

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS  
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS**

**VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.**

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) will meet virtually via Zoom. An in-person option will be available at the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, Kansas, 66612.

- I. Call to Order** Mickey McCloud
  - A. Roll Call and Introductions
  - B. Approve Minutes from January 15, 2025 p. 3
  
- II. Systemwide Updates**
  - A. First 15 Update Rusty Monhollon
  - B. Receive Annual Report on Apply Kansas Application Campaign, Receive Report on Kansas Free Applications Day, and Receive Report on Kansas Free Application Day for 2025-2026 Academic Year Mistie Knox   
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- III. Other Matters**  
Academic Affairs Update Academic Affairs Staff
  
- IV. Announcements**  
  
Next SCOCAO Meeting – March 12, 2025
  
- V. Adjournment**

**SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS**

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO), established in 2002, is composed of the six chief academic officers of the state universities, four chief academic officers selected by the nineteen community colleges, one chief academic officer selected by the six technical colleges, and the chief academic officer of Washburn University. The Board’s Vice-President for Academic Affairs serves as an ex officio member. The Committee meets in person on the morning of the first day of the monthly Board meeting. Membership includes:

Brandon Galm	Cloud County CC
Mickey McCloud, Co-Chair	JCCC
Brent Thomas	ESU
Jill Arensdorf	FHSU
Jesse Mendez	KSU
Barbara Bichelmeyer	KU
Jason Sharp	Labette CC
Susan Bon, Co-Chair	PSU
Luke Dowell	Seward CCC
John Fritch	Washburn
Monica Lounsbery	WSU
Jennifer Seymour	WSU Tech
Rusty Monhollon	KBOR

**System Council of Chief Academic Officers  
AY 2025 Meeting Schedule**

<i>SCOCAO Academic Year 2024- 2025 Meeting Dates</i>		
<b>Meeting Dates</b>	<b>Location (virtual or in-person)</b>	<b>Institutional Materials Due</b>
September 18, 2024	Virtual	August 28, 2024
November 20, 2024	Kansas State University	October 30, 2024
December 18, 2024	Virtual	November 25, 2024
January 15, 2025	Virtual	December 24, 2024
February 12, 2025	Virtual	January 22, 2025
March 12, 2025	Virtual	February 19, 2025
April 16, 2025	Pittsburg State University	March 26, 2025
May 14, 2025	Virtual	April 23, 2025
June 11, 2025	Virtual	May 21, 2025

SCOCAO meets at 8:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS  
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 15, 2025**

The January 15, 2025, meeting of the System Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Co-chair Mickey McCloud at 8:31 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an in-person option held in Suite 530 located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Topeka, KS 66612.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brandon Galm, Cloud County CC	Jesse Mendez, KSU	Monica Lounsbery, WSU
Mickey McCloud, JCCC	Jason Sharp, Labette CC	Jennifer Seymour, WSU Tech
Brent Thomas, ESU	Susan Bon, PSU	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Luke Dowell, Seward CC	

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Co-chair Mickey McCloud introduced and welcomed Monica Lounsbery, the new provost for WSU.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Brent Thomas moved that the minutes of the December 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Luke Dowell, the motion carried unanimously.

**OTHER MATTERS**

**NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR MS IN MEDICAL DOSIMETRY**

Beth O'Neill, filling in for John Fritch from Washburn University, shared the program proposal that will be presented during the BAASC meeting for approval. Medical Dosimetry is part of the radiation oncology team that manages radiation treatments for cancer patients. This program will be unique to Kansas, unavailable in surrounding states, and addresses a national shortage.

**AY 2025 PERFORMANCE REPORT & RUBRIC**

Director of Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond shared the AY 2025 Performance Report template and rubric, which was approved by BAASC last year as the scoring component for the performance report. Director Christy-Dangermond reviewed each component of the performance report and explained the points for each.

**COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA LAUNCH**

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon reminded everyone that KBOR will host an event on February 11 at Washburn University to celebrate and kick off the new partnership with the Complete College America Alliance. The agenda and registration information are available on the website.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Director Christy-Dangermond reminded faculty that an English professional development session for faculty will be held on January 31 at 2:00. The registration link is on the website.

Co-chair Mickey McCloud shared reminders for upcoming dates. Updates to the Systemwide General Education Master Course Lists are due to Director Christy-Dangermond by January 17. Dual Credit reports are due to Associate Director for Academic Affairs Mistie Knox by January 31. The next SCOCOA meeting is scheduled for February 12.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Susan Bon moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Jesse Mendez, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

## Summary

*In 2020, the Kansas Board of Regents assumed responsibility for the Apply Kansas Campaign with the objective of expanding the initiative statewide. Apply Kansas is part of the American College Application Campaign, housed within ACT's Center for Equity in Learning. As the state's application campaign, Apply Kansas aims to increase college application rates among high school seniors, with a focus on supporting those from underrepresented backgrounds. The initiative provides resources, support, and events to help students navigate the college application process. During these events, all applications for students' future plans are celebrated.*

*Kansas Free Application Days has been piloted over the past two years, allowing Kansas residents of all ages and income levels to submit general undergraduate admission applications to all Kansas public institutions for free. The events were held on November 7-9, 2023, and October 7-9, 2024. Private colleges were also invited to participate in the campaign. Aggregate data will be presented today to determine whether Kansas Free Application Days will remain a pilot program or become an established initiative.*

## Background

Launched in 2015 by the Kansas Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (KACRAO), the Apply Kansas campaign is part of the broader American College Application Campaign. In 2020, the Kansas Board of Regents assumed leadership of the campaign, enhancing its reach and impact. Apply Kansas is now a Board Goal under the Family Pillar of the Building a Future strategic plan, which emphasizes the ongoing implementation and expansion of Apply Kansas initiatives. The initiative seeks to increase the number of students applying to college early in their senior year, with a particular focus on supporting students from low-income families, first-generation students, and those who might not otherwise pursue higher education.

During Apply Kansas events, students receive application assistance at their high school during the school day. These events are organized by the school's Apply Kansas Site Coordinator and supported by higher education staff, school personnel, and community volunteers. All applications for students' future plans are celebrated to promote a culture of achievement and inspire confidence in their postsecondary goals. The Apply Kansas Steering Committee oversees the campaign's strategic direction and implementation. This committee includes regional representatives from Apply Kansas Site Coordinators, higher education admissions staff, and a KACRAO liaison. Convened by Board staff, the committee is responsible for coordinating statewide efforts, distributing resources, and evaluating the campaign's progress and outcomes.

The Kansas Free Application Days initiative aligns with the "Building a Future" strategic plan and the goals of the Kansas Board of Regents. This initiative aims to support Kansas families by removing barriers that prevent students from pursuing post-secondary education, thereby increasing access to higher education, especially for underserved populations. The primary objective of the Kansas Free Application Days program is to boost college-going and FAFSA completion rates in Kansas. By eliminating application fees, the program helps residents take the first step towards continuing their education, ultimately increasing the number of students who complete their programs and enter the workforce with a degree or competitive skills.

Over the past two years, Kansas Free Application Days has been piloted, allowing residents of all ages and income levels to submit general undergraduate admission applications to all Kansas public institutions for free. The events were held on November 7-9, 2023, and October 7-9, 2024. Data on the applications received during the 2023 and 2024 free application days, the growth observed, and the Apply Free Days 2023 yield data based on aggregate collection will be reported. The Board approved the pilot proposal in July 2023, with the first event held from November 7-9, 2023. The initiative continued in 2024, with the event being held from October 7-9, 2024.

## Data Collection

Data collection for the Kansas Free Application Days (AFD) will be conducted in two phases: a unit record collection through KHEDS and an aggregate collection. The unit record collection through KHEDS will include applications from AFD 2023 and enrollments, providing more precise information tied to student records. This data will be finalized in September 2025 and available in October 2025. The aggregate collection will capture AFD application activity from November 7-9, 2023, as well as aggregate application, admission, and enrollment data for the 2024 calendar year terms (SP24, SU24, FA24). Yield will be calculated for each sector, by term, as reported by the institutions. The aggregate collection will be presented during the February Board meeting. Public institutions excluded from the aggregate data include Labette Community College, Dodge City Community College, and Kansas City Kansas Community College.

**Staff Recommendation**

The decision on whether the Kansas Free Application Days should continue as a pilot program or transition to an established opportunity is deferred to the Board. If the Board decides to continue with the three-day initiative for 2025, stakeholder feedback has been assessed, and Board staff recommends them for approval. October is designated College Application Month for Kansas, and it is recommended that the Kansas Free Application Days align with this month.