



KANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE UPDATE

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Kansas Association of Community College Trustees

State of the Kansas Economy & Budget



UNEMPLOYMENT IS DOWN



REVENUES ARE UP



STATE BUDGET IS
STRUCTURALLY IMBALANCED

Federal COVID Dollars

- **Education COVID funding--HEERF, ESSRA, EANS.....MOE (Alphabet Soup of federal \$ provided thus far and implications).**
 - **MOE= Maintenance of Effort**
- **State and Local COVID funding– CARES, SPARK, ARP, SPARK 2.0 (Over a billion dollars at state level)**

Why do you care....

CC funding from the state will be impacted greatly by all of these issues.

MOE funding- 1 time money

Tax Cuts--- No question if they will occur, question is what type and what size. The type and size could impact local property tax dollars to the college and the State General Fund (SGF) available for the state to provide to the colleges.

Redistricting- Unlikely friends.

2021 Budget Priorities of Community Colleges

ONGOING FUNDING NEEDS

1. **Fully fund SB 155- Carried over 1.1 million plus got an additional 8.3 million enhancement last year.**
2. Additional **2.0 million to fill tiered “Gap”** (“Gap” is the amount the college is paid vs. what they are owed.)
3. Additional **4.0 million to fill the non-tiered “Gap”**

MOE FUNDING (ONE TIME FUNDS)

4. **15.0 million for one time items needs.**

Funding for Special Projects/ Non-recurring Expenses/ Maintenance of Effort	1,210,000	Non-reoccurring expenses related to producing a more skilled and trained Kansas workforce which will include increasing apprenticeships to allow for each community college to develop a sustainable system as well as building industry partnerships for specialized training/apprenticeships for industry driven needs.
Funding for Special Projects/ Non-recurring Expenses/ Maintenance of Effort	8,500,000	Non-recurring expenses related to training/re-training/up-skilling and the associated equipment necessary to support high demand, high wage, critical need occupations (specifically targeting fundamental Kansas industries and emerging occupations such as alternative energy and the technology needs of the Kansas economy identified in in the Kansas Blueprint for Growth)
Funding for Special Projects/ Non-recurring Expenses/ Maintenance of Effort	4,940,000	One-time expenses targeting underserved and historically disadvantaged students (including returning citizens) divided evenly between each community college to increase access to collateral material and outreach in various languages and establish relationships with influencers in various ethnic communities and organizations with ties to historically disadvantaged populations.
Funding for Special Projects/ Non-recurring Expenses/ Maintenance of Effort	\$350,000	Facilitate a train the trainer system for FASFA completion to help address the needs of historically underserved and disadvantaged citizens including criminal justice involved returning citizens so that there are a cadre of people across the state able to assist students in accessing higher education.

Non-Budgetary Legislative Priorities

1. Promise Act Trailer Bill- To clarify legislative intent around program design and administration.
2. Anything that improves program to program transfer and articulation for students transferring from Kansas Community Colleges to Regents Universities.
3. Ensuring fair treatment of Community Colleges relating to funding formulas and priorities.
4. Ensuring that legislators understand that community colleges can work with any four-year institution at any-time and there is no need for further legislation in this area and that we are opposed to removing the legislature from this process.

Free College...is not free.

Kansas Community College concerns about the federally proposed “Free Community College” Plan

1. The details are sketchy at best and have changed in the last 3 months. However, the details which have been shared are highly concerning from a transparency, operations, and logistics standpoint.
2. Free Community College is not FREE. Besides the philosophical argument that it would cost all taxpayers something and is therefore not free there are a number of other issues when hearing the words “free community college” from a student’s point of view. While tuition may be “free” students will still be responsible for the costs of fees, books, and supplies. Often these costs outweigh tuition significantly and therefore the goal of increasing the number of students attending community college with “free tuition” alone is unlikely to occur. The student who thinks it is free is likely to be upset when they arrive at our campus and learn otherwise. They won’t understand why what they have been hearing on the news is not true.

3. The proposal requires a state match for tuition. This does not occur today and additional investment in making tuition “free” for students could erode other community college funding which is vital to college operations. This proposal may be good for some students but does nothing to ensure that the lower cost for students doesn’t cause a cost shift to fees or other expenses which are required to operate the colleges.
4. The plan as proposed does not allow for local property tax dollars to be counted as state match. In Kansas community colleges are funded 60% by local property taxes. The plan also does not honor the power of locally elected boards of trustees who serve to ensure the college meets the needs of the local economy. In Kansas, and in many other states Community Colleges are governed by local boards and not the state. The federal government dictating anything that could impact (whether intended or not) the governance of community colleges is something we oppose.
5. Uneven state playing field. Some states may opt in and others won’t. This will cause a unequal higher education landscape across the county which is bad for the students and the economy. **INCREASING THE PELL GRANT for all students is a much better solution.** Pell grants are an established program which effectively makes community college really “free” (covering tuition, books, supplies, and fees) for the neediest students and would help them more not only when they are at the community college but if they choose to continue towards a Bachelor’s Degree. Increasing the Pell grant rather than creating a new federal program in “free community college” would also avoid unnecessary additional administrative costs at both the federal, state, and local levels which will be incurred through a new program.

6. Amount of state match and maintenance of effort. Originally the plan had been for a 75%/25% state and federal match for the “free” tuition. However, now the plan may have shifted to 100% federal funding for at least the first year. Originally, the plan was States receiving these funds would be required to cover 25% of their allocation for the first four years of the program; 50% for years five and six; 75% for years seven and eight; and 100% for years nine and ten which is a new expense and cost shift to states. There is also a state maintenance of effort requirement across all of education spending in the state. This could be a significant cost driver which is unanticipated in states and require states to invest more to participate putting state legislators on the hook for discontinuing participation or raising revenues.
7. High school students would not qualify for the “free tuition.” Getting students into community college through dual/concurrent classes and in Kansas a program called SB 155/Excel in CTE which funds 100% of high school students tuition for students studying in technical education fields would be disrupted. It is unlikely that a student, parent, or policy maker would want to pay 100% for something that would be “free” after graduation. This will lower the number of students entering higher education, increase the number of credits needed and time to degree if the student does pursue higher education, and significantly damage the pipeline of students leaving high school and immediately entering the workforce in the most in demand and high wage technical fields.

Have been working to express our concerns with state and federal officials. There has been no interest from any legislator or other important elected officials at the state level to opt into this policy.

Promise Act

Kansas Promise Award for Academic Year 2021-2022 Status As of 9/7/2021

	# of Students awarded as of 9/7/21	Total Fall Expected Awards	Total likely to be awarded (F21,SP22,SU 22)	Total Remaining after Fall21 awarded & pending, Spring 22	% Remaining	Average award per student for fall actually awarded
Pratt	11	\$51,234.74	\$92,234.74	\$27,765	23.14%	\$3,214.61
Cowley	40	\$79,750	\$200,815.00	\$127,185	41.29%	\$1,632.28
Neosho	31	\$43,198.00	\$104,851.00	\$99,149	48.60%	\$1,187.52
Butler	63	\$93,389.89	\$393,133.45	\$589,867	60.01%	\$1,437.79
Highland	21	\$31,940	\$93,880.00	\$188,120	66.71%	\$1,520.95
Hutch	38	\$75,000.00	\$185,000.00	\$449,000	70.82%	\$1,719.33
Coffeyville	7	\$23,785.66	\$40,072.11	\$104,928	72.36%	\$2,810.45
Indy	3	\$13,207.00	\$25,053	\$74,947	74.95%	\$1,678.00
Dodge	0	\$16,758.00	\$43,516.00	\$133,484	79.93%	\$0.00
Johnson	119	\$184,918	\$365,328.00	\$1,522,672	80.65%	\$963.17
Garden	20	\$28,134.45	\$39,863.32	\$195,137	83.04%	\$586.44
Cloud	9	\$18,824.97	\$33,506.16	\$167,494	83.33%	\$1,655.21
KCKCC	20	\$34,063.00	\$100,000.00	\$539,000	84.35%	\$1,703.15
Colby	4	\$12,395.00	\$13,907.00	\$121,093	89.70%	\$3,098.75
Labette	4	\$6,824.00	\$16,630.00	\$173,370	91.25%	\$1,706.00
Allen	10	\$9,153.37	\$21,974.37	\$237,026	91.52%	\$797.30
Fort Scott	0	\$5,985.00	\$14,471.00	\$175,529	92.38%	\$0.00
Barton	13	\$19,550.26	\$58,650.78	\$496,886	92.70%	\$1,503.87
Seward	1	\$3,542.82	\$9,542.82	\$162,457	94.45%	\$1,057.64
TOTAL CC	414	\$751,654	\$1,852,428.75	\$5,585,109	74.80%	\$1,384.38

Emerging Issues

- New Associates Degrees
- Governance vs. Coordination
- Transfer and Articulation
- Governors Education Council- Department of Corrections 10 million, childcare tax credit, work based learning.
- Advantage Kansas Coalition- Focus on computer science
- KBOR/ KS State Board of Education Joint Meetings- Service Areas, FASFA Completion, First 15 hours