

REAP | Regional Economic Area Partnership

ABOUT THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC AREA PARTNERSHIP (REAP)

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) is a voluntary council of governments focused on strengthening the regional economy of South Central Kansas. REAP deals with issues of common concern and projects that cross the boundaries of individual local governments or that require regional attention. Founded in 1997, REAP currently serves twenty-seven city and county governments and multiple Associate Members from the private sector.

BENEFITS OF REAP MEMBERSHIP

Services provided by REAP are undertaken in cooperation with member governments, the private sector, and state and federal partners and include:

- Providing a forum for regular exchange of information and ideas with peers & colleagues in the region
- Unified voice before state and federal agencies and legislative bodies on regional issues
- Promoting regional job creation and business growth
- Providing educational opportunities for members at a reduced cost
- Providing staffing, technical support, and curriculum materials for local Youth Councils

Additional benefits of REAP Membership:

Access and Influence:

- Kansas Legislature through Legislative Committee and full time professional governmental relations consultant; weekly toll-free legislative update calls during the session
- Interaction and networking with local and state policy makers and administrators

Regional Voice:

- Workforce Development
- Water
- Transportation

Tools & Resources:

- Research, economic analysis, & Support from Wichita State University, Hugo Wall School
- Grant Database (Government, Private Foundation)
- BUILT Game (public planning engagement tool)

Partnerships

- Associate members (business, industry, economic development agencies, nonprofits & more!)
- Kansas Local Workforce Investment Areas I & IV

Education and Professional Training

- Municipal Leadership Series, provided by Wichita State University
- Regional Water Conference
- Annual Legislative Policy Summit



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INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF REAP?

City or County Governments

Membership in REAP is open to any city or county in South Central Kansas, including Butler, Cowley, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Reno, Sedgwick, and Sumner counties. REAP may also extend membership to specific units of government outside of the above defined region on approval of a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any Board of Directors meeting.

To become a member of REAP each jurisdiction must execute a copy of an Interlocal Agreement by ordinance or resolution. Annual fees for membership are assessed each calendar year, in accordance with the REAP Bylaws and the following formulas:

Cities

- Cities with population under 3,000: \$200 plus \$.16 per capita.
- Cities with population between 3,000 and 10,000: \$1,000 plus \$0.16 per capita.
- Cities with population above 10,000: \$3,000 plus \$0.16 per capita.

Counties

- Counties with population less than 10,000: \$1,000 plus \$0.065 per capita
- Counties with population above 10,000: \$3,000 plus \$0.065 per capita

New in 2015- Associate Memberships!

Want to be a member, but not a city or county government? Associate memberships are available for companies, nonprofits, economic development entities, individuals, and other interested parties. Annual fees for associate membership are assessed each calendar year, in accordance with the REAP Bylaws:

Associate Members

- Individual: \$50
- Business/Corporations/Nonprofits/Community Based Organizations, Economic Development Entities/Others at the pleasure of the Board of Directors: \$250

Associate members receive the same professional services and access as city and county members; however, associate members do not have a vote with the Board of Directors. Interested applicants should fill out the form on the following page and return to REAP. The REAP Board of Directors considers membership applications at each quarterly meeting. Applicants must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of those board members present at the meeting.

If you have questions about REAP and becoming a member, please contact Kelly Bergeron at kbergeron@workforce-ks.com or call 316-771-6613.

Join us in 2015 as we work to grow the South Central Kansas economy!



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2015 REAP Membership Application

Member Type (Please select one):

- City
 County
 Individual Associate
 Private Sector (Business/Nonprofit/Chamber/Economic Development Entity, etc)

Contact Name (Including Title, if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Whom can we thank for referring you, or how did you hear about us? _____

REAP hosts several committees and task forces that are accepting new members. These meet on an as-needed basis, usually quarterly. Please check those that you might be interested in participating with.

- Legislative
 Water
 Workforce Development
 Transportation

Please complete and return this form to Kelly Bergeron at kbergeron@workforce-ks.com. Applications will be submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration and adoption at the next Board meeting, held quarterly. Following approval by the Board an invoice will be provided to you. Membership is billed on an annual basis, following the calendar year.

