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AO-K Proviso Guidance

Senate Substitute for House Bill 2506 included the following proviso language attached to the tuition for technical education line-item appropriation:

*Provided, That, notwithstanding the provisions of any other statute, in addition to the other purposes for which expenditures may be made by the above agency from the tuition for technical education account of the state general fund for fiscal year 2015, expenditures shall be made by the above agency from the tuition for technical education account of the state general fund for fiscal year 2015 for the payment of technical education tuition for adult students who are enrolled in technical education classes **while obtaining a GED using the Accelerating Opportunity program.** *Provided further, that, such expenditures shall be in an amount not less than \$500,000.**

Funding period for appropriation: July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas Initiative

To increase the state's economic standing and the quality of its workforce, Kansas is committed to increasing the number of Kansas adults who have a certificate, associate, or bachelor's degree to 60 percent by 2020. **Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas (AO-K)** transforms the delivery system for adult education in Kansas using career pathways to deliver career and technical education at the same time as adult basic skills instruction. AO-K career pathways are based on short-term certificate programs aligned with labor market needs, leading to industry endorsed credentials and immediate jobs with family-sustaining wages. AO-K is part of the national Accelerating Opportunity initiative managed by Jobs for the Future, which is funded by six philanthropies: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Joyce Foundation, Kellogg Foundation, Kresge Foundation, Open Society Foundations and the University of Phoenix Foundation.

AO-K is a partnership between the Kansas Board of Regents and Kansas Department of Commerce, and includes the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF), which is using Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to provide tuition scholarships for TANF-eligible students who enroll in AO-K career pathway programs and complete a 12-credit hour career pathway.* Currently, 14 community and technical colleges participate in the AO-K initiative. The Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) manages the AO-K initiative and has an existing process in place for development and approval of AO-K career pathways.

*DCF Tuition Scholarship funds (see above) are utilized as the first available funding source for qualified students, prior to accessing funding available through this Proviso.



Proviso Language

Definitions included in Proviso	Working Definition	Comments
(1) Tuition	Calculated Course Rate for Tiered Courses	For any student for whom AO-K proviso tuition funding is sought, SB155 rules will apply.
(2) Technical education	Courses that are tiered at the institution claiming AO-K Proviso funding. (This mirrors SB155 criteria)	The AO-K Proviso does not provide funding for non-tiered courses. For TANF eligible AO-K students only , payment is available for both tiered and non-tiered courses. The GED Accelerator incentives may be used for scholarships. For colleges qualifying for the GED Accelerator incentives, those funds may be used to support both tiered and non-tiered courses.
(3) Adult students	Age 16 and over who are released from compulsory attendance by a school district	
(4) who are enrolled in technical education	Enrolled in courses included in AO-K approved pathway	Co-enrollment in an adult education program and a career technical education program within an AO-K approved career pathway.
(5) while obtaining a GED	Enrolled in Adult Education and attending either ABE/ASE/ESL and/or supplemental instruction classes	Students must be co-enrolled in both an adult education program and a career technical education program . Students who have a high school diploma or GED are not eligible to receive AO-K Proviso funding.
(6) using the Accelerating Opportunity Program**	Any institution offering technical education can be an approved AO-K provider	Institutions not currently participating in AO-K must agree to the AO non-negotiables including enrollment and completion goals, approved pathways, wrap around support services and 25% overlap in basic skills and CTE instruction. Colleges not receiving AEFLA funding will be required to have a formal partnership with an Adult Education program receiving AEFLA funding. This formal partnership will enable them to employ adult education instructors, offer GED prep instruction and enter student information in the PABLO data system.

**We will offer AO-K training in July for colleges who want to become AO-K participants. College personnel and faculty must complete training and submit career pathways to KBOR prior to August 1, 2014, in order to submit fall semester courses for state funding.



Proviso Data to be Certified/Reported	Data Submission Format/Methodology	Data Collection Dates
(1) Tuition	Same as SB155	October 31 and March 31
(2) Technical education	Same as SB155	October 31 and March 31
(3) Adult Students	Entry in PABLO (Adult Education data system)	October 31 and March 31
(4) who are enrolled in technical education	PABLO	October 31 and March 31
(5) while obtaining a GED	PABLO	October 31 and March 31
(6) Using the Accelerating Opportunity Program	MOU	October 31 and March 31

Senate Substitute for House Bill 2506

STATE BOARD OF REGENTS

Sec. 24.

(a) There is appropriated for the above agency from the state general fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, the following:

Tuition for technical education..... \$12,000,000

Provided, That, notwithstanding the provisions of any other statute, in addition to the other purposes for which expenditures may be made by the above agency from the tuition for technical education account of the state general fund for fiscal year 2015, expenditures shall be made by the above agency from the tuition for technical education account of the state general fund for fiscal year 2015 for the payment of technical education tuition for adult students who are enrolled in technical education classes while obtaining a GED using the Accelerating Opportunity program: *Provided further*, That, such expenditures shall be in an amount not less than \$500,000.

Postsecondary tiered technical education state aid..... \$900,752

Non-tiered course credit hour grant \$1,194,020

Municipal university operating grant \$169,698

(b) There is appropriated for the above agency from the following special revenue fund or funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, all moneys now or hereafter lawfully credited to and available in such fund or funds, except that expenditures other than refunds authorized by law shall not exceed the following:

Temporary assistance for needy families federal fund No limit

Workforce data quality initiative No limit

Postsecondary education performance-based incentives fund\$1,905,228

(c) On July 1, 2014, or as soon thereafter as moneys are available, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer \$1,905,228 from the state general fund to the postsecondary education performance-based incentives fund of the state board of regents.