

KANSAS OFFICE *of*  
**REVISOR *of* STATUTES**

LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS  
*Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: 2023 Special Committee on Education  
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Date: October 10, 2023  
Subject: Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA)

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The legislature established the postsecondary technical education authority (TEA) in 2007. K.S.A. 74-32,401 provides that the TEA<sup>1</sup> is to be composed of 12 members appointed as follows:

- Two members of the Kansas board of regents (KBOR) appointed by KBOR;
- One member representing community colleges appointed by KBOR;
- One member representing technical colleges appointed by KBOR;
- One member representing Kansas business and industry appointed by the governor;
- Two members representing the general public appointed by the governor;
- One member representing business and industry appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- One member representing business and industry appointed by the president of the senate; and
- Three ex officio members: the commissioner of education, the secretary of commerce and the secretary of labor.

When making appointments representing business and industry or the general public, consideration is to be given to those who are recognized for their knowledge or expertise and representative of current and emerging technical career clusters of the state. Of the members appointed to represent business and industry and the general public, appointments shall be made such that each congressional district is represented. No more than five voting members shall be from the same political party.

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<sup>1</sup> TEA is a public body and subject to state laws governing open meetings and open records.

K.S.A. 74-32,402(a) requires TEA to review postsecondary technical education in the state and make recommendation to KBOR on:

- Coordination of state-wide planning;
- Rules and regulations for postsecondary technical education supervision;
- Programs and program locations for funding purposes;
- State funding and distribution thereof;
- Development of benchmarks and accountability indicators for programs;
- Development of a policy agenda for postsecondary technical education;
- Studies on maximizing and utilizing resources for postsecondary technical education;
- Strategies and programs for meeting business and industry needs;
- Coordination of a seamless system for delivering postsecondary technical education between secondary and postsecondary institutions; and
- The performance of its duties and functions.

TEA is also authorized to develop and recommend to KBOR a tiered credit hour funding distribution formula that is responsive to program growth, considers industries critical to the Kansas economy and includes other necessary factors and considerations. Additionally, TEA is to make an annual report to the legislature on its functions and duties.

K.S.A. 74-32,402(b) provides that recommendations made to KBOR by TEA are to be implemented unless KBOR vetoes the recommendation by majority vote within 45 days of submission.

K.S.A. 74-32,402(c) requires KBOR and TEA to appoint a vice-president of workforce development to serve as the executive director of TEA. The appointment procedure requires the participation of the Kansas association of community college trustees and the Kansas association of technical colleges. The vice-president is not a member of the authority and serves at the pleasure of the state board of regents.

K.S.A. 74-32,403 requires the state board of regents to provide staff, facilities and other assistance requested by TEA.