Summary

The Excel in CTE Initiative provides state-financed college tuition for high school students in approved postsecondary technical education courses for students earning industry-recognized credentials in high-demand occupations. As was done last year, a proviso was applied to the appropriation requiring payments for this program to be made to the institutions within a specified timeframe for FY 2023. The Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) met on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, and approved the distributions noted below for FY 2023. Staff recommends approval of the allocations, and requests authorization to make necessary subsequent technical corrections if errors are discovered. Staff will report back if any such corrections are needed.

Background

K.S.A. 72-3819, known as the Excel in CTE Initiative, provides state-financed college tuition for high school students in postsecondary technical education courses and incentives to school districts for students earning industry-recognized credentials in high-demand occupations. Funding for the initiative that reimburses colleges for the cost to deliver the programs is provided through an appropriation to the Board of Regents Office. The appropriation also provides a tuition subsidy for adults without a GED who are enrolled in tiered technical courses in designated Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) approved pathways.

For FY 2023, the Board of Regents has available $39.85 million for high school students’ postsecondary tiered technical course tuition and for tuition for adults without a GED who are enrolled in tiered technical courses in designated Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) approved pathways. Amounts noted in the tables below would commit $33.7 million based on actual Academic Year 2022 enrollments and calculated tuition costs.

The Board of Regents also administers the Postsecondary Education Performance-Based Incentives Fund (known as the GED Accelerator Initiative). This fund provides incentives to eligible institutions—community colleges, technical colleges, and Washburn Institute of Technology—for adults seeking and earning a GED/high school equivalency diploma and/or an identified industry credential while enrolled in an eligible postsecondary technical education program. Eligible institutions can receive $170 for each adult enrolled in a postsecondary technical program while pursuing a GED/high school equivalency diploma (or which must be used for the GED/high school equivalency tests), $500 for each adult earning a GED/high school equivalency diploma, and $1,000 for each adult earning an identified industry credential while enrolled in an eligible postsecondary technical education program.

FY 2023 Distributions

From the program’s inception through FY 2021, funding for the tuition portion of the Excel in CTE program was distributed twice a year, based on student enrollments submitted to the Kansas Higher Education Data System by the institutions in special data collections specific to the programs. Funds were distributed in January based on Fall enrollment data and in June based on Spring enrollment data. The 2021 Legislature enacted a new proviso, which was repeated by the 2022 Legislature:

And provided further, That during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, not later than 60 days following the class start date, expenditures shall be made by the above agency from such account for tuition reimbursement.
To comply with this expenditure timing requirement, a change was required for the basis of how the funds are distributed, and when funds are distributed to institutions. Rather than increasing the number of data collections and making multiple payments throughout the semester to institutions with their multiple unique class start dates, the Board distributed FY 2022 funds based on institutions’ share of the prior year enrollments in the relevant programs. This process makes the distribution of the state funds manageable for both the institutions and the Board Office and aligns with the methodology of most distributions.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 8, 2022</td>
<td>Earliest Class Start Date Fall 2022 Semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9, 2022</td>
<td>Deadline for College Presidents to Certify Academic Year 2022 Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9-13, 2022</td>
<td>Board of Regents Staff Computes Tuition Costs for Affected Programs</td>
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<td>September 14, 2022</td>
<td>Postsecondary Technical Education Authority Approves Distributions</td>
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<td>September 15, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 7, 2022</td>
<td>Deadline for Payments to Colleges According to Legislative Proviso</td>
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**Recommendation**

Institutions submitted and certified their full Academic Year data collection last week, which includes enrollment data for the three relevant programs. Staff have reviewed the information submitted by the institutions and recommends approval of the amounts noted below and requests approval to make necessary technical corrections in the event an error is identified. The distribution amounts set forth in the following tables do not reflect the Board’s assessment of each institution’s performance pursuant to KSA 74-3202d (e) and thus the actual distribution to an institution, in accordance with the performance agreement process, may be less than the amount set forth in the tables for that institution.
## Excel in Career Technical Education

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>FY 2022 Reconciliation Adjustment</th>
<th>FY 2023 Allocation</th>
<th>Net Distribution</th>
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