

Investing in education is critical to Kansas' future

Colleges and universities provide direct benefits to Kansas students and residents.

- One of every six teachers in Kansas earned degrees from ESU's model teacher preparation program that U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan says, "creates great teachers."
- Emporia State University graduates the second highest number of Kansas teachers among Regents Universities.
- Education is key to personal success – lifetime earnings double for workers with bachelor's degrees versus those with high school diplomas.
- In 2010, 85 percent of Kansas' National Board Certified Teachers received assistance at ESU.
- ESU's TRIO Program serves at-risk students and prepares them for success in critical careers such as teaching and nursing.
- Student opportunities are restricted by state budget cuts. Since 2009, Emporia State University has taken \$4.2 million in cuts.
- Kansas students who leave the state to go to college are less likely to return here to live and work.
- More than 200,000 students enrolled in a Kansas public higher-education institution during the 2009-10 academic year. These students boost local economies.

Higher education is an engine for economic growth and prosperity.

- More than 30,000 ESU alumni live and work in Kansas and contribute to Kansas' economic prosperity through employment in education, business, health care, information management and other professions.
- Kansas businesses rely on Kansas universities and colleges to produce an educated workforce.
- The Small Business Development Center at ESU assisted 20 start-up companies in 2010. It has assisted companies with obtaining more than \$2 million in capital infusion.
- By 2018, 64 percent of Kansas jobs will require a post-secondary education.*
- The current unemployment rate for people holding bachelor's degrees is 5.2 percent compared to 9.7 percent for those with only a high school diploma.**

* Georgetown University's Center for Education and the Workforce
** Bureau of Labor Statistics

Only through strong universities and colleges will Kansas be able to create jobs now and in the future.

- ESU students earn the highest percentage of graduate degrees among the Kansas Regents' universities. On average, one-third of the degrees earned annually are graduate degrees.
- Budget cuts constrict Emporia State University's ability to adequately supply our Kansas workforce to fill shortages in key current and future job areas.
- It takes time to educate and graduate students. The workers that businesses will need in four years must have educational opportunities now.
- Regents universities and colleges award 33,000 degrees each year.



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