



City of Lawrence

The Flame | February 2020

“We Have
Tomorrow —
Bright Before
Us, Like A
Flame.”

Langston
Hughes

ALMOST TIME FOR THE 2020 CENSUS!

Between March 12 and 20, every Lawrence household will receive a mailed invitation to participate in the 2020 Census.

Lawrence — and all of Douglas County — has been designated as an area where residents are likely to respond online. Because of this, the first letter area residents will receive from the U.S. Census Bureau will invite them to complete the Census questionnaire either online or by phone. Instructions will be provided in that first letter.

The Census Bureau has set up a schedule of reminders they will mail during the following dates to ensure everyone remembers to self-respond:

- **March 12 - 20:** Everyone receives an invitation to respond to the Census
- **March 16 - 24:** A reminder letter

For those who haven't yet responded, the Census Bureau will send the following:

- **March 26 - April 3:** A reminder postcard
- **April 8 - 16:** A reminder letter and paper questionnaire will be sent to all those who have not yet responded online or via phone; paper questionnaires must be mailed back to the Census Bureau
- **April 20 - 27:** A final reminder postcard

If the Census Bureau has not received a self-response by the end of April, they will designate the household for in-person follow up. Enumerators (the Census workers who follow up in person) will begin visiting Lawrence residences in May.

Beyond ensuring everyone responds to the 2020 Census, a big emphasis will be making sure all responders accurately represent their household.

Every household will receive one invitation to participate. In Lawrence, a significant portion of the population is renters. If you are a renter who shares an apartment with roommates, all roommates should be included on one Census response representing the address where you live. (Please note: All Census data will remain private and cannot be shared with landlords or other agencies.)

If you are eighteen-years-old or older, you will complete your own Census form based on where you live on April 1, 2020. You should not be included with your parents if you do not live with them on that date.

The Census will ask 10 questions and takes approximately ten minutes per person to respond. The questions are: name, phone number, age, sex, race, hispanic origin, relationship to householder, household tenure (own/rent), number of people in the household, and usual place of residence. The 2020 Census will NOT ask about citizenship.

While the law requires respondents to answer all census questions accurately, an incomplete returned census form will still be counted. Even if you are uncomfortable answering some of the questions, please submit as much as you can so that you are counted toward Lawrence and Douglas County population totals.

Being counted in Lawrence and Douglas County is extremely important for our community. Census counts are used to distribute more than \$6 billion in federal funds every year in Kansas, which translates to \$2,082 per person per year. The money helps fund a variety of initiatives, including school lunch programs, Head Start

Counting College Students

The goal of the 2020 Census is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. Where people should be counted depends on where they are living on Census Day, which is April 1, 2020. For most students at the University of Kansas and Haskell Indian Nations University, this means they should be counted at their residence in Lawrence.

How do college students respond? It depends on where they live:

- **In a dormitory or apartment owned by the university:** These students are counted through Group Quarters Enumeration. They do not have to self-respond to the Census as the university will include them in their counts.
- **At home with their parents:** They'll be counted on their parents' Census form.
- **Off-campus (but not with their parents):** They'll receive an invitation to complete the Census at their residence. If it is a shared residence, all roommates will complete one Census response that includes all those living there.

The Census uses Group Quarters Enumeration for all people living in group quarters, which, in addition to college students, can also include people living in group homes, nursing homes, prisons, military bases and more.

programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Community Development Block Grants.

More information on the 2020 Census is on our website (lawrenceks.org/census) and can also be found on the state's Kansas Counts website: kansascounts.org



CITY OF LAWRENCE CONTACTS

Snip out this handy guide for an easy reference to City of Lawrence phone numbers.

City Hall

- Main number: (785) 832-3000
- Utility Billing: (785) 832-7878

Municipal Services and Operations

- Administration: (785) 832-3123
- Engineer of the Day: (785) 832-3194
- Solid Waste Division: (785) 832-3032
- Household Hazardous Waste Facility: (785) 832-3032

Planning & Development Services

- Main Number: (785) 832-7700
- Planner of the Day: (785) 832-7700

City Attorney's Office

- Main number: (785) 832-3475
- Human Relations: (785) 832-3310
- Municipal Court: (785) 832-6190

Police

- Emergency: 911
- Non-emergency: (785) 832-7509
- Animal Control: (785) 832-7509
- Crime Stoppers: (785) 843-8477

Fire and Medical

- Emergency: 911
- Non-emergency: (785) 830-7000

Parks & Recreation:

- Main number: (785) 832-3450
- Community Building: (785) 832-7920
- East Lawrence Recreation Center: (785) 832-7950
- Holcom Recreation Center: (785) 832-7940
- Sports Pavilion: (785) 330-7355

Lawrence Transit

- Main number: (785) 864-4644

Parking

- Main number: (785) 832-7590

Changes in Cemetery Fees

A new schedule of charges for the City of Lawrence cemetery facilities went into effect on January 1, 2020. The changes were approved as part of the 2019 budget cycle.

A \$50 increase of property lot rights was accepted for all cemetery schedule of charges annually through 2023, except for all interment and the property lot rates for infants. The interment and property lot rates for infants will be maintained at present levels for 2020. The schedule of charges includes lots and burials at Oak Hill Cemetery, Memorial Park Cemetery, Maple Grove Cemetery and the Natural Burial Area in Oak Hill Cemetery.

More information, including exact rate amounts, is available on the City of Lawrence website: <https://lawks.us/2t5pAfe>

New Fees for Aquatics Centers

New admission fees for all City of Lawrence aquatic facilities went into effect on January 1, 2020. The rate for daily admission increased by one dollar. The 2020 daily admission costs for aquatic facilities are below:

General Admission

- Adult (ages 18 to 59): \$6
- Child (ages three to 17): \$5
- Senior Adults (ages 60+): \$5

Punch cards

- Adult (ages 18 to 59): \$45
- Child (ages three to 17): \$35
- Senior Adults (ages 60+): \$35

Annual Passes: \$250

More information is available on the City of Lawrence website: <https://lawks.us/2t5pAfe>



Did You know....



**You can park in
Downtown
Lawrence for
61¢ a day?**

Whether you live, work or play in Downtown Lawrence, you may be interested in purchasing a quarterly or annual parking pass this year. 2020 City parking passes are currently available for purchase at two locations:

- The utility billing window on the first floor of City Hall, 6 East Sixth Street,
- The Municipal Court building, 1006 New Hampshire.

Both locations are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Annual passes are \$192 and are valid January through December 2020. Quarterly parking passes are available for \$50. Both annual and quarterly parking passes are valid in long-term lots and at ten-hour meters.

Long-term downtown parking includes the parking garage at 927 New Hampshire St., the lower level of the Riverfront parking garage at 600 New Hampshire St., and designated long-term parking in the Vermont Parking Garage. There are also eight long-term parking lots throughout downtown.

More information and a municipal parking map can be found on our website: lawrenceks.org/parking

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Committed to providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community