2020 Legislative Agenda for the University of Kansas

The Kansas Board of Regents is asking lawmakers for an additional $50 million in funding for the state's university system. The University of Kansas supports this request and echoes the Board of Regents' belief that this funding is necessary to ensure state universities can meet the needs of Kansas families and communities and drive prosperity in the state.

We appreciate that the Kansas Legislature provided additional funding to KU in each of the past two legislative sessions. But state support for KU remains well below 2008 levels, which has put tremendous upward pressure on tuition and hampered KU's ability to serve Kansas. This is why additional funding is crucial.

Increased funding would enhance KU's ability to serve the state in meaningful ways. Specifically, enhanced funding would enable us to:

- stabilize tuition
- continue growing the Kansas economy by strengthening the workforce, launching startup companies and partnering with Kansas companies
- improve rural health access, as well as cancer research and treatment, throughout Kansas
- expand work in emerging areas like cybersecurity and addiction research and treatment
- grow our research enterprise, which brings $240 million in federal funds to Kansas annually

Together, we can fulfill KU's mission of education, service and research in a way that creates a more prosperous Kansas.

For additional information, visit our State Relations page or contact Kelly Whitten, director of state relations, at 785-864-7100.

Interested in advocating for higher education?
KU students, employees, alumni and supporters are encouraged to join Jayhawks for Higher Education, the university's higher education advocacy group headed by the KU Alumni Association. Jayhawks for Higher Education members receive updates throughout the legislative session, are notified of legislative events in their area, and are called upon at key moments during the session to contact legislators on behalf of KU.

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