

# DoD STARBASE Kansas



## *A Premier Department of Defense Youth Outreach STEM Program*

### Five Locations

- **Kansas City**-Lenexa Armory
- **Manhattan**-Manhattan Armory
- **Salina**-Kansas Training Center
- **Topeka**-Forbes Field
- **Wichita**-McConnell Air Force Base

### Students Served

Between **1993 and February 2025**  
**131,357 students completed the**  
**5th-grade program**

### Focus

To be the **Department of Defense's premier youth outreach program** inspiring students to explore STEM careers as well as develop a highly educated and skilled American workforce who can meet the advanced technological requirements of the Department of Defense.

### Funding

- Schools attending the program do so **free of charge** as DoD STARBASE is primarily funded by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower & Reserve Affairs OASD/M&RA
- **Individuals, foundations, and civic and service groups also support STARBASE** through financial and volunteer contributions.

DoD STARBASE Kansas is a special program hosted by the Adjutant General of Kansas to provide STEM programming to underrepresented and underserved youth of Kansas. Currently, there are five locations hosted by the Kansas National Guard.

### DoD STARBASE MISSION

The mission of DoD Kansas STARBASE is to provide 21st-century experiential learning to students while supporting area schools in meeting or exceeding the National Standards in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

### DoD STARBASE PROGRAMS

#### ▶ 5TH-GRADE PROGRAM

The DoD STARBASE, 5th Grade program, is a five day, 25-hour hands-on/minds-on experience onsite at Kansas National Guard locations. Area schools apply to send 5th-grade classes to the DoD STARBASE program. Our STEM-enthusiastic staff integrates all five disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics into a single, cross-disciplinary program. Students are engaged in DoD-approved curriculum, including robotics and coding, rocketry, engineering, chemistry, and computer-aided design. The Kansas National Guard supports STEM Mentorship through tours, program support, and student engagement. As an extension of the classroom, DoD STARBASE supports schools in meeting or exceeding the National Standards in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. STARBASE Summer camps are offered in June annually.

#### ▶ MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

DoD STARBASE Kansas continues the STEM mission by providing after-school clubs for middle school students building on the concepts taught at the elementary level. STARBASE Advanced 2.0 after-school STEM clubs have proven successful with 6th – 8th grade students.

DoD STARBASE Advanced 3.0 allows high school students to extend their STEM Career experience. STARBASE Advanced 3.0 provides JROTC and other high schoolers opportunities to work with robotics and the Engineering Design Process to solve real-world problems. This program is offered annually each summer.



Mr. Mike O'Toole Fork Union, VA



Midland Trail Elementary Students



Ware Elementary Students



MAJ Nick Carlson



SGT Alexander Davis

# History of DoD STARBASE Kansas

Kansas was one of 7 original states to receive funding for the DoD STARBASE program

**1993**  
DoD STARBASE  
Topeka and  
Wichita opened

**1998**  
DoD STARBASE  
Salina  
opened

**1999**  
DoD STARBASE  
Kansas City  
opened

**2012**  
DoD STARBASE  
Manhattan  
opened

**2021**  
KC, Salina, Topeka, &  
Wichita expanded to  
Double Classrooms

Between 1993 and February 2025, DoD STARBASE Kansas has served 131,357 students through the 5th-grade, 25-hour program. Thousands of additional youth have been served through summer camps, middle school, and high school programs.

## How Kansas STARBASE Incorporated (non-profit) Supports

### DoD STARBASE Kansas Programs

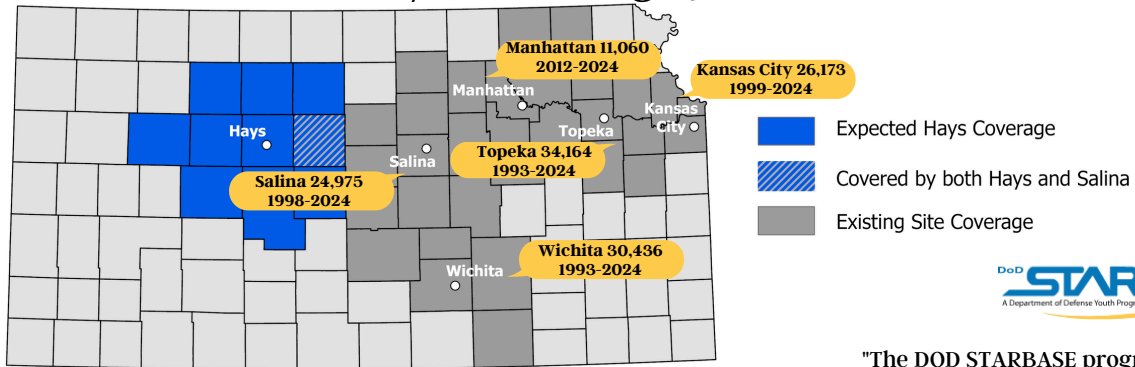
Kansas STARBASE, Incorporated is a 501c3 that extends its full support to all five DoD STARBASE Kansas programs through not only financial support, but through their Congressional Fan Club as well. Although DoD STARBASE sites receive their funding from the Federal Government, non-profit Kansas STARBASE, Inc. provides additional support to bolster and enrich these invaluable DoD STARBASE Kansas programs, allowing them to reach greater heights and make an even more profound impact. The Kansas STARBASE, Inc. Board of Directors are passionate about expanding educational opportunities for our youth and are committed to empowering young minds through their support of the DoD STARBASE Kansas programs.

### Supporting STARBASE Kansas Programs

Visit [www.kansasstarbase.org](http://www.kansasstarbase.org), or scan the QR code to go directly to the site. If you would like to support the programs with tangible gifts, please reach out to our non-profit Kansas STARBASE, Inc. Board Members directly.



## DoD STARBASE Kansas Site Coverage and Total Student Numbers by Site through June of 2024



"STARBASE is amazing! I have been teaching for twenty years, and attending the program for almost that many. STARBASE covers so many of our STEM standards, and the kids always make connections during lessons after attending. It is so wonderful to see how the kids grow not only academically, but socially after going to STARBASE. The content, staff, and overall program are exceptional." Valerie Toomey (5th Grade Teacher, Glenwood Ridge Elementary, Basehor, Kansas)



STARBASE Topeka



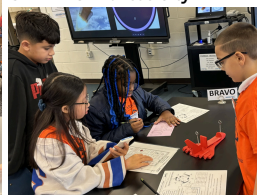
Mentor Kevin Gaughan  
STARBASE Kansas City



STARBASE Salina



STARBASE Kansas City



STARBASE Wichita



STARBASE Manhattan

"The DOD STARBASE program is a wonderful tool to educate our nation's future STEM leaders on the basic principles used and accepted by our scientific community. This is a vital program that every 5th-grade student around the nation should have access to. Knowledge is power and should be liberally applied to those future generations." CPT Joshua D. Anderson (Supervisory Instructor Pilot AASF#2)

Fifth grader Rowan Minton from Bergman Elem says, "Starbase is a wonderful and great place to Learn about science and engineering. People who go to this place can learn wonderful and amazing things at a young age. Thirty stars out of ten."



STARBASE Manhattan STARBASE Salina STARBASE Topeka STARBASE KC STARBASE KC STARBASE Manhattan STARBASE Salina STARBASE Wichita STARBASE Topeka