



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY



Kansas Small Business Development Center Network achieves renewed accreditation through 2029

The Kansas Small Business Development Center (SBDC) recently achieved renewed accreditation through 2029 from America's SBDC, the national organization that provides oversight to SBDC networks across the country. The Kansas network, based at Fort Hays State University, manages a network of six regional centers and works with other partner organizations throughout Kansas.

"We are very excited to once again achieve full accreditation from our national network," said Kansas SBDC State Director Dan Lara. "Accreditation is a lengthy and rigorous process that ensures we are providing high quality business advising and education for Kansas small businesses."

The Kansas SBDC offers one-on-one counseling and training to small businesses to provide tools and other resources to support start-ups and existing business operations. Services include capital access assistance, business planning and strategy development, financial management, marketing, export assistance, succession planning, and support in other areas needed to improve business management and operations.

Fort Hays State's Strategic Affiliation is charting new academic transfer pathways between FHSU and technical colleges. First semester transfer, Brandon Nunez shares thoughts about his journey to higher education.



Brandon Nunez transferred from Fort Hays Tech | Northwest this fall. His experience so far has been positive.

"Adjusting to a bigger school was the highlight of the first few weeks at FHSU, but as classes started rolling, things slowed down and became even more enjoyable."

I have enjoyed my classes up to this point, and my instructors have been awesome at teaching and connecting with us, just like at FHNW.

I am looking forward to my next semester at FHSU and am ready to take on the more challenging upper level courses coming my way!"

Office of the President
Sheridan Hall 312
600 Park Street
Hays, KS 67601-4099
785-628-4231

Joe Bain
General Counsel
jbbain@fhsu.edu

Colin Thomasset
Legislative Liaison
cthomasset@gmail.com

www.fhsu.edu
785-628-FHSU

FHSU Department chair receives Patriot Award

No matter the challenges he faces during his deployment to Kuwait, Dr. Jonathan Sumrall, assistant professor of geosciences at Fort Hays State University, knows he can rely on the steady support of his department chair, Dr. Richard Lisichenko.

That steadfast support recently earned Lisichenko national recognition. Sumrall nominated his chair for the Patriot Award, presented by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Department of Defense program that honors supervisors who go above and beyond in supporting employees serving in the National Guard or Reserve.



In his nomination, Sumrall commended Lisichenko for maintaining consistent communication with both him and his family, ensuring they remain connected to the FHSU community during his deployment. Lisichenko regularly checks in with Sumrall and includes his family in departmental updates and events.



Forge Kansas is a local hub for learning, business, and community growth. Created through the partnership of Fort Hays State University, Fort Hays Tech | North Central, and Fort Hays Tech | Northwest to expand opportunity across Central and Western Kansas. Together, it connects people, employers, and communities with flexible education, practical training, and real support - right where they are. Find out more at forgekansas.com

2025 enrollment at the three Fort Hays institutions

Total students	14,682
FHSU	12,849
Fort Hays Tech NC	1,055
Fort Hays Tech NW	778

FHSU enrollment by modality	
FHSU Online students	5,971
On-campus students	3,804
International Partnership students	3,074

Fort Hays collective enrollment numbers at a glance

