

# PARK UNIVERSITY 2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



## ABOUT PARK UNIVERSITY

**LOCATION:** Founded in 1875 at its historic site in Parkville, Mo., Park University currently enjoys a distinguished position in higher education as a growing entrepreneurial institution with 40 campus centers in 21 states, in addition to our extensive online program.

**WHO WE ARE:** A private, independent comprehensive master's institution, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities.

### BY THE NUMBERS:

- Total Number of Students: 17,756
- Diversity: 45 percent
- International Student Population: 370 students representing 60 countries
- Military Student Population: 61 percent (active duty, dependents, retired or Department of Defense)
- Annual Budget: \$76.7 million
- Endowment: \$69.1 million (including land value)
- Total Full-Time Employees: More than 500 nationwide

### KC METRO ECONOMIC IMPACT:

- Jobs Generated: 3,000
- Real Total Economic Output: \$242 million
- Real Gross Domestic Product: \$158 million
- Real After-Tax Personal Income: \$100 million

*Source: Mid-America Regional Council (2014)*

### PARK'S PROMISE:

Serving those who serve their community and country with personalized, globally-relevant education for life.

### CONTACT:

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Find out more about us at: [PARK.EDU](http://PARK.EDU)

**OUR COMMITMENT:** At Park University, we serve a diverse student population, including significant military and international representation. Our educational programs prepare students for the complex roles they will play in a globally interconnected world. We stand committed to educational access and support legislation that will make the "American dream" of a university education a reality for all who wish to pursue that goal.

Park University's Missouri roots date back to 1875. Park began serving students in downtown Kansas City in the 1970s and then in eastern Jackson County in the 1980s.

**ACCESS MISSOURI:** Access Missouri was designed to ensure that students of working class and lower income families have access to the college that best meets their needs in the state of Missouri. For many students, participation in this program is the difference between going to college or not. Many of these students are not going to be able to borrow their way out of this predicament should Access Missouri be limited or restructured.

- Park University supports full funding of the Access Missouri program.
- Park University supports programs and funding to retain and attract STEM graduates.
- Park University opposes legislation that discriminates against Missouri's independent colleges and universities.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Park University plays a pivotal role in Missouri's growth and economic development in four dimensions: as one of the state's largest educational providers; as an employer of more than 500 Missouri taxpayers; as the owner of the Parkville Commercial Underground, an innovative commercial space for small businesses, wholesalers and light manufacturers; and as a founding member of the Parkville Economic Development Council.

- Park University supports innovative tools that connect universities and cities to enhance economic development.
- Park University supports the creation of incentives for the data center industry.
- Park University supports university technology transfer and commercialization activities.
- Park University supports infrastructure project funding and legislative initiatives that improve the prospect of future economic success as well as enhance the safety of University constituents and local residents, especially along the Missouri Highway 9 corridor between 45 Highway and Downtown Kansas City.



