Higher Education

It’s the key to Kansas’ future.

**KEEPS STUDENTS IN KANSAS.**
- Education drives student success. Lifetime earnings double for workers with bachelor’s degrees versus those with only high school diplomas.
- Kansas Regents schools enroll more than 125,000 students each year, including nearly 15,000 at Wichita State. Nearly 90 percent of WSU’s students come from Kansas.
- WSU is the leading supplier of qualified engineers to Kansas’ aviation industry and qualified teachers to the state’s largest public school district.
- Eighty-eight percent of WSU’s students with cooperative education or internship credit are working in Kansas after graduation.
- Over 52,000 WSU alumni make their homes in Kansas.

**CREASES GROWTH AND PROSPERITY STATEWIDE.**
- Kansas businesses rely on Kansas universities and colleges for a capable workforce.
- The state’s aviation, medical, educational and business communities rely on Wichita State for students and research.
- WSU’s National Center for Aviation Research and College of Engineering keep Kansas at the forefront of the U.S. aerospace and aircraft manufacturing industries.
- WSU ranks third among all U.S. universities in spending on aerospace research and development.
- Kansas-based Koch Industries, the largest privately-held company in the U.S., hires more graduates from Wichita State than anywhere else.
- WSU offers the only physician assistant program and the only bachelor’s of dental hygiene program in Kansas.
- Kansas’ efforts to become a national center for orthopedics research and development is dependent upon Wichita State.

**ENSURES KANSAS IS READY FOR THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY.**
- Only strong universities and colleges can ensure Kansas will be ready for economic recovery. Regents universities and colleges award more than 33,000 degrees each year.
- The workers Kansas will require in the next several years need to be in college now.
- Investing in state higher education today ensures that Kansas will be ready when recovery happens.
- Budget cuts that constrict enrollment and reduce research activity directly limit the state’s growth opportunities in the years to come.