

**AUGUST 7, 2025**

**Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority**

**Budget and Finance Committee**

Curtis State Office Building

1000 SW Jackson, Suite 520

Topeka, KS 66612

2025-2026

**Budget and Finance Committee:**

Curtis Sneden, Chair

David Reist, Vice Chair

Todd Zimmer

Keith Humphrey

Amber Shultz

Ray Frederick, Jr.

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# 2024-2025 KANSAS POSTSECONDARY TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY GOALS



## Goals

1. Explore opportunities to diversify the funding base for Adult Education services to ensure expansion and sustainability of those services. Activities could include identification and active pursuit of potential funding sources such as grants, private partnerships, and government funding programs.
2. Identify and share best practices in reducing and/or eliminating the actual fees high school students participating in the Excel in CTE programs are assessed and ensure actual costs and potential subsidies are adequately communicated.
3. Explore methods to ensure data used to calculate the components of the instructional cost model represent actual costs.
4. Resume program performance reviews using previously established criteria to validate and communicate the value of technical education in developing a skilled workforce and meeting the needs of business and industry.
5. Improve collaboration and integration of programs between Community Colleges and Technical Colleges and Adult Education centers to streamline joint programs, educational pathways, and communication channels ensuring seamless transitions for learners and between institutions.
6. Explore a methodology to share best practices and communicate student participation rates in work-based learning opportunities.
7. Work with Commerce in expanding the apprenticeship model and include a method for identifying and reporting the number of apprenticeships established and the number of apprentices participating.
8. Explore a method to report participation, promote awareness, and emphasize business & industry partnerships and the value of customized training occurring at the institutions using input from community colleges, technical colleges, and universities.
9. Enhance military articulation and support efforts.
10. Explore opportunities to enhance corrections programs and methods to communicate progress to meet workforce needs.

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# MEETING AGENDA

The Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority’s Budget and Finance Committee will meet virtually through Zoom.

**Thursday, August 7, 2025**

- |             |  |  |            |
|-------------|--|--|------------|
| <b>I.</b>   | <b>Call To Order</b>   | Chair Sneden   |            |
| <b>II.</b>  | <b>Approval of Minutes</b><br><i>May 15, 2025</i>                                      | Chair Sneden   | <i>p.2</i> |
| <b>III.</b> | <b>Consideration of Discussion Agenda</b><br><i>A. Excel in CTE Program Discussion</i> | April White, Vice President for<br>Workforce Development | <i>p.4</i> |
| <b>IV.</b>  | <b>Next Meeting Reminder</b><br>Thursday, October 9, 2025                              | Chair Sneden   | <i>p.8</i> |
| <b>V.</b>   | <b>Adjournment</b>   | Chair Sneden   | <i>p.8</i> |

**KANSAS POSTSECONDARY  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY**  
Budget and Finance Committee  
MINUTES  
May 15, 2025

The Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority's Budget and Finance Committee met virtually on May 15, 2025, via Zoom. Proper notice was given according to law.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Curtis Sneden, Chair  
David Reist, Vice Chair  
Ray Frederick  
Todd Zimmer  
Keith Humphrey  
Amber Shultz

Chair Sneden called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Reist moved to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2025, meeting, and, following a second by Member Frederick, the motion carried.

**CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**Act on FY25 State Technology Internship Grant**

Vera Brown, Director for Career Technical Education, presented background information regarding the FY25 State Technology Internship Grant and explained the process for submission and review of grant proposals requesting state appropriated funding. She stated that the Legislature decided to discontinue funding for next year. This round of internships will exhaust the funds. Seven applications from four institutions were recommended for funding at various levels. Member Reist moved to approve the presented funding distribution and place the item on the consent agenda for the April TEA meeting. Member Zimmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Receive Information on Distributions of FY2026 State Appropriations for Community and Technical Colleges**

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration, presented information on the distributions. Member Frederick requested that the information be shared at the May 29, 2025, TEA meeting.

**Act on Supplemental Distribution of FY 2025 Appropriations for Technical Education (Excel in Career Technical Education)**

Vice President Frisbie presented information on the Excel and CTE funding. She explained that each year it is funded at the beginning of the fiscal year for the prior year's enrollment. The funding was \$358,836 short to fully reimburse everyone, and the legislature chose to allocate the additional money, which will need to be distributed to the colleges. Member Reist moved to put this information on the agenda for the next TEA meeting for consideration. Member Zimmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**EXCEL IN CTE FEE TASK GROUP**

Charmine Chambers, Director for Workforce Development, reviewed action items from the past meetings to ensure everyone is on the same page. The action items include:

**Action Item:** Course/program lists of items/costs – the TEA would like to see examples of what colleges currently provide to students/parents.

- Status: KBOR staff would recommend that all institutions adopt this process as standard for all programs and provide those lists on institutional websites alongside degree maps

**Action Item:** Current reporting: Required/permissible/optional fees – all fees are combined when provided to the TEA for review currently. Need to separate optional from required for the TEA review.

- Status: see discussion in 4/10/25 to have institutions report ONLY fees required for a student to participate in a course/program
- Data collection can accommodate institutions reporting ONLY required fees going forward, which is what will be provided to the TEA for approval

**Action Item:** Additional guidance needed to help institutions understand the Perkins grants available to help purchase classroom sets of tools/books/etc.

- Status: will work with Perkins team on dissemination when next round of grants becomes available

Member Reist thanked everyone who participated and stated that this will provide a clearer picture when new fees need to be approved.

### **NEXT MEETING REMINDER**

Chair Sneden reminded the committee of their next meeting on August 7, 2025, via Zoom.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Reist moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 A.M. Member Zimmer followed with a second; the motion carried.

### III. Consideration of Discussion Agenda

#### A. Excel in CTE Program Discussion

April White, Vice President for Workforce Development

#### Summary

*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 (when funding is appropriated) incentives to school districts for students earning industry-recognized credentials in high-demand occupations. Funding for the initiative to reimburse colleges for the cost to deliver the programs is provided through an appropriation to the Board of Regents Office.*

*Overall Excel in CTE participation has grown each year since its inception in 2013, and the FY2025 Calculated State Aid for Excel in CTE rose to \$45,751,649. Workforce Development staff were approached in the spring of 2025 by the community colleges regarding potential funding challenges in the future, and a request to discuss possible strategies to ensure prioritization of funding.*

#### Background

On June 6, 2025, Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) staff met with representatives from community colleges and technical colleges to discuss ongoing concerns related to the Excel in Career Technical Education (Excel in CTE) program. In anticipation of a conservative legislative climate, Workforce Development (WFD) staff were advised that the upcoming system budget request must be “realistic.”

As WFD staff are not present during legislative committee discussions, the meeting focused on gathering feedback from institutions regarding concerns previously raised by legislators.

#### Key Concerns:

Community college leadership shared several recurring concerns from their legislative interactions:

1. Base Funding and Potential K-12 Overlap - ongoing legislative perception suggests that concurrent enrollment program (CEP) may duplicate funding already allocated to K-12 systems.
2. Escalating Fiscal Impact - initially appropriation at \$8.7 million in FY 2012, Excel in CTE now approaches parity with Tiered Technical Education State Aid. Respectively, in fiscal year 2026, Excel in CTE received \$47,050,000, while Tiered Technical State Aid was \$66,453,525.
3. Program Accountability and Return On Investment - increasing scrutiny has emerged around the program's return on investment and measurable outcomes.

Participants agreed on the need for improvements to ensure the long-term health, sustainability, and accountability of the program. There was consensus that the perceived funding overlap must be directly addressed. To facilitate clarity and avoid confusion, Vice President White recommended holding a separate meeting focused solely on perceived funding overlaps.

#### Consideration of Limitations to Excel in CTE

Participants agreed that any programmatic changes should be internally guided rather than imposed externally. The following proposals were discussed:

1. Limit Enrollment to Juniors and Seniors
  - This aligns with the original legislative intent.
  - Agreement was expressed on this recommendation.

2. Align with Placement Requirements
  - Consider implementing basic skills assessments before enrollment to gauge student readiness. introduction of basic skills assessments prior to enrollment to screen for readiness.
  - Opinions were mixed on this approach.
3. Failing Students Sit Out a Semester
  - With a current failure rate of ~10+% system-wide, a “sit-out” policy was proposed. Community college leadership warned that continued high failure rates could result in a legislative requirement for K-12 districts to reimburse costs for failed students.
  - Opinions were mixed on this approach.
4. Course Alignment with Student’s Major
  - Students should only be enrolled in courses that align with the major listed on their K-12 Individual Plan of Study (IPS).
  - Agreement was expressed; however, the logistics to implement may be difficult.
5. Support Program Completion
  - Encourage declaring a major with a low-level exit point for high school students to support completion. Course schedules should support timely program completion.
6. Prioritizing Funding to Promise Eligible Programs
  - To align with legislative priorities, Excel in CTE funding could be limited to Promise Act-eligible programs.
  - Concerns were raised that this could overly restrict eligible offerings, and participants discussed that any Promise Act-approved program statewide could be eligible, not just those deemed eligible by individual institutions.

**Reference Data** - Source: KHEDS AY Collection and P20 Data System

Enrollment in Excel in CTE by grade level:

Academic Year 2024 - By Grade						
16,242 Unduplicated Headcount	09	10	11	12	Unknown	Totals
Participant	524	2,826	6,629	7,918	315	18,212
Completion	14	289	1,565	2,417	89	4,374
Percentage Completion	2.67%	10.23%	23.61%	30.53%	28.25%	24.02%
Percentage of Total Participants	2.88%	15.52%	36.40%	43.48%	1.73%	
Percentage of \$43,150,000	\$1,241,522	\$6,695,690	\$15,706,202	\$18,760,251	\$746,335	

Academic Year 2023 - By Grade						
15,264 Unduplicated Headcount	09	10	11	12	Unknown	Totals
Participant	525	2,552	5,904	7,211	141	16,333
Completion	8	207	1,318	2,177	42	3,752
Percentage Completion	1.52%	8.11%	22.32%	30.19%	29.79%	22.97%
Percentage of Total Participants	3.21%	15.62%	36.15%	44.15%	0.86%	
Percentage of \$39,850,000	\$1,280,919	\$6,226,486	\$14,404,849	\$17,593,727	\$344,018	

Note: Students reported with multiple Declared Program Majors are duplicated in the totals above

Course Enrollment, Completion, Pass Rate, and Failure Rate over the past 5 years:

Excel in CTE Pass Rates	AY 2020	AY 2021	AY 2022	AY 2023	AY 2024
Course Enrollments	36,292	32,722	35,376	39,431	42,630
Course Completions	30,353	28,516	31,250	34,937	37,883
Pass Rate	83.64%	87.15%	88.34%	88.60%	88.86%
Fail Rate	16.36%	12.85%	11.66%	11.40%	11.14%

Pass grades included = 'A', 'B', 'C', 'PASS', 'In Progress'



Headcount, credit hour production, industry recognized credentials, educational awards

<b>Participation in Excel in Career Technical Education</b>					
Distribution (Fiscal) Year	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	31,254,345	\$38,487,034	\$39,850,000	\$39,850,000	\$43,150,000
Data Year	AY 2020	AY 2021	AY 2022	AY 2023	AY 2024
Participating Headcount (unduplicated)	13,934	12,529	13,712	15,264	16,242
College Credit Hours Generated	109,226	98,681	105,509	115,517	126,856
Industry Recognized Certifications Earned	1,631	981	1,656	1,636	1,418
Degrees Awarded (Educational)	3,477	3,593	3,245	3,696	K-TIP not yet available
Degrees awarded in healthcare programs of 15 credit hours or less	2,792	2,834	2,341	2,615	K-TIP not yet available

### **Community College Feedback**

The community college sector leadership indicated that feedback had been sought from all community college presidents and the group is in support of the proposed changes.

### **Technical College Feedback**

The technical college leadership followed up with a letter which is attached to this agenda.

### **Discussion**

WFD staff request that the TEA review and provide recommendations on the proposed administrative rule changes to the Excel in CTE program. As a first step, each TEA committee is asked to review the proposed changes and provide feedback.



June 9, 2025

April White  
Vice President for Workforce Development Kansas Board of Regents  
1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 520  
Topeka, KS 66612-1368

Re: KTC Response to KBOR on Excel in CTE discussion

Dear April,

Thank you for facilitating the conversation regarding Excel in CTE last week. After conferring with the other KTC leaders, it is clear that we do not support some of the discussed approaches to Excel in CTE. We understand there are concerns about the program. However, we would prefer to have time to examine the data more closely and develop actions to improve outcomes rather than applying blanket restrictions that unfairly penalize institutions who are delivering results.

Our group is unified with creating clear expectations of desired outcomes to increase skilled entry-level workers from our secondary students that address existing and projected employer needs across the state. That skilled workforce is critical to sustaining and growing the state's economy.

This also means making clear to our secondary partners of the structures and expected outcomes of Excel in CTE so that all the two year colleges can work in tandem with the K-12 institutions to clarify and enhance advising into Excel courses and programs of study, working not only from Promise Act programs but to enhance alignment with the required Perkins analysis of two-year colleges with their secondary partners. Further, some programs of study in certain service areas may have additional justification due to the community and/or economic development goals of those regions.

Some examples of the KTC group's consideration of suggested changes could include examining limitations on freshmen and/or sophomore students, but again, some school districts and communities are more reliant on the interest in (by the students) and workforce needs (of the communities). Also, for a student failing a course there should be no mandatory period of non-enrollment, but intrusive advising and support as the reason for the failure may well have been due to circumstances beyond the control of the student. We would also support that institutions with performance issues in certain programs of study develop an improvement plan for KBOR staff review to again work to meet expected outcomes for skilled workforce AND early college completion.

We stand ready to work with you on these considerations to address concerns and strengthen the impact of Excel in CTE.

Thanks for all you do!  
Cc: KTC Board of Directors

*August 7, 2025*

*Reminders and Adjournment*

**IV. Next Meeting Reminder**  
Thursday, October 9, 2025

Chair Sneden

**V. Adjournment**

Chair Sneden

## Postsecondary TEA Meeting Dates 2025-2026

*All meetings are streamed live at: <https://www.youtube.com/@kborkansas1908>*

### TEA Meeting Dates

### Location

*TEA meeting times and locations are subject to change based on the availability of the committee members*

Thursday, August 21, 2025	KBOR Office, Topeka - 10 a.m.
Thursday, September 11, 2025	Conference Call - 10 a.m.
Thursday, October 23, 2025	KBOR Office, Topeka - 10 a.m.
Thursday, November 20, 2025	Conference Call - 10 a.m.
Thursday, December 18, 2025	Conference Call - 10 a.m.
Thursday, January 22, 2026	KBOR Office, Topeka - 10 a.m.
Thursday, February 19, 2026	Conference Call - 10 a.m.
Thursday, March 26, 2026	KBOR Office, Topeka - 10 a.m.
Thursday, April 23, 2026	Conference Call - 10 a.m.
Thursday, May 28, 2026	KBOR Office, Topeka - 10 a.m.

### Committee Conference Call Meeting Dates

### Location

*Committee meeting times and dates are subject to change based on the availability of the committee members*

All Committee meetings are conference calls	
Thursday, August 7, 2025	<p><b>Budget/Finance Committee:</b> 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Program/Curriculum Committee:</b> 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p>
Thursday, October 9, 2025	
Thursday, November 6, 2025	
Thursday, December 4, 2025	
Thursday, January 8, 2026	
Thursday, February 5, 2026	
Thursday, March 12, 2026	
Thursday, April 9, 2026	
Thursday, May 14, 2026	



## 2025-2026 KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING DATES

September 17-18, 2025

November 19, 2025

December 17-18, 2025

January 14-15, 2026

February 11-12, 2026

March 11-12, 2026

April 15, 2026

May 20-21, 2026

June 17-18, 2026