



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BOARD OF REGENTS AWARDS PERFORMANCE FUNDING

Share of New Funding Determined for State's Higher Education Institutions

(TOPEKA) – In a first-time move that brings heightened accountability to the state's higher education system, the Kansas Board of Regents has used institutional performance as the basis for allocating new state funding to the state's 36 postsecondary institutions. After assessing institutional performance as measured pursuant to institutional performance agreements, the Board in June determined that thirty-four institutions will receive 100% funding, one institution will receive 80% funding, and two institutions will receive none of the new funding for which they would otherwise have been eligible to receive in fiscal year 2006.

“With these performance agreements, the Kansas Board of Regents and its higher education institutions have taken an important step in moving an already outstanding system of higher education to even more impressive achievement,” said Reginald L. Robinson, President and CEO of the Board of Regents. “The global 21st Century economy continues to make postsecondary education more important than ever for our state and its citizens. This initiative will enhance our ability not only to grow the state's economy, but also to provide Kansans with the educational tools they need to improve the quality of their lives.”

A performance agreement is a contract between the Board and each public university, community college, technical college and technical school. These agreements are designed to hold institutions accountable for performance related to a number of measurable goals and objectives. The amount of new state funding an institution receives hinges on the degree of its compliance with its performance agreement.

While having the agreements in place constitutes a major step in the journey toward enhanced accountability, tying the receipt of new state dollars to the achievement of measurable goals and objectives contained in those agreements provides the key leverage that will produce the positive results the Board of Regents is committed to achieving as a result of this initiative.

The Regents' performance agreements process is designed to accomplish two outcomes. First, performance agreements will establish a system of accountability for public postsecondary education in Kansas. Second, performance agreements, through the successful accomplishment of both institutional and system goals, will produce system-wide improvement of higher education in Kansas. The Board has adopted six system-wide performance agreement goals: 1) Increase System Efficiency/Effectiveness/Seamlessness; 2) Improve Learner Outcomes; 3) Improve Workforce Development; 4) Increase Targeted Participation/Access; 5) Increase External Resources; and 6) Improve Community/Civic Engagement.

A key component of the Higher Education Coordination Act of 1999 was a focus on system accountability – that institutions should be held accountable for their performance. A comprehensive study that the Board commissioned in 2001 also stressed the need for accountability measures. The Board soon realized the original Act needed to be amended if it was truly going to achieve its goals.

In 2002, the Board worked closely with the State Legislature to implement legislation that authorized the Board to review and approve institutional improvement plans based on core indicators of quality performance and developed in cooperation with each institution. This legislation also gave the Board the authority to enter into performance agreements with each institution, and it clarified that compliance with the Board’s coordination policies would be a prerequisite to the receipt of new state funds.

Each institution proposes its own performance contract, complete with proposed goals, performance measures and performance targets. The Board requires that the goals included in the proposed agreements be “stretch” goals that truly challenge the institutions to step up from business as usual. The Board thoroughly evaluates the proposals and may require changes before granting final approval. The Board may also disapprove the performance agreement. In addition, each institution must annually report to the Board on agreement compliance and update its agreement for the next year.

“Through this initiative, our state’s higher education institutions commit to make meaningful and measurable progress toward the achievement of statewide goals that the Board of Regents has adopted,” said Donna Shank, Chair of the Board of Regents. “Because any new funding is contingent upon meeting a set of performance standards, our state’s higher education institutions are now held to a new and important level of funding accountability.”

Established in 1925, the nine-member Kansas Board of Regents is the governing board of the state's six public universities and a supervising and coordinating board for nineteen community colleges, four technical schools, six technical colleges and a municipal university.

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Visit the Kansas Board of Regents on the Web at www.kansasregents.org

Board of Regents Awards Performance Funding

July 20, 2005

Page Three

<u>Funding</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Location</u>
100% Funding:	Allen County Community College	Iola
	Butler Community College	El Dorado
	Coffeyville Community College	Coffeyville
	Cowley Community College	Arkansas City
	Dodge City Community College	Dodge City
	Emporia State University	Emporia
	Flint Hills Technical College	Emporia
	Fort Hays State University	Hays
	Fort Scott Community College	Fort Scott
	Garden City Community College	Garden City
	Highland Community College	Highland
	Hutchinson Community College	Hutchinson
	Johnson County Community College	Overland Park
	Kansas City Area Technical School	Kansas City
	Kansas City Kansas Community College	Kansas City
	Kansas State University	Manhattan
	Kaw Area Technical School	Topeka
	Labette Community College	Parsons
	Manhattan Area Technical College	Manhattan
	Neosho Community College	Chanute
	North Central Kansas Technical College	Beloit
	Northwest Kansas Technical College	Goodland
	Pittsburg State University	Pittsburg
	Seward County Community College	Liberal
	University of Kansas	Lawrence
	University of Kansas Medical Center	Kansas City
Washburn University	Topeka	
Wichita Area Technical College	Wichita	
100% Funding /Comments:	Barton County Community College	Great Bend
	Cloud County Community College	Concordia
	Independence Community College	Independence
	Pratt Community College	Pratt
	Salina Area Technical School	Salina
	Wichita State University	Wichita
80% Funding:	Northeast Kansas Technical College	Atchison
No Funding:	Colby Community College	Colby
	Southwest Kansas Technical School	Liberal