

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

The Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) will meet in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room, located in the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson St, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas 66612. To the extent possible, a virtual option will be provided to accommodate those who prefer not to attend in person.

- I. Call to Order** Regent Mendoza, Chair
 - A. Roll Call and Introductions
 - B. Approve Minutes from February 26, 2025 Meeting p. 3

- II. Board Consent Items**
 - No items

- III. Board Discussion Agenda Items**
 - Act on Kansas Free Applications Day for AY 2025-2026 Mistie Knox p. 5

- IV. Other Matters**
 - A. Next Three-Year Cycle Performance Agreements Rusty Monhollon
 - B. Reverse Transfer Annual Report Mistie Knox p. 6
 - C. Launch Years Initiative Update Jen Bonds-Raacke

- V. Announcements**
 - Next BAASC Meeting – April 2, 2025 - Virtual

- VI. Adjournment**

BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE

Four Regents serve on the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC), established in 2002. The Regents are appointed annually by the Chair and approved by the Board. BAASC meets virtually approximately two weeks before each Board meeting. The Committee also meets on the morning of the first day of the monthly Board meeting. Membership includes:

Diana Mendoza, Chair

Alysia Johnston

Neelima Parasker

Kathy Wolfe Moore

Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee

AY 2025 Meeting Schedule

<i>BAASC Academic Year 2024- 2025 Meeting Dates</i>			
Meeting Dates	Location	Time	Agenda Materials Due
September 4, 2024	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	August 14, 2024
September 18, 2024	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	August 28, 2024
November 6, 2024	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	October 16, 2024
November 20, 2024	Kansas State University	11:00 a.m.	October 30, 2024
December 4, 2024	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	November 13, 2024
December 18, 2024	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	November 25, 2024
January 2, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	December 11, 2024
January 15, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	December 24, 2024
January 29, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	January 8, 2025
February 12, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	January 22, 2025
February 26, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	February 5, 2025
March 12, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	February 19, 2025
April 2, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	March 12, 2025
April 16, 2025	Pittsburg State University	11:00 a.m.	March 26, 2025
April 30, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	April 9, 2025
May 14, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	April 23, 2025
May 28, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	May 7, 2025
June 11, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	May 21, 2025

Please note that virtual meeting times are 10:00 a.m. and Board Day meetings are 11:00 a.m., unless otherwise noted.

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2025**

Chair Diana Mendoza called the February 26, 2025, Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Regent Diana Mendoza, Chair
 Regent Alysia Johnston
 Regent Parasker
 Regent Kathy Wolfe Moore

INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Julio Guerrero, who filled in for Barry Robinson at Butler CC, and Angela Pool-Funai, who filled in for Jill Arensdorf at FHSU, introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Parasker moved that the minutes of the February 12, 2025, meeting be approved. Following the second of Regent Johnston, the motion carried unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEMS

BS DATA SCIENCE

Jen Roberts shared a summary of the program proposal. This proposal was originated because KU received a National Science Foundation grant, which has provided funding for the Kansas Data Science Consortium, which is working to enhance the data science capabilities of the Kansas workforce. Dr. William Duncan shared an overview of the program content and structure. Regent Johnston moved to approve the program proposal. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

ACT ON KANSAS FREE APPLICATIONS DAY FOR AY 2025-2026

Associate Director of Academic Affairs Mistie Knox shared that based on the stakeholder feedback, it was recommended that the 2024 dates set for the second week in October, which would be October 6-8, 2025, continue and remain consistent. Maintaining this timeline would allow for continuity in data collection. The KHEDS AY report, anticipated in October, will provide further insight into the initiative's impact. At the last meeting, provosts expressed appreciation for the spirit of the initiative. They suggested collaborating and exploring ways to streamline the processes for students applying and, reduce the burden faced by admissions departments, and reduce costs. Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon shared that the provosts have been meeting and working on gathering the data for their institutions. There is a meeting of enrollment managers later in the week. He also provided a reminder that at the last meeting, there was a motion to table this discussion until the March Board meeting and recommended that this timeline be followed to allow the provosts to provide the data they receive from the enrollment managers. Regent Parasker made a motion to move this discussion to the March meeting. Following the second of Regent Mendoza, the motion carried unanimously.

OTHER MATTERS

REDUCED CREDIT BACCALAUREATE DISCUSSION

Vice President Monhollon asked the committee to provide feedback on how to proceed with their recommendation to be presented to the Board. The regents suggested gathering information on what the policy changes would look like, data on industry needs, and what the requirements and criteria for the institutions requesting to offer these degree programs would be. Regent Johnston moved that the Board be charged with gathering information to

determine what it would take for the institutions to be able to propose degree options for the 90-hour bachelor's degree. Regent Parasker seconded the motion. Vice President Monhollon will move forward with working with Board staff to gather information on what the policy updates will look like, the approval process for these programs, and the criteria that will be used to assess these programs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next BAASC meeting will be held in Topeka at the KBOR office on March 12.

ADJOURNMENT

Regent Johnston moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Act on Kansas Free Applications Day for AY 2025-2026

Summary

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 application and yield data were presented at the February 2025 Board meeting. Board staff recommends continuing Kansas Free Application Days on October 6-8, 2025.

Background

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.

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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 was presented at the February 2025 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

Based on feedback from key stakeholders—including admission directors from public universities, leadership from the Kansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (KACRAO), the Kansas Independent College Association (KICA), and the Apply Kansas Steering Committee—Board staff recommend continuing Kansas Free Application Days on October 6-8, 2025, to align with College Application Month for Kansas. Maintaining this timeline ensures consistency with statewide efforts and provides continuity in data collection for more accurate year-over-year comparisons to assess the initiative's impact.

Reverse Transfer Annual Report

Summary

Reverse transfer enables students to transfer credits earned at a university back to a community college to complete an associate degree. The Kansas Board of Regents implemented the systemwide Reverse Transfer Agreement in 2014, with policies ensuring compliance with legal, policy, and accreditation standards. Recent updates to the process include a proposed adoption of the National Student Clearinghouse's free data exchange service in fall 2025. The Reverse Transfer Working Group continues to optimize strategies to ensure students receive credentials they have earned.

Background

Reverse transfer facilitates the transfer of credit hours earned at a state university back to a state community college for students who transferred without completing the requirements for an associate degree. This allows students to fulfill remaining requirements at the community college and be awarded the associate degree by that institution.

The Kansas Board of Regents first approved reverse transfer agreements in 2014, codified in the Board Policy Manual, Chapter III, Section A.3. The policy directs the “state universities, community colleges, technical colleges, Washburn University and Washburn Institute of Technology to work together, through the System Council of Presidents and System Council of Chief Academic Officers, to develop a process to assist students to complete coursework for and attain all certificates and degrees for which they are eligible.” The process and reverse transfer agreements shall:

- a. Be consistent with state and federal law, Board policies and applicable accreditation standards;
- b. Provide a mechanism for each student who is transferring credits from a community college or technical college to a university to participate in the reverse transfer process; the established mechanism shall include an opportunity for each otherwise eligible student to opt-in to the process, thereby permitting sharing of that student's Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act protected information; and
- c. Provide guidelines for determining which transferring institution will award the credential if the student has transfer credits from more than one institution.

In May 2014, the presidents and chancellors of all state universities, community colleges, and technical colleges signed the systemwide Reverse Transfer Agreement, which took effect the following fall. At this time, the Reverse Transfer Working Group was formed to review and revise procedures and recommend them for approval by the System Council of Presidents and System Council of Chief Academic Officers.

The System Council of Presidents and the System Council of Chief Academic Officers last approved the systemwide “Reverse Transfer Procedures,” on September 18, 2024. The full text of the document is available here: https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/reverse-transfer

The most recent updates to the Reverse Transfer Procedures are scheduled for approval at the December 18, 2024, meetings of the System Council of Presidents and the System Council of Chief Academic Officers. These updates include the addition of language supporting the use of the National Student Clearinghouse's free data exchange service, which is set to begin in fall 2025.

In 2018, KBOR staff developed a “Reverse Transfer Communication Plan” to assist institutional staff in promoting reverse transfer, which includes visual aids to assist in communicating about reverse transfer (see below).



Reverse Transfer Procedures

The systemwide reverse transfer procedures require universities to identify transfer students with 60 credit hours completed at one or more colleges. Upon identifying those students, universities inform students about reverse transfer and give students a choice to opt into the process. Once a student opts in, their transcript data is sent to the appropriate two-year institution each fall and spring until the student earns an associate degree, graduates, opts out, or is no longer enrolled.

Reverse Transfer Working Group

Reverse Transfer Working Group (RTWG) has been meeting consistently to monitor and optimize reverse transfer strategies to ensure students acquire credentials that they have earned. The members of the Working Group are listed below.

Last	First	Job Title	Institution
Roberts	Jeff	Assistant University Registrar	University of Kansas
Fink	Carrie	Associate Registrar	Kansas State University
Laman	Mariah	Transcript Analysis Specialist	Pittsburg State University
Crabtree	Gina	University Registrar & Director of Enrollment Services	Wichita State University
Morgan	Heather	Executive Director	Kansas Association of Community College Trustees
Karlin	Craig	Registrar	Fort Hays State University
Markowitz	Sheila	Registrar	Emporia State University
Long	Christina	Registrar	Hutchinson Community College
McCloud	Mickey	Provost	Johnson County Community College
Claussen	Sydney	Director of Advising	Garden City Community College