

Five Strategic Questions for Higher Education in Kansas

1. **Alignment with K-12:** Are we satisfied that high school graduation expectations are aligned with college preparation expectations? Are those students moving into our system from the state's high schools prepared to meet postsecondary expectations?
 - Engagement with stated K-12 Leadership
 - Testing/Survey Data (ACT Survey, COMPASS, etc.)
 - Volume of Developmental Course Offerings
 - Define College Readiness
2. **Participation:** Are we satisfied with the level of participation (the percentage of high school graduates who move on to postsecondary education within a year of graduation) in our state's higher education system? Are we satisfied that those participation rates adequately reflect the demographic composition of our state? Finally, are we satisfied with the participation of adult learners in our higher education system?
 - College Going Rate Data (aggregate and disaggregated)
 - Census Data population aged 25-64 with only high school credential
 - Enrollment Data for population aged 25-64
 - Purchase access to National Clearinghouse Database
3. **Persistence:** Are we satisfied with our institutional retention and completion rates – the percentages of students who persist in our institutions through to certificate or degree completion?
 - Retention Rate Data
 - Graduation Rate Data
 - State-Based Data to account for migration within Kansas System
4. **Workforce Alignment:** Are we satisfied that within the offerings to which our students are exposed during their time in our postsecondary institutions, the programs, resources, and incentives are aligned with the workforce demands of our state's economy.
 - Workforce Study Data
 - Kansas, Inc. Study
 - Governor's Economic Sub-Cabinet Report
 - Need to develop more regularized mechanism for maintaining alignment
 - Immediate areas of Focus? Teachers? Nurses? Engineers? Technical fields?
5. **Learner Outcomes:** Are we satisfied that those who complete our educational programs (earn our certificates and degrees) have not only mastered the specific competencies associated with their discipline, but also possess the cross-cutting, non-disciplinary skills and competencies necessary for success?
 - Determine what skills/competencies fall into this category
 - Develop some mechanism for measurement (explore development in this field) National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA), Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA).