

KU as an economic engine for the state of Kansas

KU drives prosperity in a way that no other Kansas institution can

The University of Kansas is an economic engine for the Kansas. Below are some the ways the university drives economic prosperity by educating students, providing critical infrastructure to Kansas communities, and conducting research that leads to new products and services.

KU addresses the state's workforce needs

The university awards 6,400 degrees and certificates annually, making KU the top source of talent for the Kansas workforce. Additionally, 25 percent of KU's out-of-state students stay in Kansas after graduation, making KU the state's leading talent magnet.

KU has Kansas' only schools of medicine and pharmacy — meaning it's the only institution equipped to address the state's critical need healthcare practitioners, especially in rural areas.

Additionally, KU partners with individual companies like Cessna and Black & Veatch to provide specialized training and internship programs to meet workforce needs.

KU creates startup companies

KU researchers have created or provided the technology for 44 active startup companies. Of those, 30 are in Kansas.

KU brings new companies to Kansas

Since 2010, more than 30 companies have located in or near Lawrence to partner with KU. Examples include Archer Daniels Midland, Sun Life Financial, and Ligand Pharmaceuticals.

Many of these companies are located in the KU Innovation Park, which houses 56 corporate tenants — including companies like ADM and Garmin — totaling 375 private sector jobs and \$22.6 million in payroll. These companies chose to be in Kansas so they could be close to KU researchers and students.

KU brings external research grants into the state

When KU researchers win federal research grants, that's new money that comes into Kansas that would otherwise go to other states. In 2020, KU researchers conducted \$275.4 million in externally funded research.

25%

Out-of-state students who stay in Kansas after graduation

44

KU startup companies

30

Companies that have moved to Lawrence to partner with KU since 2010

56

Corporate tenants in KU Innovation Park

3,000

Corporate partnerships with companies like ExxonMobil, Ford Motor Company and Honeywell

275.4M

Federal research dollars awarded to KU researchers and spent in Kansas annually

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KU Corporate Partners

KU has more than 3,000 partnerships with companies ranging from internships to research alliances.



KU provides direct services to Kansas communities

KU provides direct services and infrastructure to communities – especially rural communities – many of which couldn’t flourish or exist without assistance. For example:

- KU Medical Center provides telemedicine and rural health clinics that reach every corner of the state.
- KU trains every law enforcement officer in the state of Kansas through the university’s Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center.
- The Kansas Geological Survey at KU monitors water levels in western Kansas to help farmers with long-term planning.
- The Fire & Rescue Training Institute at KU trains thousands of firefighters and first responders so they can serve Kansas communities.

KU attracts donations from outside Kansas

Nearly 40 percent of KU donors live outside Kansas. So when out-of-state donors are inspired by the work we’re doing and make a donation to KU, that’s new money that flows into Kansas.