



June 16, 2021

The Honorable Ty Masterson
Chair, Legislative Coordinating Council
Kansas Legislature
State Capitol, Room 332-E
Topeka, KS 66612
Ty.Masterson@senate.ks.gov;
senatormasterson@gmail.com

Dear Senator Masterson:

I am writing to inform you of four upcoming expiring appointments on the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). Rep. Barbara Ballard and Sen. Molly Baumgardner's appointments will expire on July 1. Additionally, the two commissioner alternate appointments of Sen. Marci Francisco and Rep. Ken Rahjes will also expire on July 1. Rep. Barbara Ballard serves on our Executive Committee and is currently chairing our Governance Committee. Sen. Baumgardner is serving on our Strategic Planning Committee.

Per Kansas state statute 74-32,265, the Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC) is authorized to appoint two members to serve on the governing commission of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. The LCC appointments are to be made so that one commissioner is a member of the senate and one is a member of the house of representatives and such members are not members of the same political party. There is no limit to the number of terms that a commissioner may serve. A list of your state's MHEC commissioners is enclosed.

As an interstate compact, MHEC brings together midwestern states to develop and support best practices, collaborative efforts, and cost-sharing opportunities. Through these efforts it works to ensure strong, equitable postsecondary educational opportunities and outcomes for all.

MHEC believes that collaborative actions informed by research and best practices are the catalyst for improving quality, accessibility, relevance, and affordability of postsecondary educational opportunities. Membership in MHEC gives Kansas access to all of MHEC's convenings, programs, research, and cost-savings contracts. Since Kansas joined MHEC in 1990, Kansas entities and citizens have attained cumulative savings of over \$131.15 million. In FY20, Kansas saved more than \$12.16 million through MHEC.

We appreciate you promptly making these appointments. If you would like to contact me directly, please call (612) 677-2761 or e-mail me at susanh@mhec.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan G. Heegaard".

Susan G. Heegaard, President

Kansas Commissioners

Commissioners/ Commissioner Alternates	Initial Date of Appointment	Date of Renewal	Term Completion Date	Appointing Authority
Barbara Ballard	4/13/2005	11/4/2019	7/1/2021	Legislative Coordinating Council
Molly Baumgardner	6/26/2017	11/4/2019	7/1/2021	Legislative Coordinating Council
Blake Flanders	9/18/2014	9/20/2018	6/1/2022	Board of Regents (2-yr institutions)
Aaron Otto	7/5/2019	7/5/2019	APOG	Governor's designee
Helen VanEtten	9/18/2014	9/20/2018	6/1/2022	Board of Regents (4-yr institutions)
Marci Francisco	4/10/2007	11/4/2019	7/1/2021	Legislative Coordinating Council
Ken Rahjes	11/4/2019	11/4/2019	7/1/2021	Legislative Coordinating Council

74-32,265.--MIDWESTERN HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT

Kansas members of the midwestern higher education commission; terms; vacancies. The members of the midwestern higher education commission representing the state of Kansas shall be the following: (a) The governor or a designee of the governor; **(b) two members of the legislature appointed by the legislative coordinating council so that one is a member of the senate and one is a member of the house of representatives and such members are not members of the same political party;** and (c) two members of the state board of regents selected by the state board or, at the discretion of the state board, designees thereof. One such member shall be representative of the four-year institutions of higher education and one such member shall be representative of the two-year institutions of higher education. The term of the member serving under subpart (a) shall expire concurrently with the term of the governor. The terms of members serving under subpart (b) shall expire concurrently with their terms as state officers or two years after the date of their appointment to membership on the commission, whichever occurs sooner, except that legislative members serving on the commission's executive committee may serve up to one additional two-year term while serving on such executive committee. The term of each member serving under subpart (c), if such member is a state officer, shall expire concurrently with such member's term as a state officer or four years after the date of appointment to membership on the commission, whichever occurs sooner. If such member is not a state officer, the term of such member shall expire four years after the date of appointment to membership on the commission. All vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be filled in the same manner as originally filled, except that vacancies created for reasons other than expiration of terms of office shall be filled for the unexpired terms.

History: L. 1990, ch. 332, § 2; L. 2000, ch. 86, § 6; L. 2006, ch. 168, § 9; July 1.

Sample Appointment Letter

Date

Ms. Susan G. Heegaard
President
Midwestern Higher Education Compact
105 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 450
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Dear President Heegaard:

Pursuant to [insert statute] I appoint (or reappoint) [insert name(s)] to the Midwestern Higher Education Commission, effective [insert date], and extending to [insert date].

Name of MHEC Commissioner
Address
Phone #
Email address
Assistant contact info

Sincerely,
[appointing authority]

Cc: Person appointed
Mary Roberson, maryr@mhec.org