

# Parents continue to ignore older son's request

Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: I am in my late 30s. I live halfway across the country from my parents and don't have the best relationship with them. I also have a brother four years younger from whom I have been estranged for 20 years. He lives in the same city as my parents.

My problem is, if I visit, my parents (especially my mom) will tell my brother and invite him over. I don't like my brother and don't want to see him. I will not recon-

cile with him because he did some horrible things to me 20 years ago for which I can never forgive him.

With my parents, things don't get through to them unless I take drastic measures. How can I convey my desire not to see him? My plan would be to tell them they must agree not to invite him to their house while I'm there — and if they can't respect my wishes, I simply won't see them.

I'm not worried about being without lodging because I have friends I can stay with there. In fact, I have made several trips to that city without visiting my parents. What is your perspective on how I can "lay down

the law" and enforce it? — INDEPENDENT IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR INDEPENDENT: Have an honest conversation with your parents. Explain what happened between you and your brother. Emphasize that you do not wish to see him again — ever. Tell them you would like to visit them, but you do not want your brother to be informed or invited over while you are there. If they cannot agree, explain (without hostility) that you will skip the visit. This is not "laying down the law"; it is creating a boundary.

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DEAR ABBY: My wife and I welcomed our third child into the world six

months ago. Since then, my wife has been diagnosed with postpartum depression and has cheated on me multiple times. She has now moved out. She is dating a woman and wants a divorce.

Despite all of this, I have forgiven her, and I still love her. Her behavior is negatively affecting our other children, but she refuses to acknowledge its impact and won't listen to me or talk to me about it. She refuses to go to counseling and acts like everything is my fault. How should I handle this? — DISTRAUGHT HUSBAND IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR HUSBAND: If you had no hint that your wife was bisexual before

this, it must have been a shock. As I see it, there are two ways to handle this. The first would be to talk with a licensed mental health professional and ask if that person can give you some insight into whether postpartum has caused your wife's behavior. None of this is your fault, and it may not be your wife's fault either.

The second way is to start interviewing lawyers who specialize in family law. While you can't force your wife to stay married to you, you can make sure your children spend as much time with their father as possible.

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Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren,

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## Gov. Beshear Provides Team Kentucky Update

Submitted by the Office of Governor Andy Beshear

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 19, 2026) — Today, Gov. Andy Beshear provided updates on Pre-K for All, the state budget, weather, a new health clinic in Mount Sterling, the Safe Teen Driving Challenge, the Earn and Learn Program and Team Kentucky's Easter celebration. The Governor named the Kentucky State Parks Ranger Division as this week's Team Kentucky All-Stars.

Pre-K for All  
This week, the Governor announced that more than 170 business owners from across the commonwealth sent a letter to the General Assembly urging them to fund Pre-K for All in the 2026-2027 budget session. The letter stated that Pre-K for All is not just an education policy; it's an economic development investment that will grow Kentucky's workforce.

Last month, members of the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee requested that Team Kentucky gather data on how many school districts could immediately implement pre-K if the General Assembly were to fund the Beshear administration's proposal. After compiling data from over 100 school districts, today, Gov. Beshear announced that 74 of Kentucky's school districts could expand pre-school access in the next

two years if the General Assembly supports Pre-K for All. Additionally, 48 school districts indicated that they could implement this expansion as soon as this fall.

"Dozens of these districts already have identified classroom space and teaching staff. Some are already making preparations," said Gov. Beshear. "Folks, Pre-K for All is possible — and it shouldn't be political. As I've said, 4-year-olds aren't registered; they can't vote. They just deserve our investment. The facts are clear: Kentuckians and businesses want Pre-K for All. And now we also know that Kentucky school districts are ready to get to work."

Budget  
Yesterday, the Kentucky Senate passed its proposed budget. Gov. Beshear noted areas where the budget stands in stark contrast to his proposal and will ultimately hurt Kentucky families. The Governor's proposed budget fully funds Medicaid, whereas the Senate's budget will cut Medicaid by \$2.7 billion over two years. Cuts may be as large as 10% in July 2026, with another 10% in July 2027. This could fuel across-the-board pay cuts to hospitals, doctors and clinics and cause service lines to be cut, including local maternity wards. Rates will be cut, including a 10% annual rate cut to all Medicaid waiver services. It also may completely eliminate

services like vision, dental and hearing, hospice coverage, mental health services and more.

The Senate's budget also includes \$76 million less than the Governor's budget for the Department of Community Based Services. This agency handles Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and more. The budget cuts may result in a reduction of hundreds of social worker positions. It could also reduce rates paid to foster parents and foster home facilities.

"We should be expanding health care access to protect the lives of Kentuckians. And we should be supporting our social workers and programs that help our families. But sadly, these cuts are doing the exact opposite," said Gov. Beshear. "These cuts are just cruel — plain and simple. And they get worse. So I hope you'll use your voice and speak out. Call, write and email your representatives, because you deserve better."

Weather  
The Governor provided an update on recent weather and a new Team Kentucky member from the National Weather Service (NWS). Severe weather moved across the commonwealth March 15-16. Winds were forecast up to 75 mph, and after conducting a survey of affected areas, the NWS confirmed an EF-1

tornado touched down and travelled more than 43 miles across Grayson, Hardin and Meade counties. The tornado was estimated to have winds of 110 mph. This tornado and the storms caused damage across multiple counties, including downed trees, structural damage to barns and roofs, and power outages that reached 38,600 at the highest point. There were no reported injuries.

Gov. Beshear noted that prior to and during this weather event, the NWS team worked to keep Kentuckians updated so they could stay safe. Today, the Governor announced that Kentucky Emergency Management has a new team member: NWS meteorologist Jon Wilson. Wilson will work to conduct special weather briefings for state agencies and provide additional support on weather-related events.

"This is one more way we can ensure we are prepared and have the most up-to-date information when it comes to weather events," said Gov. Beshear. "I'm glad to be welcoming Jon to the team, and I am looking forward to working with him."

New Health Clinic in Mount Sterling

The Governor announced that the new Post Clinic building in Mount Sterling is now open. In 2022, Team Kentucky provided \$1 million to support this project. This clinic provides free dental and primary medi-

cal care to uninsured and underinsured Kentuckians across 23 counties.

Click here for a Good News update on this project.

Safe Teen Driving Challenge

Gov. Beshear announced today that registration is open for Team Kentucky's second Safe Teen Driving Challenge, which encourages safe driving behaviors to keep our highways safe while also giving teen drivers the chance to earn one of five cash prizes, worth a total of \$10,000.

Earn and Learn Program

The Governor provided an update on the commonwealth's Earn and Learn program, where current and former foster children can earn weekly wages while earning their GED and completing a career and technical education program through the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. Since the program's launch in 2020, foster youth have earned nearly 100 vocational credentials in several fields. This includes automotive repair, welding and Emergency Medical Technician credentials.

"This program sets our foster children up for bright futures. Every participant also has access to a college advisor and a success coach," said Gov. Beshear. "If there are two things we can all agree on, it's that every child deserves a chance to succeed and that more

skilled workers getting good-paying jobs is good for Kentucky."

Easter Celebration

The Governor invited Kentuckians to celebrate Easter with Team Kentucky on Saturday, March 28, at 2 p.m. on the Old State Capitol Lawn. The event will include family activities such as an Easter egg hunt, crafts, food trucks and a visit from the Easter Bunny. The egg hunt starts shortly after the event begins at 2 p.m., so families are encouraged to arrive early.

Team Kentucky All-Stars

The Governor named the Kentucky State Parks Ranger Division as this week's Team Kentucky All-Stars, following the division's recognition with the President's Award at the 2026 Parks Law Enforcement Association annual conference.

"The award highlighted the Ranger Division's emergency response efforts during last year's tornado in May and flooding in February and April," said Gov. Beshear. "They worked around the clock, partnering with Kentucky Emergency Management, FEMA, the American Red Cross, the National Guard, and our state and local partners to keep people safe and get them to shelter. So, this week, I am proud to make our Kentucky State Parks Rangers our Team Kentucky All-Stars."

## Gov. Beshear: Team Kentucky encourages teens to drive safely and win big

### Registration open for the Safe Teen Driving Challenge for Kentucky drivers aged 15-19

Submitted by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 19, 2026) — Gov. Andy Beshear today announced that registration is open for Team Kentucky's second Safe Teen Driving Challenge, which encourages safe driving behaviors to keep our highways safe while also giving teen drivers the chance to earn one of five cash prizes worth a total of \$10,000.

Over the past three years, there have been more than 49,000 crashes involving teen drivers, resulting in over 13,000 injuries and tragically, 197 lost lives. The Safe Teen Driving Challenge, managed by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), aims to reduce those numbers by encouraging young drivers to build better habits and stay focused behind the

wheel.

"As a dad of two teenage drivers who mean everything to me, I know we need to be doing everything we can to keep our kids safe on the road," said Gov. Beshear. "This competition is one way to ensure we are helping our kids develop safe habits behind the wheel, while giving Kentucky teens a chance to win cash prizes as well."

The challenge rewards the top five drivers with cash prizes, sponsored by AAA Blue Grass, AAA East Central and Intoximeters.

1st Place: \$3,000  
2nd Place: \$2,500  
3rd Place: \$2,000  
4th Place: \$1,500  
5th Place: \$1,000

"Teens are still developing their driving habits, which makes this an especially important time to reinforce safe behaviors behind the wheel," said Lori Weaver Hawkins,

public and government affairs manager at AAA Blue Grass. "Distractions can take a driver's attention away from the road in an instant. AAA is proud to partner with Team Kentucky and other traffic safety advocates to support initiatives like the Kentucky Safe Teen Driving Challenge that help young drivers stay focused and build safe habits that last a lifetime."

"Teen driver safety isn't just about rules — it's about protecting futures that haven't begun," said Rob Duckworth, regional manager at Intoximeters Inc. "Partnering with Team Kentucky to educate teens on the power of good decision making allows us to support the future of these teens and Kentucky."

Winners will be announced in August, and the school of the winning students will also

be recognized. Over 800 drivers participated in the challenge in 2025.

This challenge is open to 15-to-19-year-old drivers with a valid permit or driver's license and a smartphone. Parental consent is required for drivers under 18.

To join, teens simply: Register online at [kentuckyhighwaysafety.com/safe-teen-driving-challenge/](http://kentuckyhighwaysafety.com/safe-teen-driving-challenge/) between Thursday, March 19, and Thursday, April 16, 2026 (cut-off is 11:59 p.m.).

Download the DriveWell Go™ app, create a new account, and enter the contest token code. Drive safe, track your performance, and compete for the chance to win a prize.

Driving performance will be measured from April 17 to July 17, 2026, giving participants plenty of time to compete for the top spots.

The app, powered

by Cambridge Mobile Telematics (CMT), uses smartphone sensor data to identify risky behaviors like speeding, hard braking, harsh acceleration, cornering and phone use. Teens can track their progress and see how they rank on the app's leaderboard, updated every two weeks, to provide valuable data to help young drivers become more aware of their habits behind the wheel.

The app uses machine learning to identify driving behaviors from sensor data and transform them into insights. The platform automatically determines if a person is in a vehicle and calculates if they're the driver or passenger.

"Using tech to offer personalized driving insights can help encourage safe behaviors early in life as we look to this generation to build on Kentucky's

three-year downward trend in overall highway fatalities and serious injuries," said KYTC Secretary Jim Gray. "Driver education plus our engineering solutions and law enforcement actions all work together to make our highways safer for all."

The Safe Teen Driving Challenge is one of many ways Team Kentucky and its partners are investing in equipping teens to be safer drivers. Other efforts include Kentucky Office of Highway Safety school outreach events that involve rollover and drunk driving simulators, the annual Ford Driving Skills for Life event, educational campaigns and localized hands on round-about training for high schoolers.

For more information and to register, visit <https://kentuckyhighway-safety.com/safe-teen-driving-challenge/>