GO FIGURE

$583,000
How much more an NKU graduate earns on average during their lifetime than a non-degree holder.

23.3
Projected average ACT score for incoming freshman class, up from 20.7 in 2005.

20%
Increase in NKU applicants from fall 2012 to fall 2013.

NKU NO. 1 IN KENTUCKY FOR RETURN ON INVESTMENT

NKU has been recognized by AffordableCollegesOnline.org as having the greatest lifetime return on investment among Kentucky's colleges and universities. The organization analyzed 114 Kentucky colleges and ranked 11 institutions based on their return on investment according to PayScale’s 2013 College Value Report as well as other factors such as full accreditation, public or private status and four-year degree-granting status. NKU tops the list as providing graduates with the largest earnings difference compared to non-degree holders over 30 years.

“As we continue our strategic planning process, student success has been a central focus for the university,” said NKU President Geoffrey Mearns. “One measure of student success is graduating with the skills and experience needed to launch a successful career. This ranking is an acknowledgment that we offer tremendous educational quality for current and prospective students.”

AC Online consulted a series of highly respected, authoritative data sets such as those provided by the National Center for Education Statistics and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System in developing its state rankings. It also considered Carnegie classifications to represent and control for institutional differences and ensure for adequate representation of sampled institutions, students and faculty. It gathered salary data from Payscale.com. The organization also considered tuition and fees.

The full Kentucky rankings and other information are available at http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/online-colleges/kentucky.

COLLEGE CORNER

A new NKU online graduate degree program is designed to meet the region's need for highly skilled allied healthcare workers. The Master of Science in Health Science will enroll its first students in January, and the degree is available in a fully online format.

According to the healthcare career website explorehealthcarecareers.org, there are 5 million allied health care providers in the U.S. working in more than 80 different professions. They represent about 60 percent of all healthcare providers. The site emphasizes, though, that "this is just a drop in the bucket in terms of how many allied healthcare workers are needed to meet current and future healthcare needs in America."

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The program provides the skills needed across a broad spectrum of allied health professions. Graduates who earn their NKU MS in health science might pursue careers in education and training in respiratory care, radiologic technology, or other allied health disciplines; management and leadership positions or; or application specialists for vendors servicing the healthcare industry. In addition, graduates will have acquired the skills and expertise to plan, develop and implement innovative and quality healthcare services. In keeping with NKU’s focus of an applied degree, student will be required to take a semester-long internship in their geographic area and discipline that focuses on developing useable best practices for the industry.
Ken Bothof has been named NKU’s new Director of Athletics. Bothof comes to NKU from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, where he has served as athletic director since 2002. His tenure at Green Bay has been marked by great success both on the field and in the classroom, as well as tremendous growth in support for the school’s 16 athletic programs.

“This is an exciting time to be a part of this university and its athletics program, and we’re excited to welcome Ken,” Mearns said. “What he has accomplished at Green Bay is very impressive. He has positioned the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay for great success both within the Horizon League and on the national stage. Our transition to Division I has gone more smoothly than we anticipated. With Ken on board, I know that our best days are ahead of us.”

The NKU athletics department is set to begin its second year at the NCAA Division I level as a member of the Atlantic Sun Conference. Last year’s historic first season in Division I brought numerous highlights, including a 25-7 record for the volleyball team, hosting a Women’s Basketball Invitational postseason tournament game and leading the A-Sun in men’s basketball home attendance.

Whenever Cara Hannah Sullivan (’00) forgets just how lucky she has it, all she has to do is walk down the hallway to her office. That hallway is flanked on either side by the iconic photos of every person who has ever hosted Saturday Night Live. You see, for the last six years, Sullivan’s office has been a 10-foot by 20-foot bowling-alley-like hair room just off the SNL stage on the 8th floor of Rockefeller Center. During her time at SNL, the hairdresser/wigmaker has received four Emmy nominations, including a win last year for Outstanding Hairstyling for a Multi-Camera Series or Special. “This is my dream job,” she says. “It’s got a little bit of theater and a little bit of TV and the whole world gets to see it on one night. And that’s pretty exciting.”