

The "Kansas APEX megadeal" refers to the state's program, the Attracting Powerful Economic Expansion (APEX) Act, designed to attract large-scale investments, particularly in manufacturing, through substantial incentive packages. APEX was created to make Kansas more competitive in securing major projects, like Panasonic's electric vehicle battery plant. The program provides incentives such as tax credits, payroll reimbursements, and training subsidies to companies that meet specific investment and job creation criteria.

Key aspects of the APEX program:

- **Incentives:**

APEX offers a refundable tax credit of up to 15% for 10 years, payroll reimbursements of up to 7.5%, and a relocation incentive fund. It also includes potential property tax abatements and sales tax exemptions on construction materials.

- **Megaproject Focus:**

The program is specifically designed for large-scale projects, typically with investments of at least \$1 billion over five years, and significant job creation.

- **[Panasonic Deal:](#)**

APEX was instrumental in attracting Panasonic's \$4 billion electric vehicle battery plant to De Soto, Kansas. This deal included significant incentives, such as tax credits, and is expected to create thousands of jobs.

- **Potential Benefits:**

Supporters argue APEX can transform Kansas' economy by creating jobs, attracting new industries, and diversifying the tax base. Some analyses estimate that the Panasonic project could generate billions in new economic activity annually.

- **Controversy:**

The program has faced criticism for its secrecy surrounding potential projects and the size of the incentives offered. Some critics argue that it represents corporate welfare and may not provide the long-term benefits claimed.

- **Other Potential Deals:**

In addition to Panasonic, Kansas has used APEX to pursue other large-scale projects, including a potential semiconductor manufacturing facility with [Integra Technologies](#), [according to the Kansas Reflector](#).