
FORESIGHT 2020

A 10-Year Strategic Agenda for the State's Public Higher Education System



Foresight 2020 is a 10-year strategic agenda for the state's public higher education system. Originally adopted by the Kansas Board of Regents in 2010, updated in 2012, and modified in 2015, the plan sets long-range achievement goals that are measurable, reportable, and ensure the state's higher education system meets Kansans' expectations. Find each year's progress report at: kansasregents.org/foresight_2020.

INCREASE HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

Aspirations

- ★ Increase to 60 percent the number of Kansas adults who have earned a certificate, associate or bachelor's degree by 2020.
- ★ Achieve a ten percentage point increase in retention and graduation rates by 2020.

Measures

- ★ Number of certificates and degrees awarded by universities, community and technical colleges
- ★ Attainment Model progress
- ★ Graduation rates: 4/5/6-year rates for universities and 2/3/4-year rates for community and technical colleges
- ★ First to second year retention rates at universities, community and technical colleges
- ★ Student Success Index rates
- ★ Comparison of state demographics with higher education participation levels, including race/ethnicity, Pell Grant eligibility, and age
- ★ Comparison of postsecondary attainment in Kansas to the nation, by age groups
- ★ Adult Education: participation, percent served among working-age adults in Kansas without a high school diploma or its equivalent, and percent transitioning to postsecondary within 3 years of enrollment
- ★ Number of adults with college credit but no certificate or degree who are returning to complete a certificate, associate/bachelor degree
- ★ Seamless Transition: total number of courses approved for guaranteed transfer and number of Reverse Transfer degrees awarded systemwide

IMPROVE ECONOMIC ALIGNMENT

Aspirations

- ★ Respond to business and industry expectations for graduates and ensure all technical programs meet expectations of quality.
- ★ Reduce workforce shortages in select high-demand fields by increasing the number of certificates and degrees awarded, including in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Measures

- ★ Percent of graduates employed and average wages in Kansas, by award level
- ★ Number of certificates and degrees awarded in selected high-demand fields, and progress made on special state initiatives
- ★ Summary findings from latest K-TIP Report, providing systemwide analysis of all approved postsecondary CTE programs, by program
- ★ Percent of certificates/degrees awarded in STEM fields
- ★ Student performance on assessments tracking industry-requested "Foundational Skills" –
 1. Mathematics/Analytical Reasoning
 2. Written and Oral Communication
 3. Critical Thinking/Problem Solving

ENSURE STATE UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE

Aspiration

- ★ Improve regional and national reputations of state universities.

Measures

- ★ Comparison to peers for each of the six state universities on established metrics
- ★ Private giving to universities
- ★ Total research dollars awarded, highlighting federal research dollars (as percent of total) and specific industry support secured
- ★ University Excellence Profile: select rankings, Composite Financial Index, and assessment of economic impact