

University Establishment and Legal Status

Establishment by the State of Kansas. By Acts of the Kansas Legislature effective February 19 and March 11, 1863, Kansas State Agricultural College—the institution now known as Kansas State University (the “University”)—was established as the nation’s first land-grant college formed under the [Morrill Act of 1862](#).¹ These statutes establishing and naming the University were originally codified in the [General Statutes of Kansas](#) (1868), Chapter 3, §§ 3-22. The University’s original enabling statute is now codified at [K.S.A. § 76-408](#).

University Name. The University’s original name, *Kansas State Agricultural College*, was designated by the Kansas Legislature when establishing the University in [1863](#).

- In 1931, by Act of the Kansas Legislature, the name of the University was changed to [Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science](#).²
- In 1959, by Act of the Kansas Legislature, the name of the University was again changed to [Kansas State University of Agriculture and Applied Science](#).³
- The University’s present and full name, *Kansas State University of Agriculture and Applied Science*, is codified at [K.S.A. § 76-711\(a\)](#).
- The University typically operates under the truncated name *Kansas State University*. This name has been officially utilized and accepted in the same manner as the University’s full name since the 1959 name change. For example, K.S.A. Chapter 76, Article 4 is titled *Kansas State University*, Kansas legislation from 1961 to present has used the full and shortened names interchangeably, and University diplomas are titled utilizing the shortened name. The University may operate, contract, or otherwise act under either its full or shortened name.

Operation as a State Agency. The University is a public institution of higher education and operates as an agency of the State of Kansas. The applicable state statute, [K.S.A. § 76-712](#), provides “[the University and all other] state educational institutions are separate stage agencies.” All four University campuses (Manhattan, Olathe, Salina, and Global) are part of the single University state agency.

Existence Derived from State Statute; No Separate Charter. The University was established by the State of Kansas and operates under statute as a state agency. Documentation of the University’s existence resides in the Kansas laws cited here. No separate charter, articles of incorporation, certificate of formation, or similar corporate document exist or are necessary to evidence the existence and operation of the University.

Governance and Policies. Pursuant to the [Constitution of the State of Kansas](#), Article 6 § 2, and Kansas law, [K.S.A. §§ 76-712](#), the University is controlled by and operated and managed under the

¹ *An Act to locate and establish a College for the benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts* (effective February 19, 1863) and *An Act for the Government of the Kansas State Agricultural College for the benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts* (effective March 11, 1863). <https://www.k-state.edu/generalcounsel/legal-resources/establishment/1863%20Session%20Laws%20Establishing%20University.pdf>

² *An Act changing the name of the Kansas state agricultural college to that of the Kansas state college of agriculture and applied science []* (effective March 9, 1931). Attached here as <https://www.k-state.edu/generalcounsel/legal-resources/establishment/1931%20Name%20Change.pdf>

³ *An Act changing the name of the Kansas state college of agriculture and applied science to that of Kansas state university of agriculture and applied science []* (effective March 27, 1959). <https://www.k-state.edu/generalcounsel/legal-resources/establishment/1959%20Name%20Change.pdf>

supervision of the [Kansas Board of Regents](#) (“KBOR”). The University is subject to applicable law, KBOR policies, and University policies, including without limitation: [K.S.A. Chapter 76](#), KBOR Policy Manual [Chapter II](#), the [University Handbook](#), and the University [Policy and Procedures Manual](#).

Tax Exempt Status. The University (FEIN 48-0771751) is a tax-exempt governmental entity under 26 U.S.C. § 115, and therefore is not subject to federal income tax. The University’s exempt status was confirmed by letter of the [Office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue](#) dated January 28, 1946. Further, the University is exempt from sales and use tax, as documented by a Sale and Use [Tax Entity Exemption Certificate](#) (Exemption No. KSB3464J18) issued to the University by the Kansas Department of Revenue.

University Address. The University administration is primarily housed in historic Anderson Hall, originally constructed in 1879. For over a century, the University utilized variations of Anderson Hall office numbers followed by *Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506* as its official address. However, in 2015 the University adopted a street address for Anderson Hall in order to meet modern technology and safety guidelines.⁴ As of June 9, 2015, the University’s official address is:

Kansas State University
110 Anderson Hall
919 Mid-Campus Drive North
Manhattan, KS 66506-0110

Please note that the University has empowered business units across the institution to conduct the business of the University. The President has expressly delegated authority for certain matters as described in University policies, including the current delegation letter linked within Section .020 of the University’s Policy and Procedure Manual, [Chapter 3070](#). The University’s various business units are physically located across the 660-acre, 80-building University campus and may, at their discretion, use their particular physical office address when conducting University business.

Last updated December 9, 2022. Questions may be directed to attys@k-state.edu.

⁴ The announcement of this change, along with additional information, was published in *K-State Today* on June 9, 2015: <https://www.k-state.edu/today/announcement/?id=20599>.