
CAMPUS UPDATE

Kansas' network of Small Business Development Centers

Serving 105 Kansas counties under the auspices of Fort Hays State University, the Small Business Development Center network is funded through the U.S. Small Business Administration in partnership with the Kansas Department of Commerce. Kansas' SBDC network helps existing and aspiring business owners achieve their goals in a complex local, regional, and global marketplace. Workshops are offered at a low cost, and consulting services at no cost.



Since 2010, network centers have helped 28,257 small businesses in every Kansas county, aided in creating or retaining 32,577 jobs, and generated an \$823 million infusion of capital into the state's economy.

2020 SBDC Economic Impact Highlights

- 5,636 jobs created or saved
- 614 businesses reported \$147,827,986 in capital investments
- 143 new business starts
- 212 businesses reported sales increases totaling \$89 million

The Kansas SBDC oversees eight regional centers across the state, as well as three sub-centers and four specialty centers (capital access, call center, business transition, technology). These centers work independently and in concert to achieve micro-and macro-level outcomes and initiatives. The Kansas SBDC network helps new entrepreneurs realize their dream of ownership and assists existing businesses in their efforts to remain competitive. Learn more at www.fhsu.edu/ksbdc/.

Educated in Kansas, staying in Kansas

Each year, the FHSU Office of Career Services surveys graduating students on their post-graduation plans. Survey data from 2020 and 2021 shows that **95% of FHSU graduates get jobs or continue their education.**



FORT HAYS STATE
UNIVERSITY

A significant majority of the survey respondents representing the university's five colleges told us they planned to remain in Kansas after graduating, including 139 business and entrepreneurship professionals, 113 teachers, and 87 nurses. And 240 survey respondents told us they plan to continue their education after graduation, including a significant number of graduates from our College of Health and Behavioral Sciences. Each year, the FHSU Office of Career Services surveys graduating students on their post-graduate plans.

Dane G. Hansen Tiger Comeback Scholarship

Fort Hays State University prides itself on meeting the workforce needs of northwest Kansas. The university turned a generous grant from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation into a scholarship that provides financial assistance to online and on-campus FHSU students who are close to completing their degrees.

One recipient of the Dane G. Hansen Comeback Scholarship, Christy Rothchild from Salina, said it was the best decision of her life to return to school. She was working toward a degree in nursing when she stopped taking classes to start a family. Several years later, with the help of the Hansen scholarship, she returned to school and completed her Bachelor of Science in nursing online in 2017.

Rothchild then enrolled in the online BSN to DNP (Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice) program at Fort Hays State. She is on track to graduate in May 2022, and that will ultimately allow her to provide primary care across the life span.

"This is the perfect time to step back and evaluate your options for both your education and career," Rothchild said. "The last couple of years have taught us what is really important. The extra time with family is worth 'leveling up' your career to accommodate what really matters."



Hometown Hero

Jeremy Breit, 2021 FHSU Teacher of Promise

This month, Jeremy began his teaching career at La Crosse Elementary School, not far from his hometown of Hoisington. Breit was recognized as a Kansas Teacher of Promise, an annual Kansas State Department of Education recognition and professional learning opportunity given to students from each Kansas college or university that offers teacher education programs.

Jennie Adams Rose, Legislative Liaison C: 785-554-0850 jennieadamsrose@yahoo.com