In 2012, a plan was launched to enhance career technical education in Kansas and prepare high school students for college and careers. The Excel in Career Technical Education Initiative provides Kansas high school students state-funded college tuition in approved technical courses offered by the 26 Kansas technical and community colleges across the state. As a result of this initiative, postsecondary career technical education programs have experienced significant enrollment growth.

**Participation**

While the pandemic affected participation rates in Academic Years 2021 and 2022, enrollments recovered in AY 2023 and have grown in AY 2024. As a result, the Board requests an additional $371,238 for FY 2025 to be able to fully fund for enrollment in AY 2024. In addition, the Board requests $3.9M be added to the base appropriation in FY 2026 to ensure adequate funding for projected enrollments in AY 2025.



Source: KBOR KHEDS AY Collections; KSDE Credential Production.

**Funding**

Annual appropriations by the Legislature provide the colleges with revenues to deliver the courses in lieu of student tuition. Distributions of state funding are calculated using the instructional cost model.



The colleges are prohibited from charging tuition to the high school students, but they are allowed to charge fees, as authorized by the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority and the Kansas Board of Regents. Technical programs may have associated fees for items such as textbooks, tools, and personal protective equipment for students to effectively participate in coursework. The list of authorized fees approved for Academic Year 2025 is published on the Board of Regents’ website:

<https://www.kansasregents.org/workforce_development/excel-in-career-technical-education-initiative-senate-bill-155>

Also found on the Board’s website is a listing of online Excel in CTE courses that are offered by the colleges, as provided by the institutions. The published list should not be considered exhaustive of all colleges that offer Excel in CTE-eligible courses, nor all Excel in CTE-eligible courses that are offered online. For additional information, prospective students should contact the colleges directly.

## Results

* Approximately 30% of participants complete a college-level certificate/degree in high school.
* Nearly two-thirds of Excel in CTE students go on to enroll in college and earn more credits/degrees than traditional CTE students.
* Excel in CTE credits lead to higher employment and higher wages of approximately $3,500 per year.
* Excel in CTE provides talent for Kansas businesses.

*Source: Donna K. Ginther, Director, Center for Science, Technology & Economic Policy at the Institute for Policy & Social Research (2016).*