

**KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES**

September 11, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:	David Reist, Chair	Keith Humphrey	Natalie Clark
	Curtis Sneden, Vice Chair	Debra Mikulka	
	Ray Frederick	Todd Zimmer	
	Cindy Hoover	Mike Beene	

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Reist called the September 11, 2025, meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority to order at 10:01 am.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

ACT ON DISTRIBUTION OF FY 2026 APPROPRIATIONS FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President of Finance and Administration, provided an overview of the FY 2026 appropriation for the Excel in CTE initiative. A proviso attached to the appropriation requires that payments for this program be made to institutions by October 10, 2025.

In FY 2025, overall student headcount increased by 8.6%, while calculated state aid costs rose by 13.0%. The Board of Regents has \$47,050,000 available for FY 2026, which represents an 11.5% shortfall. The recommended approach is to pro-rate distributions proportionally to account for the funding gap. Distributions for the Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K) program were calculated using the same method, as its funding is sourced from the Excel in CTE appropriation.

There is insufficient funding to support the GED Accelerator program, or the newer initiative aimed at assisting students with tuition costs. If the proposed distributions are approved, the request will be presented to the Board at the September meeting, allowing for disbursement in early October.

Member Beene inquired about the possibility of reallocating excess funds from the Business and Industry Apprenticeships State Aid and the Student Success State Aid to reduce the Excel in CTE shortfall. Vice President Frisbie confirmed that it would be possible to transfer the estimated \$5.2 million allocated for Johnson County Community College (JCCC). She noted that community colleges will submit their FY 2025 financial audits later this year, at which point eligibility for those funds will be reverified. If JCCC is found to be ineligible, the funds are scheduled to lapse on June 30, 2026, unless spent beforehand. Additionally, a provision in the appropriation bill authorizes President Blake Flanders to transfer funds among SGF accounts. However, Vice President Frisbie recommended postponing any transfers until after the audit results are finalized. Member Sneden and Chair Reist supported this recommendation.

Member Hoover expressed concern that an equal reduction in distributions may not align with the program's intended purpose. She emphasized the need to revisit the distribution methodology in future discussions, particularly in scenarios involving funding shortfalls, as previously discussed at the last meeting.

Member Beene moved to approve the distribution of FY 2026 appropriations as presented, and to move funds from the Business and Industry Apprenticeships and Student Success accounts to Excel in CTE pending the final audit review. Member Sneden seconded, and the motion carried.

VI. NEXT MEETING REMINDER

Vice President April White shared that the next TEA meeting will be held on October 23, 2025, in Topeka at the KBOR office, rather than virtually as indicated on the agenda.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Reist adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.