



**Choose Topeka Update  
Talent Relocation Incentive Request  
JEDO Board Meeting, February 10, 2021  
Barbara Stapleton, VP, Business Retention & Talent Initiatives**

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***Update***

The Choose Topeka Talent Relocation Initiative has been successful in so many ways since the employer match announcement after the December 2019 JEDO Meeting and the remote worker option after the September 2020 JEDO Meeting. To date, over 4,700 resume and interest submissions have been received, along with 198 remote worker applications.

Employers have submitted 25 candidates to the program with \$151,250 in matching funds committed. 15 Remote worker candidates have been accepted to the program, with \$100,000 in funds committed. In total, \$251,250 of the \$300,000 allocation leaves \$48,750 of the first round of funds. Based upon responses so far to both programs, those funds will likely run out within the next 30 to 45 days.

***Eligibility within current options***

***Employer Matching Option***

To be considered for the talent attraction program, applicants will meet all eligibility requirements:

- Move to Topeka for full time employment position\*
- Purchase a home or rent (primary residence only) within Shawnee County within the year of move\*
- Employer participation in matching funds
- Eligible to work in the United States\*

***Remote Worker Option***

- Same as above noted\*, in addition to:
- Employer authorization to work remotely
- Proof of full time salary

***Incentive Recommendation and Request***

The Choose Topeka Relocation Incentive continues to be successful in offering options not only for employers, but also to those workers interested in Topeka and Shawnee County. As we incrementally and intentionally are strategic in workforce talent growth, the GO Topeka Board approved on February 2, and recommends JEDO approve a continuation of the incentive program, by offering the next round of funding for both the employer matching and remote worker options with the same amount of allocated funds (\$300,000) and an allowance of up to 40% (\$120,000) to be used for the remote worker option.