



Tech Council

ABOUT THE KC TECH COUNCIL

The KC Tech Council is comprised of more than 200 member companies, representing the many facets of the tech industry in the Kansas City area. While primarily tech companies, we also count many from the legal, marketing, health care, financial and other legacy industries as members. Though varied in type and scale, our members share one important common trait: they recognize the important role the tech industry plays in shaping the future economic growth of our region, and acknowledge that they cannot foster and sustain that growth on their own.

THREE WAYS TO ENGAGE

1. Utilize our Tech Checkpoint workforce dashboard and annual KC Tech Specs report to better understand the economic impact and workforce trends within the tech industry.
2. Visit with our Policy Committee and other members when you're in-district. We'd be glad to host a roundtable listening session or speaking opportunity for you with our audience of tech leaders.
3. Use us as a resource! Need feedback, support language or visibility for legislation that impacts the tech industry? Reach out to Kara Lowe, and we'll be glad to bring it to our Policy Committee.

OUR DC FLY-IN DELEGATION

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Scan to learn about the state of Kansas City's tech workforce utilizing KC Tech Council's free data dashboard.

KC TECH COUNCIL POLICY COMMITTEE PRIORITIES & PRINCIPLES 2024

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1. Represent** the collective voice of KC Tech Council's 200+ member companies and organizations, from entrepreneur to enterprise
- 2. Educate** our membership on the important role public policy plays in the sustainable growth of the tech industry in Kansas City
- 3. Empower** and mobilize our community to use its collective voice effectively in supporting or opposing policy matters that affect the growth of the tech industry

2024 FEDERAL, STATE AND MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

Policies that Develop, Attract and Retain a Broad, Diverse and Highly Qualified Tech Workforce

- Policy promoting immigration of highly skilled workers via STEM visas, comprehensive H1-B reform, removal of per country caps within the green card system and other reform initiatives
- Expansion and resourcing of K-20 STEM education, with an emphasis on computer science education
- Apprenticeship program funding and expansion to unlock tech talent
- Broaden the tech workforce by increasing the diversity and representation within the talent pipeline
- Technology retraining via reskilling and upskilling for jobs and industries displaced by new technology

Policies that Promote Innovation and Organic Growth or Attraction of Companies

- Strategic (R&D, angel investment) tax credits while preserving the ability to deduct such expenses in the year incurred
- Funding for state and municipal-level programs in Kansas and Missouri that work to attract and grow tech companies
- Funding for the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) programs, among many others
- Intellectual property protection and patent reform

Policies that Maintain Appropriate Infrastructure to Support an Ecosystem Where the Technology Industry Can Thrive

- North American broadband access and affordability
- Expansion of connectivity via 5G, data centers, smart cities initiatives and other emerging infrastructure technologies to keep the Kansas City region competitive
- Uniformity of data privacy, AI usage, data care and security laws to encourage innovation within companies of all sizes