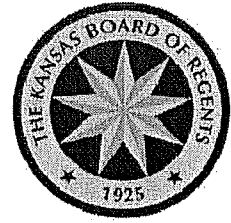


FORESIGHT 2020

A 10-Year Strategic Agenda for the State's Public Higher Education System



Foresight 2020 is a 10-year strategic agenda for the state's public higher education system. Adopted by the Kansas Board of Regents in September 2010, the plan sets long-range achievement goals that are measurable, reportable, and ensure the state's higher education system meets Kansans' expectations.

ALIGN SYSTEMS & INSTITUTIONS

Achieve alignment between the state's preK-12 and higher education systems and continue to enhance alignment between higher education institutions.

- 1.1 By December of 2010, the Board of Regents and its staff in cooperation with the P-20 Education Council and the Kansas State Department of Education will identify gaps that currently exist between preK-12 completion and higher education preparation expectations.
- 1.2 By August of 2011, all higher education institutions will have had discussions with local preK-12 partner high schools regarding these gaps and a plan to eliminate them.
- 1.3 By June of 2011, the Board of Regents will adopt a revised set of university admissions standards designed to identify a level of high school preparation that significantly enhance student success at the state's higher education institutions.
- 1.4 During the 2010-11 academic year, the Board will create a task force to review progress on alignment of higher education institutions and charge the task force with developing recommendations for additional enhancements needed to ensure greater alignment.
- 1.5 Beginning in the 2011-12 academic year, the Board and its staff will work with the Kansas State Department of Education and local school districts to inform parents, students, and counselors of new qualified admissions requirements and request that high school transcripts begin reflecting a student's grade point average in the Qualified Admissions Precollege Curriculum for those students who will be required to meet the revised admissions standards that go into effect in 2015.
- 1.6 Regents' universities will demonstrate increased collaboration including alignment within the Kansas higher education system through a biennial report beginning in the spring of 2013.

INCREASE PARTICIPATION

Achieve participation in the state's higher education system that better reflects the state's demography and more fully engages adult learners.

- 2.1 By 2020 or before, Kansas will improve levels of participation, within each higher education institution and across the system, that reflect the racial, ethnic, and economic demography of the state with a special focus on the most underrepresented students as measured by biannual progress on the baseline year of 2010.
- 2.2 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve "first in the nation" state status for in-state postsecondary participation among "traditional" students.
- 2.3 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve "top five" state status for participation of adults between the ages of 25-39 with only a high school diploma.
- 2.4 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve "top five" state status for participation of adults between the ages of 40-64 with only a high school diploma.
- 2.5 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve the national average for enrollment of those with less than a high school diploma in the state-administered Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs.
- 2.6 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve the national average for enrollment of those with limited or no English language proficiency in English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.
- 2.7 By 2020 or before, Kansas will double the percentage of Kansas ABE participants who achieve the goal of continuing on to postsecondary education after completion of their ABE programs.
- 2.8 By January of 2011, the Board of Regents will develop and submit for legislative consideration a proposal that would authorize new state funding to provide need-based assistance to students at public universities.
- 2.9 By September of 2012, the Board of Regents, in cooperation with state university leaders, will develop an initiative aimed at bringing additional out-of-state students into Kansas to pursue their postsecondary studies.

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- 2.10 By January of 2012, the Board of Regents will develop and submit for legislative consideration a proposal that would authorize new state funding to expand the state's Comprehensive Grant Program to provide need-based student assistance for two-year, certificate, and part-time students with an initial focus on those students who pursue studies that lead to jobs in high demand areas of the state's economy.
- 2.11 By the summer of 2012, Regents' institutions will have an approved plan to meet the Regent's policy on distance education which includes the use of alternative delivery systems to accommodate the variety of student educational needs.

IMPROVE RETENTION & GRADUATION RATES

Achieve measurable improvement in persistence and completion rates for higher education institutions across the state.

- 3.1 By September of 2012, the Board of Regents, in cooperation with higher education institutional leaders, will develop an initiative aimed at identifying and recruiting back into the higher education system working adults who have earned substantial credit but have not finished the work necessary to earn a credential or degree.
- 3.2 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve a 10 percentage point increase in first-to-second year retention rates across the higher education system.
- 3.3 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve a 10 percentage point increase in the six-year graduation rate for public universities and the three-year graduation rate for community and technical colleges.
- 3.4 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve "top 10" state status for the percentage of students who have earned an associate degree or higher.

ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS

Ensure that students earning credentials and degrees across the higher education system possess the foundational skills essential for success in work and in life.

- 4.1 During the 2010-11 academic year, the Board of Regents' system-wide learner outcomes task force, in consultation with the university Chief Academic Officers, shall make recommendations regarding the identification and measurement of foundational skills (such as oral and written communication, technical and numerical literacy, critical thinking and problem-solving) which institutions will report to the Board.

- 4.2 During the 2011-12 academic year, the System Council of Chief Academic Officers will finalize a proposal for assessment of a set of common learner outcomes for the KBOR system, submit it to the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee for review and approval, and then forward to the Board for approval.
- 4.3 Beginning in FY 2014, each Regents institution will report on assessment of the learner outcomes to the Board and based on the initial results, develop goals for each outcome to be included in performance agreements.

ALIGN WITH KANSAS WORKFORCE NEEDS

Enhance alignment between the work of the state's higher education system and the needs of the Kansas economy.

- 5.1 By December of 2011, the Board will begin receiving an annual report on the workforce needs of the state and the number of persons educated in the higher education system to fill those needs to determine alignment and gaps.
- 5.2 By December of 2012, the Board will begin receiving an annual report on university research initiatives designed to meet the needs of the Kansas economy.
- 5.3 By 2020 or before, Kansas will achieve or exceed the regional average for percentage of credentials or degrees awarded in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

ENSURE STATE UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE

Enhance the regional and national reputation of Kansas universities through aspirational initiatives.

- 6.1 By June of 2011, Regents' universities will identify benchmarks of excellence in comparison with peer institutions and establish goals to pursue in order to increase regional, national, and/or peer rankings.
- 6.2 By June of 2012, Regents' universities, according to mission, will identify areas for expansion of research capacity and/or focus and will establish goals to pursue.

Learn more about the Kansas Board of Regents and find additional *Foresight 2020* information at www.kansasregents.org/foresight_2020.