

MEETING AGENDA

The Kansas Board of Regents will hold a virtual meeting via Zoom on July 18, 2023. The link for the Board meeting can be found on our website at https://www.kansasregents.org/board_meeting_live_stream.

Tuesday July 18, 2023

- | | |
|---|---|
| I. Call To Order | Regent Rolph, Chair |
| II. Consent Agenda | |
| Receive Update on Project to Raze the Gymnasium and Natatorium-KSU | Chad Bristow, Director of Facilities |

The original program requesting approval for the demolition of the KSU Gymnasium and Natatorium was submitted and approved by the Board in May 2022. Architectural professionals were then selected through the competitive Office of Facilities Planning and Management (OFPM) process to investigate and prepare construction drawings for the demolition. These investigations revealed that the west wall of Ahearn Field House is slightly offset from the adjoining Gymnasium, even though the two facilities were built as an interconnected pair in 1956. This means that even after demolition of the gymnasium, a silhouette of the gymnasium's adjoining profile would be highly visible on the west elevation of Ahearn Field House. After much discussion, the university decided that restoring the west elevation of Ahearn Field House by realigning the structural plane to match the remaining Ahearn Field House wall was the best long-term solution.

The university has been working to complete in-depth and comprehensive plans for the project, which will include additional selective deconstruction and reconstruction of a portion of the west elevation of Ahearn Field House. Reconstruction efforts will also entail filling the exterior wall with matching masonry units and windows, seamlessly blending with the existing façade. Furthermore, Ahearn Fieldhouse and the Gymnasium share numerous interconnected utilities and systems; extensive rerouting and updating of these utilities will be necessary. Among the tasks at hand is the creation of a new mechanical room to accommodate the relocated utility lines, as well as upgrading the systems within Ahearn Field House, as they were previously supported by the Gymnasium's infrastructure. This will involve replacing the fire alarm and electrical distribution systems to ensure the functionality of Ahearn Field House both now and in the future.

Over the coming months, the project will be put out to bid through OFPM. The bidding process will provide additional insight into the anticipated higher construction costs associated with the reconstruction.

Demolition is slated to begin in the Fall of 2023, with restoration expected to be completed by the Summer of 2024. In September 2023, the university plans to submit an agenda item to KBOR, complete with a revised program statement and detailed information on the demolition and reconstruction costs.

To preserve the rich history of these buildings, KSU Facilities has partnered with the University Archivist to meticulously document the existing buildings for archival purposes. This comprehensive documentation includes aerial photographs of the site, as well as detailed exterior and interior photographs of the Natatorium and Gymnasium. Additionally, digital scans have been created, capturing every nook and cranny of these structures. Since June 2023, KSU Facilities has been working to salvage specific building components and items that are of intrinsic value to the University. Once the salvaging

process is complete, the University will commence the abatement of hazardous materials, ensuring a safe environment before proceeding with demolition.

III. Consideration of Discussion Agenda

1. Act on List of Industry-Sought Credentials as Required by 2023 SB 123

Scott Smathers, VP,
Workforce Development

- *Talent Pipeline – Graduates in High Demand, Sustaining Wage Fields*

Summary

During the legislative session, SB 123 was passed and signed into law. It creates a new Baccalaureate scholarship program, directs high schools to pay for identified career technical education (CTE) credentials when requested, alters residency requirements for armed forces personnel and their families, and clarifies and expands the Promise Scholarship Act, including qualified programs.

As part of the bill, the Board is required each year to approve a new CTE credential list by the 31st of July. This list identifies which credentials school districts must pay for upon student request.

Background

SB 123 was passed and signed into law during this past legislative session. Section 10 of this bill instructs that a new CTE credential list be created and approved by both the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents. This list identifies which credentials school districts must pay for upon student request.

The following is a copy of Section 10 for the Board's review and information.

New Sec. 10.

- (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the career technical education credential and transition incentive for employment success act.
- (b) Each school district that offers career technical education for students enrolled in any of the grades nine through 12 shall, upon request by any such student, pay any fees charged for any assessment or other examination that is required for such student to obtain an approved industry-sought career technical education credential.
- (c)
 - (1) On or before July 1, 2023, and each July 1 thereafter, the state board of education and state board of regents shall jointly conduct a survey of school districts and colleges on which career technical education credentials each school district offers that satisfies the definition of "industry-sought credential" under subsection (d).
 - (2) On or before July 31, 2023, and each July 31 thereafter, the state board of education and state board of regents, after consultation with the secretary of labor, the secretary of commerce and representatives of industries that recognize career technical education credentials, shall jointly approve a list of industry-sought credentials.
- (d) As used in this section:
 - (1) "College" means any community college, technical college, or the Washburn institute of technology; and
 - (2) "industry-sought credential" means a career technical education credential that is:
 - (A) Repeatedly referenced in job postings; and
 - (B) frequently referred to by employers in communications with school districts as a career technical education credential that is in demand.

Using the Excel in CTE fee list provided by the two-year colleges last fall, Board staff surveyed the colleges while KSDE conducted a survey of the school districts. A combined list was then put together and has been reviewed by the Department of Commerce, Kansas Department of Labor, and industry representatives. The list is attached for the Board's review and the next steps are for the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents to review and consider approval of the list.

Recommendation

Board staff recommends that that the attached credential list be approved by the Board for AY 2024.

2. Act on Distribution of FY 2024 State Appropriations to State Universities for Operating Expenses (IT Infrastructure and Cybersecurity)

**Elaine Frisbie,
VP, Finance &
Administration**

The 2023 Legislature enacted provisions that seek a determination as to the availability of federal funds that could be used for information technology and cybersecurity upgrades and improvements at the state universities (\$5.0 million) and at Washburn University (\$450,000). The Board received notice from the Budget Director on June 15, 2023, that federal monies from the American Rescue Plan Act are available and will be provided for this purpose to the Board. Staff recommends that the Board approve allocations to the state universities in the same proportion as in FY 2023, as noted below. Staff also recommends that the Board delegate authority to the Board President and CEO to administer the associated grant agreement with the Recovery Office in exchange for the federal funds.

Background

As requested by the Board in its unified appropriation request, the 2023 Legislature expressed its intent that the public universities benefit from additional funding for continued information technology and cybersecurity upgrades. Language adopted in Section 115 of 2023 House Bill 2184 reads as follows:

(j) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the director of the budget shall determine, in consultation with the above agency, the amount of moneys from any federal law that appropriates moneys to the state for aid for coronavirus relief that are eligible to be used for information technology and cybersecurity upgrades and improvements at state universities, may be expended at the discretion of the state in compliance with the office of management and budget's uniform administrative requirements, cost principles and audit requirements for federal awards, and are unencumbered: *Provided further*, That, of such identified moneys, the director of the budget shall determine the remaining moneys available in special revenue funds: *And provided further*, That if the above agency, in consultation with the director of the budget, determines that federal moneys to the state for aid for coronavirus relief are available during fiscal year 2024 to be used for such information technology and cybersecurity projects, the director of the budget shall certify the amount of such federal coronavirus relief moneys from each fund to the director of accounts and reports, and upon receipt of each such certification, or as soon thereafter as moneys are available, the director of accounts and reports shall immediately transfer an aggregate amount of up to \$5,000,000 as available from such funds to the special revenue fund of the above agency designated by the chief executive officer of the above agency for the purpose of funding such projects: *And provided further*, That at the same time as the director of the budget transmits certification to the director of accounts and reports, the director of the budget shall transmit a copy of such certification to the director of legislative research: *And provided further*, That such funds shall be expended for such projects: *Provided, however*, That if moneys are not available to be transferred from any such special revenue funds to fund such projects, such projects shall not be funded pursuant to this subsection.

(k) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the director of the budget shall determine, in consultation with the above agency, the amount of moneys from any federal law that appropriates moneys to the state for aid for coronavirus relief that are eligible to be used for information technology and cybersecurity upgrades and improvements at Washburn University, may be expended at the discretion of the state in compliance with the office of management and budget's uniform administrative requirements, cost principles and audit requirements for federal awards, and are unencumbered: *Provided further*, That, of such identified moneys, the director of the budget shall determine the remaining moneys available in special revenue funds: *And provided further*, That if the above agency, in consultation with the director of the budget, determines that federal moneys to the state for

aid for coronavirus relief are available during fiscal year 2024 to be used for such information technology and cybersecurity projects, the director of the budget shall certify the amount of such federal coronavirus relief moneys from each fund to the director of accounts and reports, and upon receipt of each such certification, or as soon thereafter as moneys are available, the director of accounts and reports shall immediately transfer an aggregate amount of up to \$450,000 as available from such funds to the special revenue fund of the above agency designated by the chief executive officer of the above agency for the purpose of funding such projects: *And provided further*, That at the same time as the director of the budget transmits certification to the director of accounts and reports, the director of the budget shall transmit a copy of such certification to the director of legislative research: *And provided further*, That such funds shall be expended for such projects: *Provided, however*, That if moneys are not available to be transferred from any such special revenue funds to fund such projects, such projects shall not be funded pursuant to this subsection.

Applying the same percentages to this year’s funding as were applied for FY 2023 results in the following allocations:

	FY 2024
University of Kansas	\$1,027,324
KU Medical Center	649,283
Kansas State University	1,030,307
Wichita State University	758,497
Emporia State University	435,827
Pittsburg State University	451,762
Fort Hays State University	637,000
Subtotal-State Universities	\$5,000,000
Washburn University	\$450,000

Based on feedback from the Regents Information Technology Council (RITC), it is recommended the money be allocated to the universities as noted in the table to address each individual campus’ highest priority infrastructure needs as revealed by the third-party cybersecurity penetration testing performed with the state money provided in FY 2023.

3. Act on Proposed Pilot Initiative for Kansas Free Application Days November 7-9, 2023

**Daniel Archer,
VP, Academic Affairs**

- Access – Enrollment Equity Gap
- Access – College Going Rate

Summary and Staff Recommendation

This is a proposal to create Kansas Free Application Days during the month of November. For three days, November 7-9, 2023, Kansas residents, regardless of age or income, could submit general undergraduate admission applications at Kansas public colleges and universities for free. The private colleges have been invited to join the campaign. With a marketing campaign, this could encourage Kansans to invest in their future through pursuing postsecondary education.

Background

Five years ago, Colorado started an Apply Free day for all residents. Starting with one day in October and by utilizing cable marketing spots advertising in both English and Spanish, residents were given the opportunity to apply free to all undergraduate programs at all state public and some private Colorado colleges and universities. In 2020, their third year, they saw a one-day total of 56,896 applications, a 28% increase over the first year. 44% of those applications were submitted by students of color, 28% were submitted by first-generation students, and almost 2,000 transfer applications were received. With the growth they had seen in the program and the madness of processing that many applications in one 24-hour period, Colorado changed to a 3-day window in 2021 and saw an increase in each category over the prior years.

Staff Recommendation

In conjunction with the Apply Kansas efforts, staff recommends creating Kansas Free Application Days this Fall on November 7-9, 2023. All Kansas residents who wish to seek admission to Kansas public universities and colleges would be eligible to submit their general undergraduate admission applications for free starting Tuesday, November 7, 2023 through Thursday, November 9, 2023. This means all of the following applicants are eligible: First-time Freshmen, Transfer Students, Returning Students, and Applicants seeking a second bachelor's degree. (Applicants for graduate-level programs are not eligible).

The actual admission application must be submitted between 12:00 a.m. CT on Tuesday, November 7 and by 11:59 p.m. CT on Thursday, November 9, to be eligible to have the application fee waived. However, applicants can and are encouraged to begin filling out the application before this time. The application just needs to be submitted during this three-day period. (All colleges and universities have application fee waivers for financial hardship during the entire year. As such, students with financial need may continue to submit fee waivers with their application before or after the Free Application Days.)

As the state continues to look for ways to increase the college-going rate and FAFSA completion, initiatives like this could inspire Kansans, of all ages, who have been thinking about continuing their education to take that first step. While this will benefit Kansans of all ages, Colorado's data has shown that the biggest benefit will be seen from students of color, first-generation and transfer students. By removing barriers for students to pursue a credential, Kansas can create opportunities to increase the number of students who complete their programs and enter the workforce with a degree or competitive skills.

(Model based on [Colorado Free Application Days](#))

It should be noted that the community colleges do not have a general undergraduate admission application fee. While technical colleges do have an admission application fee, they expressed support for this campaign.

Student Advisory Committee Feedback

In March 2023, this proposal was shared with the Student Advisory Committee members soliciting their feedback. Staff received responses both via email and verbally at the Committee's meeting on March 22, 2023. Several members shared the proposal with their University President prior to the March 22 meeting. The comments were overwhelmingly positive regarding an initiative that encourages more access to higher education. The following comment was shared via email,

“My youngest brother, who wasn't sure what he wanted to do after high school, filled out his first college application when FHSU hosted a free application day. He is now a Tiger, happy with his decision. I also trust the argument that this initiative will benefit students of color and first-generation college students, for which FHSU is home to many. This week would increase accessibility to higher education for Kansans, which I see as a benefit to both the students and the universities.”

While the conversation was mostly positive, the student representatives voiced some challenges their institutions had about lost revenue from these free application days. Would it be possible to replace this lost revenue? Would it be better to start with three days rather than a full week? They encouraged staff to carry the program forward for further consideration.

Following the suggestion from the Student Advisory Committee and conversation from the Board of Academic Affairs Subcommittee meeting on May 17, 2023, the proposal has been adjusted from a five-day to a three-day free application program.

Admission Directors Feedback

October 17-19 was initially considered as the dates for the free application days. Meetings with admission directors on June 19 and June 26 revealed that the October 17-19 dates would put additional strain on the college admission staff during the busy college fair and admission travel season. These dates conflicted with several large college fairs, which would limit the ability of admission representatives to assist students with Apply Kansas events in the local high schools. After weighing several options, the group noted that selecting early November dates might be a better option to avoid scheduling conflicts while providing more time and support for the most vulnerable student populations in the state. While the November Kansas Apply Free dates place new challenges on institutions, the admission directors agreed moving the dates to a later point in the Fall would support more students in the application process.

Following these conversations, the Kansas Apply Free Days proposal has been adjusted from Oct 17-19 to November 7-9.

This will be conducted as a pilot program in which data will be collected and reported to BAASC. First, a report on applicants from this pilot will be provided to BAASC in January 2024. A second report, which will be presented to BAASC in October 2024, will detail the number of applicants from the pilot who enrolled in the Fall 2024 semester and include a plan to potentially eliminate general undergraduate admission application fees for Kansas resident students in the future.

BAASC approved this pilot on June 29, 2023.

Lastly, undergraduate admission application fee information that was requested by BAASC in May is detailed in the next two pages.

Dollars Collected from the Undergraduate Admission Application Fee (AY 22)

University	How many total dollars were collected from the undergraduate admission application fee from Kansas residents who applied for Summer 21, Fall 21, and Spring 22?	How many total dollars were collected from the undergraduate admission application fee from non-Kansas residents who applied for Summer 21, Fall 21, and Spring 22?
Emporia State University	\$55,680	\$1,350
Fort Hays State University	\$94,697.10	\$22,212.90
Kansas State University	\$197,040	\$150,880
University of Kansas	\$258,000	\$348,000
Wichita State University	Application fee revenue for KS residents is estimated to be \$380,000. Not requested but important to note is we've provided an estimated \$44,000 in application fee waivers for KS residents in this same time frame.	Application fee revenue for nonresidents is estimated to be \$241,000. Not requested but important to note is we've provided an estimated \$36,000 in application fee waivers for nonresidents in this same time frame.

Note: Pittsburg State University and Washburn University do not have an undergraduate admission application fee.

Information on how the Undergraduate Admission Application Fee is Utilized on each Campus

University	Please describe how the dollars collected from the undergraduate admission application fee are utilized on campus.
Emporia State University	Application fees provide additional revenue for the Office of Admissions in order to generate new applications and recruit new students.
Fort Hays State University	The money is utilized to assist with a wide variety of enrollment management and student success initiatives directed by the Vice President for Student Affairs.
Kansas State University	<p>These fees are utilized to support full-time positions for application and transcript processing in the Office of Recruitment and Admissions.</p> <p>Please note there are several unintended consequences not considered in these questions beyond the loss of application income:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase in the number of "soft" applications we receive and a decrease in yield. This impacts our workload of staffing to better understand who is really interested in attending vs applied for a school event, this will inflate our budgets for communications and mailings to admitted students as well as impact our ability to predict our incoming freshmen class. • Knowing we may overwhelm our processing staff if hundreds if not thousands of applications come in in a short time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Dates proposed are not ideal as they overlap with the largest college fair in the state and could reduce school participation in the Wichita Futures Fair* o Concern that counselors who hold these application events expect representatives from all major schools to be there to support them - if 200+ high schools are holding these events in a 3-day time frame during college fair travel season, reps will NOT be able to attend the apply events and we will be perceived by the counselors as being unsupportive.
University of Kansas	Application fees fund operations within Enrollment Management (Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar, etc.). These funds specifically support software for the application itself and positions related to processing applications for admission. Through targeted merit and need-based application waiver programs, KU already waives application fees for 1/3 of the Kansans that apply. Application revenue losses not offset by enrollment growth will require revising the current application waiver programs, diverting funds from other initiatives, etc.
Wichita State University	Application fee revenue is utilized in the following ways: admissions staff salaries, student worker wages, campus tour guide wages, travel to/from college fairs in Kansas and beyond, travel to/from high school and community college activities in Kansas and beyond, college fair registration fees, on-campus recruitment programs, off-campus recruitment programs, scholarships for students, advertising, promotional giveaways, facility rental costs, printed publications and postage, creation of digital and video content, community and public relations events, university signage for events, professional development, ACT prep for students, technology infrastructure for the admissions team, CRM costs including software licensing and texting, Welcome Center building charges, fleet vehicle costs including gas/maintenance and much more.

Note: Pittsburg State University and Washburn University do not have an undergraduate admission application fee.

*K-State submitted its survey before the proposed Kansas Apply Free Days dates were changed from October 17-19 to November 7-9. As of June 26, 2023, the new proposed