



THE 2005 PROSPERITY SUMMIT FACT SHEET

Overview

The purpose of the 2005 Prosperity Summit is to bring together Kansas business leaders, policymakers, legislators and scholars to evaluate economic initiatives developed by the 2003 Summit and established in the ensuing Kansas Economic Growth Act of 2004. Additionally, the 2005 Prosperity Summit will provide participants with an opportunity to discuss how existing state policies and programs can be improved to further invigorate the Kansas economy. This year's feedback will serve as a resource for the Office of the Governor, state legislators, and executive agencies responsible for crafting state economic policy.

Specifically, the Summit aims to:

- Identify opportunities to stimulate and strengthen the Kansas economy
- Obtain feedback on the effectiveness of current state programs and policies
- Strengthen regional activities as a partnership with state resources

History

The first Prosperity Summit took place in 2003 under the leadership of Gov. Kathleen Sebelius and Lt. Gov. John Moore and involved more than 1,500 community and business leaders from across the state. The results were nothing short of dramatic, as the most fundamental initiatives developed during the Summit were overwhelmingly endorsed by the Legislature in the form of the Kansas Economic Growth Act. Among the components of this legislation was:

- The establishment of the *Kansas Bioscience Authority* to develop a prominent bioscience industry in Kansas
- The creation of the *Kansas Center for Entrepreneurship* and the *Kansas Community Entrepreneurship Fund* to coordinate resources for entrepreneurial aid
- An historic *modernization of the state's workforce training programs* to create a seamless, market-driven system designed to help Kansas workers and employers

Structure

The Prosperity Summit begins in September with seven Regional Focus Groups, which are intended to recognize the variety of economic interests that exists in a state as large and economically diverse as Kansas. After compiling the suggestions and concerns raised at the Focus Groups, selected leaders will convene for a final State Summit in Wichita, during which a comprehensive review of the Economic Growth Act and a strategy for economic growth in Kansas will be developed and finalized. The report will be made available to the public in December.

Regional Focus Groups	Date
North Central, Salina	Wednesday, September 21
South Central, Harvey County	Friday, September 23
Northwest, Hays	Tuesday, September 27
Southwest, Garden City	Friday, September 30
East Central, Overland Park	Wednesday, October 5
Northeast, Topeka	Thursday, October 6
Southeast, Independence	Wednesday, October 12
State Summit	Date
Wichita, The Hyatt Regency	Thursday, December 8