



TOP RESULTS THROUGH JULY 2016

BACKGROUND

The Johnson County Education Research Triangle (JCERT) was created in 2008 when voters supported a 1/8-cent JCERT sales tax. Today, the tax generates more than \$15 million annually to advance academic, research and business endeavors at its partner organizations: the [KU Edwards Campus](#) in Overland Park; the [Kansas State University campus in Olathe](#); and the [University of Kansas Clinical Research Center](#) in Fairway.

MISSION

JCERT was established to create economic stimulus and a higher quality of life by enhancing the economic future of Johnson County, the state of Kansas and the Midwest.

HIGHLIGHTED RESULTS

The following highlights showcase key results of JCERT's funding. JCERT is on track to achieve the predicted \$1.4 billion of economic impact in its first two decades.

- **K-State Olathe** achieved a 37 percent increase in enrollment for the 2015-2016 academic year (over 2014-2015), in part because of its 11 graduate degrees and four graduate certificate offerings in adult education, food science, horticulture with an emphasis on urban food systems, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering and veterinary biomedical science. The most recent program launched is a Professional Science Master's degree that supports the JCERT mission by responding to the Greater Kansas City region's need for a workforce with advanced STEM and business skills.
- The **KU Edwards Campus** launched its "Degree in 3" program, a partnership with Johnson County Community College and the Blue Valley and Olathe School Districts. The Degree in 3 program allows students to earn college credits in high school, complete an associate's degree one year after graduating and finish their bachelor's degree two years later. To date, all Degree in 3 programs are JCERT programs.
- The **University of Kansas Cancer Center**, part of the KU Clinical Research Center, achieved designation from the National Cancer Institute. The NCI designation is the highest recognition for an academic cancer center, opening doors to expanded research funding and related economic benefits and jobs and bringing the most advanced cancer care to patients. The designation also drives growth across many related segments of the regional economy. The NCI designation pursuit created 2,088 jobs and had a regional economic impact of \$557 million through 2013. Since obtaining NCI designation, the University of Kansas Cancer Center has opened 122 new clinical trials with more than 1,400 patients participating, received \$69.8 million in research funding, screened more than 2,240 people in prevention trials and created a new Cancer Biology department where they are currently developing the region's only Ph.D. degree program.

- With the addition of an Applied Statistics and Analytics graduate degree in 2015 the **KU Edwards Campus** fulfilled its promise to Johnson County taxpayers of adding 10 new degrees from the JCERT funding. The campus continues to launch new degrees and certificates and has exceeded its goal of 10 new programs.
- JCERT funding supported construction of the **KU Edwards Campus's** 75,000-square-foot, \$23 million BEST Building. The 17 new classrooms and conference center allowed the university to expand its graduate and undergraduate offerings in business, engineering, science and technology to an additional 1,000 students. Within the last two years, the BEST Building has hosted more than 135,000 attendees for Edwards Campus events, external group events and academic program classes.
- JCERT dollars allowed Kansas State University to construct a Kansas City campus. With 50 full-time employees, **K-State Olathe** recently celebrated the five-year anniversary of opening its \$28 million, 108,000-square-foot facility, which houses research labs, classrooms and event spaces. The campus is a model of how strong partnerships between university-industry-government-community can address today's social, economic and local/global issues, especially as they relate to agriculture, health and food.
- The **University of Kansas Alzheimer's Disease Center** – part of the KU Clinical Research Center and one of only 29 centers in the country – became a nationally-designated center, receiving a five-year, \$6 million grant from the National Institutes on Aging.
- **K-State Olathe's** K-12 science education programs are designed to support the six Johnson County public school districts and other schools in the Greater Kansas City area in collaboratively developing, coordinating and participating in educational programs in animal health, food safety and food security. Since 2011, K-State Olathe has engaged more than 16,600 K-12 students in educational opportunities related to enhancing STEM skills.
- The **KU Edwards Campus** has awarded 120 students with \$355,000 worth of JCERT scholarships since 2010.