



Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) History and Funding

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Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) History

Movement began in Washington State in 2006 – Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST)

What is I-BEST:

- Integration of basic skills and professional technical skills instruction

Why was I-BEST developed:

- 13% of English as a Second Language students transitioned on to complete some college credits
- Less than 30% of Adult Basic Education students transition to college level courses

What are results of I-BEST:

(when compared to similar students who did not receive I-BEST training)

- Students enrolled in I-BEST were 3 times more likely to earn college credit
- Students enrolled in I-BEST were 9 times more likely to earn a workforce credential
- Students enrolled in I-BEST were employed at double the hours per week
- Students enrolled in I-BEST were earning an average of \$2,310 per year more in the 1st year after I-BEST

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) History

Accelerating Opportunity was modeled after Washington State's I-BEST success:

Job For the Future (JFF) – is national nonprofit organization that works to ensure educational and economic opportunity for all made I-BEST a national initiative and called it Accelerating Opportunity (AO)

Accelerating Opportunity Funders:

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, US Department of Labor, Joyce Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Kresge Foundation, Open Society Foundation, Arthur Blank Foundation, Woodruff Foundation, Casey Foundation and the University of Phoenix Foundation.

States were asked to write a grant proposal to be considered for AO

Original 11 Accelerating Opportunity States:

Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon and Wisconsin

Accelerating Opportunity States:

Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Louisiana

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) History

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K)

- AO-K transforms the delivery system for adult education in Kansas delivering career and technical education at the same time as adult basic skills instruction within a career pathways framework.
- AO-K is a partnership between the Kansas Board of Regents and Kansas Department of Commerce to offer short-term certificate programs aligned with labor market needs, leading to industry recognized credentials and immediate jobs with family-sustaining wages.
- AO-K is available to any student who scores between levels 4 and 6 in any one section of the Test for Adult Basic Education (TABE) exam

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) History of Funding

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) Funding History

- In a Memorandum of Understanding between KBOR and JFF:
 - State awarded \$1.6 millions dollars between 2011-2014 to implement AO
- State partnership:
 - Workforce Solutions \$550,000
 - Adult Basic Education \$100,000
 - WIA Title II funds \$50,000
 - Carl D. Perkins \$300,000
- Institutions were funded equally:
 - Intent of money was to build the AO-K structure on campus

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) Current Funding

- What is GED Accelerator?
 - Performance based incentive funding for students concurrently earn a GED and an approved postsecondary credential
 - Example of funding options:
 - Student completes an industry credential: \$1000
 - Student completes the GED: \$500
 - And \$170 for the GED testing fees

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) Current Funding

- What is a tiered funding?

- Model that calculates costs at a course level to recognize the cost differential in delivering technical courses

- Example of an AO-K pathway:

Nurse Aide 5hrs (technical)	\$285 per credit hour	=\$1,425
Medication Aide 5hrs (technical)	\$269 per credit hour	=\$1,345
Medical Terminology 3hrs (technical)	\$212 per credit hour	=\$636
Biology 5hrs (non-technical)	\$162 per credit hour	=\$810
AO-K Proviso Total for this pathway:		=\$3,406
AO-K TANF Total for this pathway:		=\$4,216

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) Current Funding

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) Funding Now

- In 2014 the AO-K TANF Scholarship was introduced as a \$1.7 million partnership with the KS Department for Children and Families

AO-K TANF is a **scholarship program** funded through a partnership with the Department for Children and Families that pays the **full composite rate** for courses in approved AO-K pathways (tiered and non-tiered courses).

- In 2015 House Bill 2506 (AO-K Proviso) allowed a minimum of \$500,000 (out of the SB155 pool of money) in tuition for AO-K students without a high school diploma.

AO-K Proviso is a **tuition reimbursement program (similar to SB155)** funded by the legislative appropriations to encourage institutions to work with those without a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be an approved AO-K college to participate. Pays the **full composite rate** for tiered courses in approved AO-K pathways.

- In 2015 House Bill 2506 (GED Accelerator) allotted \$1.9 million as an incentive **GED Accelerator** is an **incentive program** funded by the legislative appropriations to reward institutions for assisting students to concurrently achieve a GED® certificate and an industry recognized credential. The GED Accelerator funding stream does not require the student, program or institution to be designated “AO-K”. Funding is awarded only when students complete the four GED® Test modules, pass the GED Test®, and/or earn an industry recognized credential.

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) Current Funding

- Total Possible Funding Per Student?

- AO-K Proviso

Tuition	\$3,406
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Incentive	<u>\$1,670</u>
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	\$5,076
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- AO-K TANF

Tuition	\$4,216
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Incentive	<u>\$1,670</u>
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	\$5,886
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Sample Student

AOK- Proviso			
Student Bill			
Course	Credit Hours	Tuition&Fees	Total
Nurse Aide	5	\$100.00	\$500.00
Medication Aide	5	\$100.00	\$500.00
Medical Terminology	3	\$100.00	\$300.00
Biology	5	\$100.00	\$500.00
		Amount Due:	\$1,800.00
		AOK – Proviso Payment:	\$3,406.00
		Excess:	\$1,606.00
AOK- TANF			
Student Bill			
Course	Credit Hours	Tuition&Fees	Total
Nurse Aide	5	\$100.00	\$500.00
Medication Aide	5	\$100.00	\$500.00
Medical Terminology	3	\$100.00	\$300.00
Biology	5	\$100.00	\$500.00
		Amount Due:	\$1,800.00
		AOK- TANF Payment:	\$4,216.00
		Excess:	\$2,416.00

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Questions