

2025 Federal Legislative Requests

Kansas State University

As a land-grant institution, Kansas State University is deeply committed to serving the needs of 2.8 million Kansans. With a presence in all 105 counties, K-State has a direct connection with the people of the state. Due to its historical roots, K-State plays a distinctive role in serving rural communities, recognizing that rural solutions are applicable in urban, suburban and global settings. With 102 of 105 counties in Kansas being designated as rural, this focus is crucial for the state's future.

Ag Innovation Initiative - \$37,316,831 – One-time investment

- The Ag Innovation Initiative aims to support advanced plant breeding research and innovations, enhancing K-State's capacity in sustainable cereal and oil-seed crops. It positions K-State as a leader in multidisciplinary research along the entire livestock- and grain value-added food supply chains.
- This financial allocation will go toward specialty instrumentation and equipment for four key areas of the initiative: Global Center for Grain and Food Innovation, Agronomy Research and Innovation Center, Animal Science Arena and Call and Weber Hall renovations.
- Investing in K-State's College of Agriculture is a 17:1 economic multiplier for the Kansas economy, according to the TEconomy analysis. There is an anticipated growth in value-added food and biosecurity companies, bringing in \$2.8 billion in investment and nearly 2,000 new jobs to Kansas. This initiative will advance the U.S. as a leader in the global food system and contribute to food security.

College of Veterinary Medicine - \$4,820,000 – one-time investment

- The College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) supports sustainability, global food security and biosecurity research — core areas of K-State's Opportunity Agenda. As the only university globally with a continuum of Biosafety level-1-3 Ag facilities adjacent with USDA's Biosafety level-4 National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, K-State is enhancing U.S. research and diagnostic capabilities.
- This investment will provide game-changing technologies in the CVM Nanotechnology Core facility, enabling and supporting new biomedical, animal health and sustainability research and positions K-State as the preeminent institute for biosecurity and biodefense strategies.
- Upgraded equipment serves as a fee-for-service resource for industry partners, driving new collaborations and economic development in the region.

Kansas Aerospace Training Hub (Salina) - \$32,000,000 – one-time investment

- Establishing a state-of-the-art aerospace education hub, the Aerospace Innovation Ramp, at Kansas State University Salina Aerospace and Technology Campus, will transform the campus with the support of a \$10 million corporate gift from General Atomics – ASI.
- This hub will house the K-State Salina Advanced Air Mobility Center of Excellence, Aviation Maintenance Training Center and Advanced Composites Laboratory, physically establishing capabilities for education and training in aerospace and attracting industry projects, contracts and research dollars.
- The hub will expand the national aerospace, manufacturing and entertainment collaborative, globally advance aerospace and defense to address the demand for skilled aerospace industry professionals.

Biosecurity Research Institute Biocontainment Facility Improvements - \$3,999,503 – one-time investment

- The Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI) is a secure, high-level Biosafety level-3 and Biosafety level-3Ag containment facility designed for critical research training and educational activities on pathogens affecting plants, animals, humans and food products.
- The research conducted at the BRI strengthens U.S. agriculture and food production against potential threats, aligning with the U.S. National Preparedness goal for a secure and resilient nation. The work addresses federal priorities related to protecting, growing and sustaining U.S. agriculture.
- Investing in the BRI will modernize and enhance the capabilities, improvements that will directly benefit Kansas, an agriculture-focused state, by supporting research and workforce development.

Advanced Manufacturing and Supply Chain (K-State Olathe) - \$5,004,250 – one-time investment

- The K-State Olathe campus aims to support the economic prosperity of the region by responding to workforce and research needs, a crucial part in advancing manufacturing, particularly in the context of the national initiative to onshore manufacturing.
- This investment will create new labs that focus on smart manufacturing areas, including robotics and automation; mechanical; raw materials and bulk solids; and food manufacturing. This will support the U.S. goal to onshore manufacturing, provide stability to the supply chain and create high-paying positions.
- The research within these labs will be applied to help the industry solve problems and improve manufacturing processes, benefiting companies nationally through applied research and services, and offering flexible educational programs to meet workforce needs.

Strategic Radiation Hardening Package - \$16,000,000 – one-time investment

- The U.S. lacks the capacity to produce state-of-the-art Strategic Radiation-Hardened Packages (SRHP), relying solely on Japanese suppliers. There is an urgent need for a U.S. supplier to ensure robust and resilient application of strategic radiation-hardened microelectronics. This investment will allow K-State to develop, demonstrate and onshore the defense industrial base for SRHP.
- SRHP are crucial for spacecraft, satellite, missile systems, nuclear power plants, particle accelerators and military avionics. Having K-State as a U.S. supplier will address the urgent operational need for the U.S. government in ensuring the production of state-of-the-art SRHP.
- This will contribute to education and workforce development through collaboration with industry partners SkyWater Technologies (NYSE: SKYT) and Qnnect (a portfolio company holding Hermetic Solutions Group).

Large Animal Research Center - \$16,000,000 – one-time investment

- Kansas State University's Large Animal Research Center (LARC) is a 19,000-square-foot, Biosafety Level-2 research facility for animals ranging from piglets to calves. It is an important resource for K-State researchers to study infectious diseases and mitigation strategies, but it currently has limitations. LARC does not accommodate adult cattle or swine, and the housing capacity is insufficient to support the needs of current K-State researchers, let alone corporate partners and researchers within the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.
- An expanded LARC will accommodate housing needs for animal acclimation and pharmaceutical/biologic safety studies prior to transition to higher containment work at NBAF or K-State's BRI.
- The proposed 35,000 square-foot LARC expansion is an essential pillar of the suite of biosecurity and biodefense resources being developed at K-State, which will enable the university to serve as the preeminent U.S. resource to facilitate private-public collaboration for pathogens of worldwide significance.