



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 \$353 million since 1991 by using MHEC purchasing contracts.
2. Kansas received a 57-fold return on its MHEC investment for FY11 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 \$53.1 million since 1991, when the state joined the compact.
4. In FY11, education institutions, school districts, state and local governments, and students achieved savings of \$5.4 million.
5. In FY11, 300 Kansas entities realized over \$878 thousand in cost savings by purchasing over \$7.6 million in technology hardware and software.
6. The MHEC property insurance program insures Johnson County Community College with total property values of \$309.7 million, saving the university over \$447 thousand since 1994 and over \$37 thousand in FY11. Washburn University joined the program on October 1, 2012, saving the university about \$176 thousand, approximately 46% of their program costs.
7. Kansas students and families have saved \$45.5 million in tuition through the Midwest Student Exchange Program since 1994. In FY11, Kansas residents saved \$4.5 million.



Midwestern Higher Education Compact

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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, a Midwest student health collaborative, will launch in fall 2012. It will offer potential cost-saving opportunities and comprehensive coverage for students and colleges and universities. MHECare was created in response to rising student health care costs. The member states needed a sustainable solution, and MHECare is part of that answer.
4. MHEC awarded National CooperativeRx a competitive bid to help higher education institutions in the compact's member states with their pharmacy benefit costs.

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. MHEC's November 2011 annual meeting and policy summit, attended by over 200 persons, addressed college readiness, focusing on Midwestern state and school district best practices.
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 36 states in the other three regional higher education compacts where the state commitment ranges from \$125,000 to \$193,550 per state.