WHAT IS THE RISING SCHOLARS PROGRAM?
A college access program designed to give first-generation students from Ashtabula Area City Schools a pathway to achieving a degree in higher education at no cost to participants.

The Rising Scholars Program includes:
- Year-round academic enrichment workshops focused on STEM subjects, college preparation, and financial literacy.
- Summer courses offering applied learning and service experiences.
- Individualized mentoring and advising.
- Parent workshops.
- Eligibility to apply for a Rising Scholars Mentor Scholarship at Kent State's Ashtabula campus, contingent upon successful completion of the program.

WHOM DO WE SELECT?
We select sixth grade students in the district who meet the eligibility criteria described in the bar on the right. Send their applications including the completed counselor recommendation forms to us by March 22.

WHAT IS OUR MISSION STATEMENT?
The Kent State Ashtabula Rising Scholars Program will offer first-generation students from Ashtabula County a college access program designed to give them and their families the knowledge, rigorous academic exposure, and social support they will need in order to be successful at a world-class university. Students who successfully complete the high school portion of the program will be eligible to apply for a Rising Scholars Scholarship at Kent State Ashtabula.

Our goal is for every student in our program to complete postsecondary education with the credentials necessary to succeed in his or her career.

CONTACT
Kent State University at Ashtabula
Natalie Huya
nhuya@kent.edu
440-964-4930

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR STUDENTS APPLYING TO BE RISING SCHOLARS

- Students must be enrolling in seventh grade for the first time.
- Students must be potential first-generation college students. This means that none of the parents, stepparents, or legal guardians can hold a four-year college degree at the time of application.
- Students must be income eligible with family incomes no more than 200% of the federal poverty level.
- Students must attend school in the Ashtabula Area City Schools district.
- Students must possess the desire to earn post-secondary certification or degree.
- Students and their parents or guardians must be willing to participate in the Program and its activities.
- Students must have a strong attendance record and grades that reflect a potential to do well in college (minimum 2.5 GPA).
- Educators are encouraged to prioritize siblings of current Rising Scholars if they meet other qualifications.
- Students must submit reference information from a counselor or teacher as part of their completed application form.