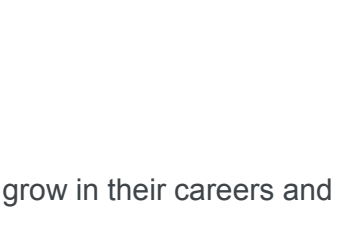
COLLEGE UNBOUND

ALL LEARNERS WELCOME

WHAT IT IS

Earn your college degree

KCHA residents and voucher participants can earn a college degree through College Unbound (CU), an accredited non-profit college designed for adults. Tuition is affordable and the program is built for working adults. CU will launch two KCHA resident cohorts in January. **Scholarships are available for up to 20 residents.**



- Scholars gain the skills and credentials to grow in their careers and increase their earning potential.
- College credit awarded for learning, and credentials you've earned in the past helping you graduate faster and at a lower cost.
- Courses are online. Your cohort meets in the community, so you can go to school full time and keep working.

WHY IT MATTERS

A degree can open new doors

2.2 years

average time to BA completion

\$13K+

average salary increase

38 years

old

average age of CU student

Figures reported by College Unbound, as of May 2025.

BEFORE YOU START

Plan for the time it takes

College Unbound is built around working adults, but earning a degree still takes real time and effort. Here is what a semester looks like.

Semester	16 weeks, split into two 8-week sessions.
Student cohorts	Your cohort of six to ten students meets for three hours a week.
In person	The cohort meets in person four times a semester, with dinner provided.
Instructional courses	Each course runs 1.5 hours a week. Most courses are 8 weeks long.
Family support	Childcare support may be available when at least five children over age 5 need care. Parenting students can receive a \$150 childcare stipend each semester.

READY TO APPLY?

How to get started

What you need: A GED, high school diploma or equivalent. There are no test scores and no application fee.

Don't have a diploma or GED yet?

Contact your Resident Services Coordinator to find a program that helps you prepare for and earn your GED.

- 01** Attend an information session. College Unbound holds one online every Wednesday.
- 02** Apply online in less than 15 minutes. A Community Ambassador will then contact you to answer your questions.
- 03** Send your transcripts. If you need help finding them, College Unbound can help.
- 04** Meet your classmates at orientation and get ready to start classes.

[Register for an info session](#)

Connect with an admissions advisor

Jordana Hoyt • [206-702-1178](tel:206-702-1178) • jordana.hoyt@collegeunbound.edu

Start your application

The form takes less than 15 minutes.

Apply for federal aid

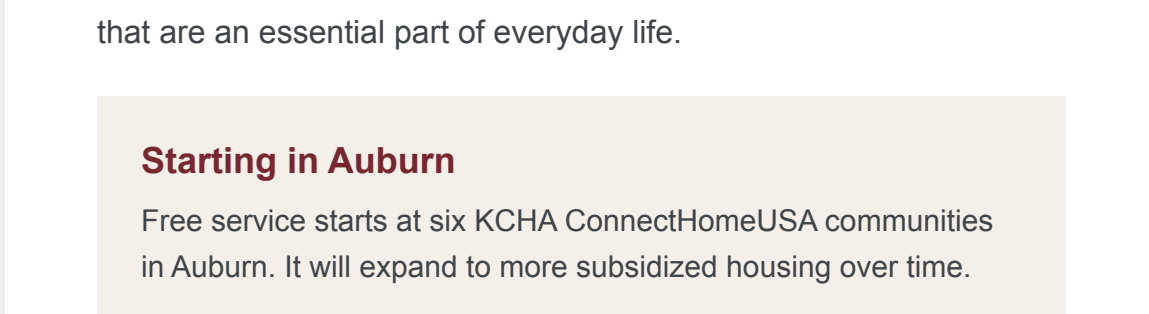
Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Use the CU FAFSA Federal School Code 042836.

About College Unbound

Visit the college's website.

MORE BIG NEWS

Free Internet Is Coming to Auburn



KCHA is partnering with Comcast to provide free internet access for subsidized housing residents. This new partnership makes the cost of living just a little bit more affordable for our lower-income neighbors, and ensures that everyone can use the online services that are an essential part of everyday life.

Starting in Auburn

Free service starts at six KCHA ConnectHomeUSA communities in Auburn. It will expand to more subsidized housing over time.

- **Firwood Circle**
- **Burndale Homes**
- **Northwood Square**
- **Gustaves Manor**
- **Plaza 17**
- **Wayland Arms**

What is ConnectHomeUSA? It's a national program from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It helps families in subsidized housing get online, get devices and learn digital skills. [Learn about ConnectHomeUSA](#)

Don't live at one of these communities? This free service is for subsidized housing residents and will reach more properties over time. See "Get Ready for the New Portal" below for low-cost internet and laptop options.

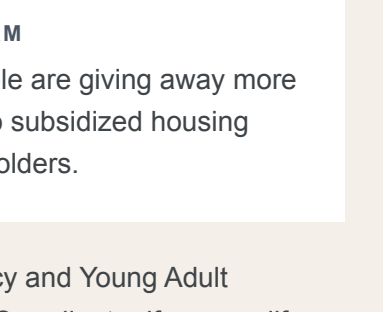
COMING MID-2027

Get Ready for the New Portal

WHAT'S CHANGING

Manage your KCHA account online starting in mid-2027

In mid-2027, you'll be able to manage your KCHA account online. You and your landlord will use the portal to update housing information and complete some tasks.



You'll need internet and a phone, tablet or computer. The resources below can help everyone get ready.

270+

free laptops

KCHA LAPTOP PROGRAM

KCHA and PCs for People are giving away more than **270 free laptops** to subsidized housing residents and voucher holders.

The laptops support KCHA's Family Self-Sufficiency and Young Adult Prosperity programs. Ask your Resident Services Coordinator if you qualify.

WAYS TO GET CONNECTED

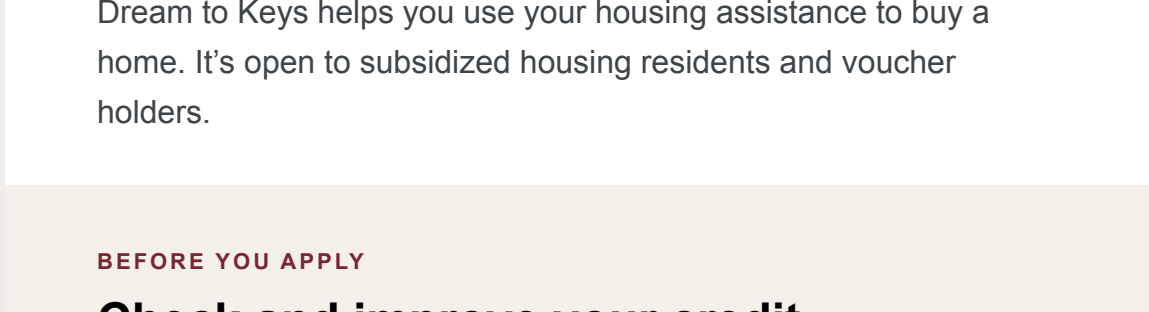
Tech Connect Devices and technology training through YWCA, Neighborhood House and PCs for People. **Tech Connect is open to all KCHA residents and voucher holders. Services are at Firwood Circle and Burndale Homes in Auburn.**

PCs for People Low-cost computers and internet service for people who qualify. [Learn more](#)

Local libraries Free computer and internet access is available at many local libraries.

HOMEOWNERSHIP

Dream to Keys



A PATH TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

Turning housing assistance into homeownership

Dream to Keys helps you use your housing assistance to buy a home. It's open to subsidized housing residents and voucher holders.

BEFORE YOU APPLY

Check and improve your credit

Your credit score affects your interest rate and which home loans you can get. If you're thinking about Dream to Keys, check your credit now and work toward a score of at least **620**.

CHECK YOUR CREDIT

You can get a free credit report from each of the three major credit agencies.

[Experian](#) • [Equifax](#) • [TransUnion](#)

[Check your credit reports](#)

WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR CREDIT

- 01** Pay all bills on time.
- 02** Pay down credit card balances. Using less than 30% of your available credit can help.
- 03** Dispute any errors you find on your credit report.

UPCOMING

Dream to Keys information sessions

November 12 Noon [Register](#)

For eligibility details, [visit the Dream to Keys webpage](#) or email DreamToKeys@kcha.org.

CAREERS AT KCHA

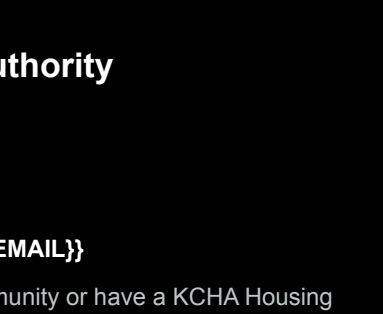
Explore a Career with KCHA

JOIN OUR TEAM

KCHA is hiring. Here's where to start.

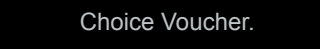
We encourage residents to explore our open positions. You'll find stable jobs with good benefits in maintenance, customer service, administration and more.

[Search KCHA job openings](#)



Follow KCHA

Follow us for upcoming events, resources, opportunities and other KCHA updates.



King County Housing Authority

600 Andover Park West
Tukwila, WA 98188

This email was sent to **{{contact.EMAIL}}**

You received this email because you live in a KCHA community or have a KCHA Housing Choice Voucher.

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