FORESIGHT 2020
A 10-Year Strategic Agenda for the State’s Public Higher Education System

Foresight 2020 is a 10-year strategic agenda for the state’s public higher education system. Originally adopted by the Kansas Board of Regents in 2010 and updated in 2012, the plan sets long-range achievement goals that are measurable, reportable, and ensure the state’s higher education system meets Kansans’ expectations.

INCREASE HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

Aspirations
★ Increase, to 60 percent, the number of Kansas adults who have a certificate, credential, associate’s degree, or bachelor’s degree by 2020.
★ Achieve a ten percentage point increase in retention and graduation rates.

Measures
★ State demographics with higher education participation levels of Kansas citizens, including underrepresented groups.
★ Postsecondary attainment of Kansans, by age groups, to the United States.
★ In-state postsecondary participation rates by age groups—traditional students, adults between the ages of 25-39, and adults between the ages of 40-64.
★ Number of Adult Basic Education (ABE) participants.
★ Percent of ABE participants in postsecondary education.
★ Number of adults with college credit returning to complete a postsecondary credential.
★ First to second year retention rates at universities, community colleges and technical colleges.
★ Three-year graduation rate for community and technical colleges.
★ Six-year graduation rate for universities.
★ Number of certificates and degrees produced.
★ Number of adults with college credit returning to complete a certificate/credential, associate or bachelor degree.

IMPROVE ECONOMIC ALIGNMENT

Aspirations
★ Meet business and industry expectations for core workplace skills in mathematics/analytical reasoning, communication and problem solving.
★ Reduce workforce shortages in selected high demand fields.
★ Meet expectations of quality in all technical programs.
★ Enhance understanding of the role of university research in supporting the economy.
★ Continue to exceed the regional average for percent of credentials awarded in STEM fields.

Measures
★ Performance of students on institutional assessments in three areas:
  1. Mathematics/Quantitative/Analytical Reasoning
  2. Written and Oral Communication,
  3. Critical Thinking/Problem Solving.
★ Percent graduates employed in Kansas post graduation.
★ Average wages earned by graduates post graduation.
★ Performance of students on selected third-party technical program certificate/credential assessments.
★ Number of certificates and degrees awarded in selected high-demand occupations.
★ Percent of credentials awarded in STEM fields.

ENSURE STATE UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE

Aspiration
★ Improve the regional and national reputations of state universities.

Measures
★ Selected regional and national rankings and other quality measures of research universities compared to peers.
★ Institutional performance of regional universities on quality measures compared to peers.
★ Amount and proportion of federal research dollars awarded.
★ Private giving to universities.

Learn more about the Kansas Board of Regents and find additional Foresight 2020 information at www.kansasregents.org/foresight_2020.