

News Release

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Kansas State Announces the Launch of the Innovation Hub in the Edge District

MANHATTAN, Kans. – Kansas State University [K-State] announced the launch of a new innovation and economic development hub designed to bring students, faculty and industry partners together to strengthen entrepreneurship and economic growth. This space offers reduced cost, shared workspaces to allow startups a cost effective location to grow and collaborate.

Located in the Edge District, the Hub brings together K-State offices, resources, and programs focused on innovation and business development, creating pathways from academic discovery to real-world impact. “This new space represents so much more than a physical location,” said K-State President Richard Linton, “it embodies our commitment to driving economic growth in Kansas and beyond.”

This hub supports the K-State 105 Entrepreneurial Blueprint Initiative, an effort aimed at expanding access to entrepreneurial resources and strengthening partnerships with communities, businesses, and innovators across Kansas, named for the 105 counties in Kansas.

“The K-State 105 Entrepreneurial Blueprint Initiative is an example of a next generation land grant university in action – we’re bringing people and partners together to co-develop new and innovative ways to support entrepreneurs and small businesses across Kansas,” said Jessica Gnad, director of K-State 105.

By centralizing innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry engagement, K-State is creating a more accessible and connected pathway for students, faculty, and industry partners to collaborate, launch ideas and accelerate economic impact. The new hub reinforces the university’s land grant mission by converting research and talent into real world solutions, supporting workforce development, business growth, and long-term success for communities across Kansas.

About Kansas State University’s LaunchPad:

Kansas State University’s LaunchPad at the Edge District is a collaborative innovation hub that empowers student, faculty, and partner-led startups. As part of the university’s K-State 105 initiative, it supports statewide economic development through entrepreneurship, applied research, and public-private partnerships. Visit www.edgekstate.com for more information.