

**KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
September 17, 2024**

The Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) Special meeting was called to order by Chair Ray Frederick via Zoom at 11:00 am. Proper notice was given according to law.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Ray Frederick, Jr. (TEA Chair)
- Curtis Sneden (TEA Vice Chair)
- Dr. Tiffany Anderson
- Mark Hess
- Cindy Hoover
- Debra Mikulka
- David Reist
- Mike Beene
- Amber Shultz
- Natalie Clark

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Keith Humphrey
- Todd Zimmer

CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

ACT ON DISTRIBUTION OF FY 2025 APPROPRIATIONS FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Elaine Frisbie, VP of Finance and Administration, began by thanking members for their participation in this special meeting and then discussed the changes in the funding cycle for providing state aid to two-year colleges for Excel in CTE, A-OK, and GED Accelerator programs. Previously, this aid was calculated using live data within the fiscal year, but it has now shifted to a process similar to that for tiered and non-tiered courses. Colleges submitted and certified their AY 2024 enrollment data by September 6th which was used complete calculations being presented based the instructional cost model.

VP Frisbie noted the available funds for Excel in CTE and A-OK programs fell short of the calculated amounts (\$358,836-Excel in CTE; \$3925-A-OK). There was, however, \$2.8 million from the previous year's unspent funds helped alleviate some of the overall shortfall. As state funding for both programs are sourced within the same appropriation, the distribution amounts of this state aid were pro-rated according to each college's share of the state aid calculated total for each of the programs.

VP Frisbie also highlighted that 11 colleges were due incentive payments under the GED Accelerator Program, which rewards students pursuing technical programs and high school equivalency or GED diplomas. The total incentive owed is \$96,440, but no funds remain to make this payment. Last year utilizing the last remaining funds, these amounts were pro-rated among the qualifying institutions. VP Frisbie emphasized there is a request to include funding of \$100,000 in next year's budget to cover these incentives in the future.

Additionally, four colleges would be due payments totaling \$8,567 under the AOK program to provide students with a \$500 lifetime eligibility payment for course materials, but there are no funds available to cover this amount either. The total shortfall across all programs amounts to \$467,768. VP Frisbie proposed bringing this shortfall to the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee for consideration in the current budget request, so that the funds can later be distributed to the colleges as required by statute.

Lastly, VP Frisbie shared the enrollment in the Excel in CTE program has hit a new peak with over 16,000 unduplicated students, showing a 9.1% average growth over three years. Student credit hours have also reached

a record high of over 126,000, reflecting an 8.7% average growth, highlighting the increasing demand for the program.

Member David Reist expressed strong support for the Excel in CTE program, noting that every legislator he has spoken with sees them as a "win-win-win" for the state, schools, and students. He highlighted how students in one-year programs often complete half of the coursework in their junior year and the other half in their senior year, leading to immediate job opportunities upon graduation. Member Reist emphasized the importance of securing necessary funding for the program to continue helping students enter the workforce successfully.

Member Cindy Hoover asked how the funds were allocated and how much each institution had deducted. Vice President Frisbie explained that the shortfall was pro-rated equally, based on each colleges share of the total estimated cost.

Member Curtis Sneden followed up with a question regarding a statement in the summary box that referenced performance agreements. VP Frisbie clarified that the Board has a process for evaluating institutions based on performance agreements, which has been in place for 25 years. While the process has evolved, all public institutions are currently in 100% compliance. In the past, if an institution did not meet their performance targets a portion of their new state funding was withheld for that year, but this has not occurred in recent years. The inclusion of performance agreement language is required by statute, but all institutions will receive the amounts outlined in the table.

Motion

Member Curtis Sneden moved to approve the funding distribution amounts as presented and ask the Board to consider requesting 1) addition funds for the current year, and 2) based on the funding trajectory from the past three years, increasing funding amounts for not only Excel and CTE but also for tiered and non-tiered courses in the 2026 budget request. Member Reist seconded the motion. The motion passed.

NEXT MEETING REMINDER

Vice President Frisbie reminded members that the next regularly scheduled meeting is September 26, 2024, and that will be a virtual conference call.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Frederick adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.