KEY Academy
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL THROUGH
KNOWLEDGE | ENRICHMENT | YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR
ymcawichita.org/KEY
KEY ACADEMY OVERVIEW

When school is out, you can trust the Y to provide an engaging experience for children in their own school. The Greater Wichita YMCA’s KEY Academy allows children to deepen understanding of and relationships with their schoolmates through active play and collaboration on fun, engaging projects. The inclusion of a healthy breakfast in the morning, snack in the afternoon, and support for homework and learning ensure a well-rounded program.

Key Academy is owned and operated by the Greater Wichita YMCA as a school age program within the Child Care and Camp branch of the association. The KEY Academy program is licensed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and open to children, regardless of YMCA membership status.

KEY Academy programs serve elementary youth aged 5 to 12 in over 20 school sites across six local school districts. AM sessions, where available, begin at 6:30AM and end with staff dismissal of kids at the start of the school day. Afternoon sessions begin when students arrive after school is dismissed and close at 6:00PM.

See a full list of participating schools on page 9 of this document.

Register TODAY – space is limited.

SCHOOL DAY OUT SESSIONS OVERVIEW

Need a fun and safe place when school is out of session? Check out the Greater Wichita YMCA Fun Club School Day Out Sessions— for one-day, scheduled school in-service, fall, winter and spring break offered at select Key Academy locations and Greater Wichita YMCA Branches. Separate registration is required for Fun Club. Find dates, locations, and registration forms online at ymcawichita.org/funclub.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

KEY Academy Parent Information and Program Policies | ymcawichita.org/key
KEY Academy Electronic Enrollment Form | ymcawichita.org/key
Fun Club Enrollment Forms (School Day Out and Camps) | ymcawichita.org/funclub
The Greater Wichita YMCA’s Before and After school programs are specifically designed to provide kids a safe, welcoming place before and after the school bell while nurturing self-confidence and encouraging exploration of the world around them. The program empowers success today and tomorrow by supporting academic achievement, fostering health and wellness, and instilling positive social and emotional skills through:

**KEYS TO SUCCESS IN SCHOOL AND LIFE**

- **LITERACY/READING DEVELOPMENT**
- **PHYSICAL FITNESS AND ACTIVITY**
- **STEM-BASED CURRICULUM**
- **ART AND CULTURE EXPLORATION**
- **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**
- **NUTRITION EDUCATION**
- **HOMEWORK SUPPORT**
- **SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH**
- **CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT**

**KEY ACADEMY CONTENT AND DAILY ACTIVITIES**

When participating in Greater Wichita YMCA KEY Academy programs, your child will think they are simply having fun, but you’ll have the peace of mind knowing they are not only expanding their minds and social skills but developing lifelong healthy habits. Enrolled Kindergartners through students, age 12, will benefit from:

**PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**
- Youth in enrolled in our AM sessions participate in 20-30 minutes of morning exercise from yoga to calisthenics they are moving, getting the body and mind active for a great start to the day. When they head to class they are energized and ready to learn.
- Afternoon session include 30-45 minutes of active play daily. Student participates in planned physical games and activities that teach team work and good sportsmanship. Weather permitting children spend time outdoors daily.

**HEALTHY EATING**
- All KEY Academy program sites participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program and include a healthy breakfast (AM) and snack (PM) in program enrollment fees.

**Y-CHATS**
- Daily opportunities for youth and adults to connect and “chat” are skillfully designed and planned to help kids develop self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.
- Chats are schedule in advance. Parents are encouraged to track themes and monthly calendars (see page 9) for insights on area of focus and monthly questions so they can continue the conversation at home.

**HOMEWORK SUPPORT**
- KEY Academy staff set aside 30 minutes, each Monday–Thursday afternoon for quiet activities and to support those with homework and assignment completion.
- Study time reinforces positive learning habits and can allow more family time each evening.

**AFTERNOON ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**
- This year’s “BIG IDEAS!” topics (see page 6) have been expanded to capture and keep kids interest. Students will spend four-to-eight weeks exploring each topic to allow more time for learning, and expanded, activity-based exploration including perspectives kids have maybe not yet discovered.
- In addition to weekly themed activities youth will explore science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) lessons designed for all age groups, creative art projects, and character education that focuses on our four YMCA values; caring, respect, responsibility and honesty.

**BUILDING COMMUNITY**
- Considered in every activity and interaction within Key Academy programs, day-to-day interactions and team building activities with peers and Y staff focus on growing positive relationships and skills to avoid, minimize the frequency of-, and more-quickly resolve conflict.
THEMES/BIG IDEAS!
As outlined on page 5, Key Academy activities build on themes or BIG IDEAS! — that are chosen to ensure all kids can participate and benefit from participation and to keep daily content new, fresh, and exciting. 2020-2021 academic year* themes include:

KIDSTRUCTION: BUILD YOUR TRIBE
SESSION 1 | AUGUST
School year begins with expectations being set to build lasting friendships thru teambuilding actions to foster interaction, embracing positive feelings about themselves and others thru teambuilding activities that support working together.

CHARACTER COUNTS: BECOMING A HERO
SESSION 2 | SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER
Students discover real life — heroes in our community, create your own super hero, learn hero qualities (Helping, Encouraging, Reaching Out) and displaying how character counts through an initiative that showcases caring, honesty, responsibility and respect through different projects.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD:
CELEBRATING DIVERSITY
SESSION 3 | NOVEMBER, DECEMBER
Celebrate culture as we prepare our passport to travel the globe to learn about diversity thru different cultures. Explore games, crafts, lifestyles/traditions and foods from across the globe as we learn from each other and appreciate exclusion and diversity.

WINTER GAMES: INDOOR MADNESS
SESSION 4 | JANUARY, FEBRUARY
Learn the importance of how fitness can keep us healthy and active, even during the winter months. Join us for Indoor Madness as we compete in the Winter Games. Making team flags, minute to win it challenges, team competitions and good old fashioned fun make these Winter Games, madness.

THE WORLD AND YOU
SESSION 5 | MARCH, APRIL
Students will learn about Rainforests, Oceans, Weather, and Endangered Animals. Students discover their role in recycling and celebrate Earth Day as we discover.

SUMMER LUVIN’
SESSION 6 | MAY
The year ends with activities, shared memories, and discussion of summer plans, options and fun activities that get kids ready for summer.

PARENT CALENDARS
KEEP EVERYONE INVOLVED
Each Key Academy staff offers a complete calendar — with all themes, activities, schedule changes, and information parents could want or need to stay informed. Parents can get copies of each site’s calendar from staff or by contacting the Greater Wichita YMCA Child Care and Camp administrative office (see page 9 for contact information).

SAFETY AND QUALITY MATTER!
PROGRAM, STAFF, AND LICENSING DISCLOSURES

HIRING THE BEST
EXPERIENCED
All Key Academy Staff:
• Are established child care providers — averaging 4+ years of relevant experience
• Meet-or-exceed the minimum KDHE requirements for education and experience

WELL-TRAINED
The Greater Wichita YMCA provides Key Academy Staff with:
• 16+ annual hours or training and in-service development
• Training in Pediatric CPR and AED usage and First Aid
• Supervision and behavior management training
• Tools for recognizing, preventing, and reporting child illness and child abuse
• All YMCA employees have a Comprehensive Background Checks to ensure the safety of all program participants
• Kansas Bureau of Investigation and Federal Bureau of Investigation Name and Fingerprint Database Checks are conducted by KDHE

ROLE MODELS
Key Academy Staff are positive, caring adults that:
• Appropriately engage, challenge, and nurture students to challenge every child’s potential
• Emphasify and personify our YMCA Core Values (Respect, Responsibility, Caring, and Honesty)

LICENSED TO SERVE CHILDREN IN KANSAS
Key Academy programs are licensed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and contract with the State of Kansas’ Department of Children and Families (DCF).

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES
STEP ONE
Visit ymca wichita.org/KEY to find and learn more about program sites and to review parent information, policies, and pricing.

STEP TWO
Start your enrollment process by visiting any of our YMCA branches or online – including all required KDHE paperwork* and registration forms – at ymca wichita.org/KEY

STEP THREE
Complete registration forms including program site and service schedule preferences and calculating weekly participation fees.

STEP FOUR
Review payment options, including income-based financial assistance and finalize enrollment. (ymca wichita.org/assistance)

STEP FIVE
Take complete enrollment packets to any Greater Wichita YMCA branch to secure your space. (ymca wichita.org/locations)

* Complete KDHE Paperwork is required for KEY Academy participation. KDHE paperwork from other/previous Greater Wichita YMCA programs (2019-2020 academic year Key Academy, 2020 Summer Camps, etc.) is NOT applicable to satisfy this requirement.

*Session and schedule are subject to change based on district calendar and student schedules. A minimum of 15 students per session are required to maintain the program.
The Greater Wichita YMCA offers full day Fun Clubs in select districts and YMCA Branch locations during most school closure days.

KEY Academy participation is not REQUIRED for Fun Club participation. School district-specific registration forms and general enrollment forms for fall, winter, and spring break are available at ymcawichita.org/funclub. Pre-registration is required, fees are due at registration and space is limited.

**SCHOOL DAY OUT FEES**
- $10/Day/Child (KEY Academy Participants)
- $25/Day/Child (Youth on a YMCA Family Members / School District Employees)
- $35/Day/Child (All Other Children)

**FALL, WINTER AND SPRING BREAK CLUB FEES**
- $25/Day/Child

Learn more about Greater Wichita YMCA Fun Clubs including additional information, locations for programming, available dates of service, costs, registration forms, and more online at ymcawichita.org/funclub.

KDHE Paperwork and advanced registration is required for all Fun Club participants and spots are limited so register NOW.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOL-AGED KIDS**
Did you know that the Greater Wichita YMCA is the region's largest provider of child care, before- and after-school support, camp programs, youth sports, and swim lessons – among other things?

Find to check out other programs, activities, and options we offer your school-aged child(ren) – including the cost-saving benefits extended to YMCA Members enrolled in KEY Academy and other options including, but not limited to:
- Mom’s Day Out and Parent’s Night Out | ymcawichita.org/respite
- Youth Sports | ymcawichita.org/sports
- Swim Lessons | ymcawichita.org/swimlessons

---

**ANDOVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (USD 385)**
- Cottonwood Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Martin Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Meadowlark Elementary | AM/PM Service (pending KDHE licensing)
- Prairie Creek Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Sunflower Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Wheatland Elementary | AM/PM Service

**GODDARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS (USD 265)**
- Amelia Earhart Elementary (Also Serving Oak Street*) | AM/PM Service
- Apollo Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Clark Davidson Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Explorer Elementary | AM/PM Service

**MAIZE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (USD 266)**
- Maize Central Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Maize Elementary (Also serving Maize Vermillion*) | AM/PM Service
- Maize Pray Woodman Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Maize South Elementary | AM/PM Service

**RENWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS (USD 267)**
- Garden Plain Elementary | PM Service
- St. Mark’s Elementary | PM Service

**VALLEY CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (USD 262)**
- Abilene Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Wheatland Elementary | AM/PM Service

West Elementary students may enroll in either Wheatland or Abilene. Must confirm transportation with the school district prior to enrollment.

**WICHITA PUBLIC SCHOOLS (USD 259)**
- Beech Elementary | AM/PM Service
- Caldwell Elementary | PM Service
- Mueller Elementary | AM Service

---

* Select school districts provide service to students attending one elementary school to be served at another elementary school, as indicated above. In these instances, the school district provides and is solely responsible for transportation to/from school sites. The Greater Wichita YMCA does not provide transportation for KEY Academy students nor does KEY Staff facilitate bus transfers or logistics and is not responsible for transportation-related considerations. Parents should contact school district staff for transportation information, questions, or concerns. Parent/guardian shall be responsible for communicating participation and transportation arrangements to all parties.
The Greater Wichita YMCA’s Child Care and Camp branch is an inclusive organization of men and women focused on nurturing the potential of every child. We know that lasting personal and social change comes through trust, collaboration, and a community strengthened by YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, HEALTHY LIVING, and SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. Learn more at ymcawichita.org/childcare.

GREATER WICHITA YMCA MISSION
To put Christian principles into practice through programs that promote healthy lifestyles, strong families, and positive youth development to build healthy spirit, mind and body for all, regardless of the ability to pay. Learn more at ymcawichita.org/mission.

NEW FOR 2020-2021
• AutoDraft is available through credit or debit cards.
• Fees are due, and registration closes, by 10:00PM the Monday BEFORE the week of service, or selected start date.

Learn more about these policy changes at ymcawichita.org/KEY or by emailing childcare@ymcawichita.org.

DON’T MISS OUT –
KEY Academy Registration opens in July and limited spots are available.
REGISTER TODAY.