



Kansas Key to Shaping the Compact's Programs and Services

1. Kansas was the first founding member state to pass authorizing legislation to join the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), which was created in 1991.
2. Kansas legislators, members of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments, were instrumental in the formation of the compact.
3. Former Senate Majority Leader Lana Oleen has served as a MHEC commissioner, compact chair, and served as interim president twice.
4. The MHEC Purchasing Initiatives Committee is chaired by Barry Swanson, associate vice provost for operations/chief procurement officer, from the University of Kansas.
5. Over 20 Kansans, including commissioners, commissioner alternates, and members of advisory program committees, provide significant direction for MHEC programs and services.

Kansas Benefits from Participation in MHEC Programs and Services

1. Entities in MHEC member states have saved an estimated \$386 million since 1991 by using MHEC purchasing contracts.
2. Kansas received a 53-fold return on its MHEC investment for FY12 when comparing total savings to the state's annual paid commitment (dues).
3. By using MHEC's cost savings and student exchange programs, Kansas higher education institutions, school districts, state and local governments have achieved cost savings of \$58.2 million since 1991, when the state joined the compact.
4. In FY12, education institutions, school districts, state and local governments, and students achieved savings of \$5.1 million.
5. In FY12, over 300 Kansas entities realized over \$1.1 million in cost savings by purchasing over \$10.6 million in technology hardware and software.
6. The MHEC property insurance program insures Friends University, Johnson County Community College, McPherson College, Sterling College, and Washburn University with total property values of nearly \$1.5 billion, collectively saving over \$734 thousand since 1994 and over \$286 thousand in FY12.
7. Kansas students and families have saved over \$49.2 million in tuition through the Midwest Student Exchange Program since 1994. In FY12, Kansas residents saved nearly \$3.7 million.



Midwestern Higher Education Compact

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8. The MHEC e-Transcript Initiative (ETI) offers a mechanism to facilitate the transfer of student information in a consistent format between MHEC's public and private high schools to MHEC's public and private colleges and universities. Over one million transcripts have been sent through the ETI since its inception in 2006.

Potential Savings for Kansas

1. Since the membership is a state membership, not only can higher education institutions use MHEC's purchasing contracts, but school districts, state and local governments, and not-for-profit entities can also use most of the MHEC purchasing contracts.
2. Because MHEC is a statutorily created entity in each member state, state and local entities can use MHEC contracts without having to incur the cost of rebidding for the products or services covered in MHEC contracts. MHEC has already conducted a thorough and competitive bid process which can be tailored to the needs of the state or local entities.
3. MHECare, the student health collaborative, provides member institutions with a sustainable student health insurance program and helps institutions support the student learning experience by providing protection from unexpected medical expenses. To date, MHECare provides benefits for approximately 12,000 students across 18 campuses. The Kansas Board of Regents institutions began participating in MHECare in fall 2012. They are the first campuses to join the collaborative.
4. MHEC's Pharmacy Benefit Coalition Program offered through National CooperativeRx targets the cost of prescription benefits - one of the fastest growing segments of health expenditures.

Opportunity for a Midwest Voice from Kansans

1. MHEC policy and research efforts focus on the Midwest. Kansans have participated in MHEC professional development programs and policy initiatives designed to inform decision making and improve practice. For example, they have participated in MHEC's annual policy summits as well as initiatives such as "Closing the Gap" and "Difficult Dialogues, Rewarding Solutions."
2. The theme for MHEC's 2013 policy summit to be held in Omaha, Nebraska, is: Rise of the MOOCs: Foreshadowing the Coming Transformation of Higher Education? MHEC's November 2012 annual meeting and policy summit, attended by over 200 persons, addressed the relationship of higher education programs to workforce needs.
3. The locations of MHEC commission meetings rotate among the member states, showcasing each state's education initiatives to an audience comprised of Midwestern legislators and education leaders. MHEC held its Executive Committee meeting in Topeka in June 2008.
4. All travel and lodging expenses for commissioners who attend MHEC meetings are paid by MHEC.
5. Since 2008 the annual state commitment has been set at \$95,000 and will remain frozen at that level through at least FY15. This amount is significantly lower than the state commitment paid by 37 states in the other three regional higher education compacts where the state commitment ranges from \$125,000 to \$193,550 per state.