

KS could provide free ACT testing for high schoolers

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas could soon provide free college admission testing to its high school students.

A provision in a school finance bill approved by legislators would set aside \$2.8 million for one ACT test and three WorkKeys vocational assessments for each student statewide.

Republican Sen. Molly Baumgardner of Louisburg said Tuesday that ACT tests are critical to college applications but are often too expensive for some students.

The State Department of Education says that in 2017, 60 percent of high school graduates took the ACT nationwide and 73 percent in Kansas. Baumgardner wants 100 percent.

Baumgardner said with free ACT testing, every student will have a chance to show colleges what they know, making higher education more accessible. She is an author of the provision and the Senate Education Committee's chairwoman.

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