



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 18, 2014

Unified Budget Request Asks for Support to Institutions and Students

(Topeka, Kansas) - Included in today's proceedings of the Kansas Board of Regents, the following budget priorities were approved for submission to the Governor's office for consideration as the FY 2016 & FY 2017 Unified State Appropriation Request.

In support of our universities, the Board forwards the following priority requests to be considered in addition to continuation of current levels of state funding:

TOP UNIVERSITY PRIORITY REQUESTS	FY 2016	FY 2017
KU - Drug and Vaccine Discovery Institute	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
KUMC - Merit Based Salary Enhancement	\$3,400,000	\$3,400,000
KSU - Strengthen the College of Architecture, Planning, Design (Capital Improvement)	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
WSU - Support for Economic, Innovation, Diversification, Technology Transfer - Phase I	\$4,700,000	\$6,200,000
ESU - Newman Division of Nursing	\$500,000	\$500,000
PSU - Expand Capacity and Excellence in Health-Related Programs	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
FHSU - Retention, Graduation and Enrollment Enhancements (6 individual enhancements)	\$1,008,568	\$2,188,568
Washburn University - KBI Crime Lab Partnership Project	\$920,000	\$920,000
	\$21,528,568	\$25,208,568

In support of our two-year colleges, the Board forwards the priority request to close the gap in the tiered technical education funding formula, which will require an additional \$8 million in FY 2016 and \$16 million in FY 2017. "This funding is key to developing a highly prepared Kansas workforce," stated Andy Tompkins, President and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents.

In support of our students, the Board forwards the following priority requests giving special consideration for the need to increase state support for need-based financial aid for Kansas students and increase state support for the National Guard Educational Assistance Program, as well as provide critical funding to implement new recommendations made by the Developmental Education Working Group to increase college-readiness of our state's students and provide much needed assistance to maintain and grow Adult Education initiatives:

	FY 2016	FY 2017
Increase State Support for Need-based Financial Aid for Kansas	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000
Increase State Support for National Guard Educational Assistance Program	\$250,000	\$250,000
Developmental Education Working Group Budget-Related Recommendations	\$988,000	\$988,000
Adult Education - Restore Cuts to Maintain Current Services	\$167,000	\$167,000
Adult Education - Add New Support to Increase Enrollments	\$465,000	\$465,000
	\$4,370,000	\$6,870,000

Also included in the request is \$10 million for FY 2016 and \$5 million for FY 2017 to address capital improvement and operations requests in support of the proposed merger between Fort Hays State University and Dodge City Community College, \$555,738 for FY 2016 and \$555,738 for FY 2017 to sustain the Kansas Board of Regents data system and staffing capacity, \$109,728 for FY 2016 and \$113,940 for FY 2017 to address the 3% increase in the state lease rate for the Board Office, and an additional \$20,000 in each year to fund the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) annual state commitment increase.

For more information, contact Breeze Richardson at (785) 291-3969 or brichardson@ksbor.org.

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About the Kansas Board of Regents:

The nine-member Kansas Board of Regents is the governing board of the state's six universities and the statewide coordinating board for the state's 32 public higher education institutions (six state universities, one municipal university, nineteen community colleges, and six technical colleges). In addition, the Board administers the state's student financial aid, adult education, high school equivalency, and career and technical education programs. Private proprietary schools and out-of-state institutions are authorized by the Kansas Board of Regents to operate in Kansas, and the Board continues to administer Kan-ed, a program for facilitating and promoting distance learning and telemedicine in schools, libraries and hospitals. Visit the Kansas Board of Regents online at www.kansasregents.org.