Background:
In fall 2018, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education approved a FY 2020 budget request of $53.4 million for workforce initiatives designed to target state and regional workforce needs. Public colleges and universities were asked to submit request for proposals (RFPs) for funding to facilitate development and expansion of employer-driven education and training programs and initiatives to substantially increase educational attainment.

Funding recommended through MoExcels, if appropriated, will be available for a single fiscal year. If full funding of a project requires a multi-year phase in, each year’s funding should stand on its own in the event that funds are not appropriated in subsequent years. A core funding increase may be requested after the third year in which a funded project achieves its performance goals.

Proposal requirements:
• Complete description of the workforce need that will be met or describe a plan to substantially increase postsecondary educational attainment of Missourians
• Project plan, including timeline and objectives
• Sustainable objectives
• Characteristics of students served by institution
• Budget, including a match to cover a substantial portion of the cost of the new or expanded program, with a match of at least half being strongly preferred.

Current Status:
Thirty-nine proposals were submitted, requesting a total of $74.8 million. Scoring of RFPs was completed by MDHE staff and reviewed by members of the Hawthorn Foundation, the Commissioner of Higher Education, and the Department of Economic Development Director. Proposals requesting funds for unallowable activities, as outlined in the RFP, were removed from consideration if those costs were more than 75 percent of the requested amount and a waiver had not been received in advance. The remaining proposals were ranked based on need, ability to quickly meet the demand, population served, and strength of proposal.

Twenty-six proposals, totaling $53.4 million, were ranked and recommended by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. Governor Parson included 18 proposals totaling $16.3 million in his FY 2020 budget.
SUMMARIES OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED BY THE CBHE, AS RANKED:

1. Ozarks Technical Community College
   Center for Advanced Manufacturing – $4,750,000
   This $5,000,000 proposal will allow the institution to fund capital costs associated with constructing a Center for Advanced Manufacturing. The institution indicates that funding can be provided over two years if necessary.

2. St. Louis Community College
   Talent Pipeline: Nursing and IT – $2,012,359
   This $2,118,273 proposal will allow the institution to expand the capacity of its existing RN and medical assistant programs, begin offering a LPN program, and establish an accelerated coding training program in partnership with LaunchCode.

3. Missouri State University
   Ozark Region Nursing Collaboration – $3,111,250
   This $3,275,000 proposal will allow the institution to create a nursing center of excellence, expand the university’s pre-licensure BSN program, develop an accelerated BSN track at the university, expand the university’s BSN completion program, develop a nurse educator track for the university’s MSN program, complete space renovation, develop an advising and study center for nursing students, and develop an ASN to BSN pathway.

4. Mechatronics Center of Excellence – $935,655
   This $984,900 proposal will allow the institution to establish a Mechatronics Center of Excellence that will improve expertise in the education of mid-level technicians for automated systems and manufacturing, provide resources for educators throughout the state, create a middle college for high school students, and establish a Maker Space to enable individuals without resources to start their own small-scale manufacturing business.

5. State Fair Community College
   Health Sciences Center for Excellence – $454,532
   This proposal will allow the institution to offer Associate Degree in Nursing degrees in underserved areas, establish an Associate of Applied Science degree in Behavioral Health Support, streamline degree requirements, accelerate pathways to advanced certifications, align curriculum for maximum effectiveness, and engage workforce partners and stakeholders in meaningful discussions.

6. University of Central Missouri
   Information Technology Expansion – $674,500
   This $710,000 proposal will allow the institution to develop and deliver an IT program that provides a stackable pathway model for high school students and returning adults.

7. Truman State University
   Data Science – $169,256
   This proposal will allow the institution to increase the number of individuals in Missouri who possess the skills to apply the techniques of data science by creating new data scientists and providing additional training to individuals already in the workplace.

8. Crowder College
   Advanced Training and Technology Center Program Expansion – $17,500
   This proposal will allow the institution to expand the institution’s welding program.

9. Moberly Area Community College
   Truck Driving Program – $400,000
   This proposal will allow the institution to create a truck driving training program at all six of the institution’s campus locations, serving their entire 16 county service area.

10. Truman State University
    Behavioral Health and Counseling – $101,935
    This proposal will allow the institution to develop and market a three-hour certificate (registered behavior technician) and fully online master’s degrees in mental health counseling and school counseling.

11. Harris-Stowe State University
    Teacher Certification – $85,800
    This proposal will allow the institution to create a new teacher certification program that will support non-teacher education majors, recent graduates seeking certification, and career changers interested in becoming classroom teachers.

12. North Central Missouri College
    Leading Edge: Ag & Manufacturing – $350,000
    This proposal will allow the institution to create a Center of Excellence in convergent technology, including simulators, process learning, and industry-standard, high-tech equipment.

13. State Technical College of Missouri
    Infrastructure Technician Education – $2,000,000
    This $3,000,000 proposal will allow the institution to increase enrollment in infrastructure-related programs, create a new program in Civil Construction Technology, expand the Utility Systems Technology programs, add new global navigation satellite systems and geographic information systems technologies to existing programs, and renovate a multi-purpose building to allow for expansion.

14. Lincoln University
    LPN-BSN Bridge Program – $112,350
    This proposal will allow the institution to provide opportunities for LPNs to earn RN credentials.

15. Missouri Western State University
    Center of Excellence in Applied Health Care Learning – $557,744
    This $587,099 proposal will allow the institution to create a Center of Excellence in Applied Health Care Learning. It will also increase intended majors in health related fields by five percent, increase BSN graduates by 15 percent, and increase MSN admissions by 10 percent.

16. Missouri Southern State University
    Environmental Health and Safety Curriculum – $188,428
    This proposal will allow the institution to develop a curriculum for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Health and Safety, renovate existing space, develop a training center for external partners, and purchase equipment.

17. Northwest Missouri State University
    Next Generation Ag – $171,500
    This proposal will allow the institution to renovate three agriculture labs which will increase enrollment in its Ag science, animal science, horticulture, agronomy, and animal science pre-vet program by an estimated 11 percent.

18. St. Charles Community College
    Center of Excellence for Healthy Living – $1,580,000
    This proposal will allow the institution to expand nursing and other health profession programs and develop agbioscience programs. There will be emphasis on farm-to-table, with credentials in ag, lab tech, food & food prep, and nutrition/dietary planning.

19. Southeast Missouri State University
    Cybersecurity – $4,694,300
    This proposal will allow the institution to develop and link certificate programs and graduate/undergraduate computer science and cybersecurity programs. The content will be available online and in person.

20. University of Missouri
    Online for Adults – $20,000,000
    This proposal will allow the institution to establish an online learning program that offers relevant, industry-desired degrees. The model will include learner success coaches, data analytics, AI, online communities, career placement, and experiential learning.

21. Metropolitan Community College
    Advanced Manufacturing Institute – $8,350,000
    This proposal will allow the institution to build a new Manufacturing Institute that will replace their existing manufacturing program. The institute would include two paths: one for high school students who could earn a HS diploma and AAS degree in two years and one for postsecondary students.

22. Northwest Missouri State University
    Online BSN – $10,112
    This proposal will allow the institution to accelerate development of an online BSN completion program that is already in planning stages.

23. Northwest Missouri State University
    Emergency Managers and Responders – $85,000
    This proposal will allow the institution to modify a classroom to develop a state-of-the-art emergency operations center that will offer more realistic training to students, first responders, and others. The institution projects a 13 percent enrollment increase in its Emergency Disaster Management program over a five year period based on enrollment growth after previous program developments.

24. Missouri Southern State University
    Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Informatics – $332,559
    This proposal will allow the institution to develop an online Graduate Certificate in Health care Informatics designed for physicians, nurses, managers, information professionals, clinical personnel, and healthcare support personnel.

25. Southeast Missouri State University
    Health – $243,166
    This proposal will allow the institution to establish a partnership with a local hospital to recruit people into health care professions. A consultant will be hired to identify gaps, and the institution will then identify ways to bridge those gaps.

26. Northwest Missouri State University
    Swine Production – $560,000
    This proposal will allow the institution to enhance swine production education through the refurbishment of swine production facilities and the creation of a short-term swine training course.