Legislatively Prescribed Powers

The KCTCS Board of Regents was created and authorized by the Kentucky General Assembly in 1997 as part of the state’s higher education reform efforts. Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) 164.288; 164.350; 164.360; 164.365 and 164.580 outline the powers and duties of the KCTCS Board of Regents as follows:

- The governance of KCTCS is vested in the Board of Regents, a corporate body.
- The Board has the power over and control of appointments, qualifications, salaries, and compensation payable out of the State Treasury or otherwise, promotions and official relations of all employees of KCTCS. The Board shall appoint the KCTCS President.
- The Board shall evaluate KCTCS’ progress in implementing its mission, goals, and objectives to conform to the strategic agenda for higher education and its officers and officials shall be held accountable for the status of KCTCS’ progress.
- The Board shall develop guidelines for the preparation of a biennial budget request for KCTCS colleges and adopt the request upon recommendation of the KCTCS President.
- The Board shall adopt an allocation process for distributing funds to the colleges in the System.
- The Board shall consider recommendations from the boards of directors of the colleges to improve the overall budget planning and allocation processes.
- The Board shall designate each college with a name.
- The Board shall encourage and accept donations of land and funds to be used in the acquisition, construction, or operations of the colleges in the System. The Board may commemorate donations from private persons or corporations with suitable memorials and accept federal grants when appropriate for acquisition, construction, or operations of the colleges in the System.
- The Board shall assure that budget planning and implementation processes are consistent with the adopted strategic agenda, biennial budget, and with the missions of the institutions within the System.
- The Board shall expedite, whenever possible, action on requests for any new technical or associate degree program of a vocational/technical or occupational nature.
- The Board may:
  - Receive grants of money and expend funds for the use and benefit of KCTCS.
  - Accept federal aid in the form of services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds.
  - Adopt bylaws, rules and regulations for the government of its members, officers, agents, employees, and enforce obedience to such rules.
  - Require reports from the KCTCS President as it deems necessary and proper from time to time.
  - Determine the number of divisions, departments, bureaus, offices and agencies needed for the successful conduct of the affairs of KCTCS.
  - Grant diplomas and confer degrees upon the recommendation of the KCTCS President and faculty.
  - Remove the KCTCS President and on the recommendation of the KCTCS President may, appoint or remove faculty members and employees and fix their compensation and tenure of service.

KCTCS Board of Regents Membership Composition

Pursuant to KRS 164.321, the KCTCS Board of Regents is comprised of 14 members with 11 votes.

- Eight members are appointed by the governor to serve 6-year terms and have one vote each.
- Two members of the KCTCS teaching faculty are elected by the teaching faculty to serve 3-year terms and have one-half vote each.
- Two members of the KCTCS non-teaching personnel are elected by the non-teaching personnel to serve 3-year terms and have one-half vote each.
- Two members of the KCTCS student body are elected by the students to serve 1-year terms and have one-half vote each.

KCTCS Board of Regents Meeting Schedule

The Board meets once every quarter, with specially called meetings as needed.

Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Requirements

“The board is an active policy-making body for the institution and is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the financial resources of the institution are adequate to provide a sound education program. The board is not controlled by a minority of board members or by organizations or interests separate from it.”

- The Principles of Accreditation, 2.2, Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

Individual Responsibilities of Each Regent

An individual regent’s responsibilities differ from, but are complementary to, those of the Board as a whole. Regents have no special authority in their individual capacities. Key individual attributes include:

- Being a team member.
- Faithfully preparing for and attending all meetings.
- Being knowledgeable about the System.
- Speaking as one...the Board speaks through its formal actions and minutes with the Board Chair or its President as the spokesman.
- Serving the System as a whole and not any particular constituency.
- Bringing a unique perspective to discussions and articulating positions on issues.
- Supporting the majority action even if disagreement exists.
- Focusing on policy-making and governing issues versus operations and the micro-management of the System.


Accountability of Elected and Appointed Regents

The KCTCS Board of Regents, like all of Kentucky’s public higher education governing boards, is accountable to students, taxpayers, and in essence, to all Kentuckians. Regardless of how regents are selected to be on the Board, once they become regents, their responsibilities as regents are to the people of Kentucky, not to the governor who appointed them or the constituency that elected them.