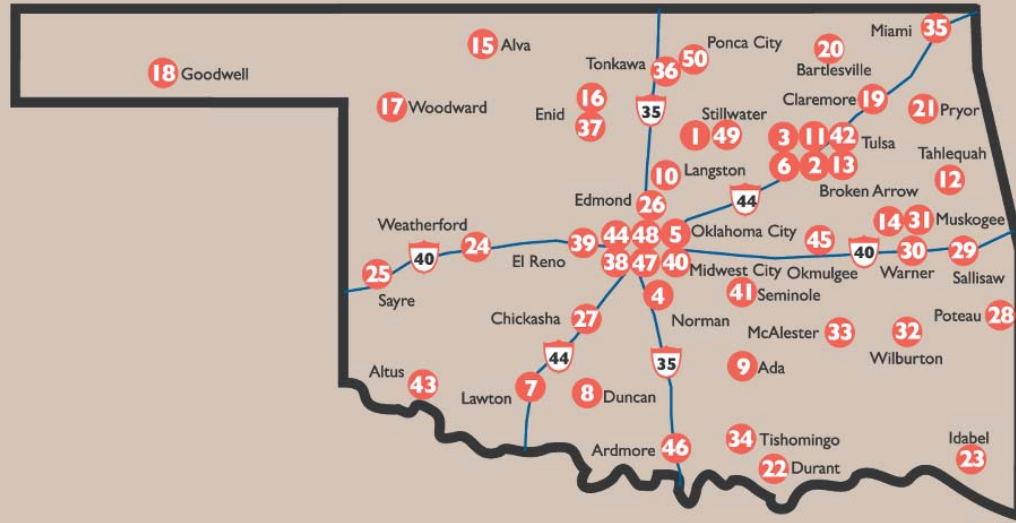


2007 Public Agenda

The State Regents have identified and adopted a strategic direction that is based on three facts:

1. Better prepare students to meet the challenges of a global environment.
2. Enable colleges and universities to be as successful as possible.
3. Involve Oklahoma's colleges and universities in adding value to the state's economy.



RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

1. Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
2. OSU Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa
3. OSU-Tulsa
4. University of Oklahoma, Norman
5. OU Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City
6. OU – Tulsa

REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES

7. Cameron University, Lawton
8. Cameron University, Duncan
9. East Central University, Ada
10. Langston University, Langston
11. Langston University, Tulsa
12. Northeastern State University, Tahlequah
13. Northeastern State University, Broken Arrow
14. Northeastern State University, Muskogee
15. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva
16. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Enid
17. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Woodward

18. Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Goodwell
19. Rogers State University, Claremore
20. Rogers State University, Bartlesville
21. Rogers State University, Pryor
22. Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant
23. Southeastern Oklahoma State University, McCurtain County
24. Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford
25. Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Sayre
26. University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond
- * 27. University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

28. Carl Albert State College, Poteau
29. Carl Albert State College, Sallisaw
30. Connors State College, Warner
31. Connors State College, Muskogee
32. Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton
33. Eastern Oklahoma State College, McAlester
34. Murray State College, Tishomingo

35. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Miami
36. Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa
37. Northern Oklahoma College, Enid
38. Oklahoma City Community College
39. Redlands Community College, El Reno
40. Rose State College, Midwest City
41. Seminole State College, Seminole
42. Tulsa Community College
43. Western Oklahoma State College, Altus

TECHNICAL BRANCHES

44. Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City
45. Oklahoma State University Technical Branch – Okmulgee

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS/ SITES

46. Ardmore Higher Education Center
47. Greater Oklahoma City Downtown College Consortium
48. Langston University, Oklahoma City
49. Northern Oklahoma College, Stillwater
50. University Center at Ponca City

* Oklahoma's Public Liberal Arts University

Contact Information:

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for Higher Education
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2007

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Legislative Agenda

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Improving our future by degrees



Building on an exceptional budget year

The students at Oklahoma's higher education institutions have benefited greatly as a result of the FY 2007 appropriation. Record state higher education appropriations, a 14.6 percent increase from FY 2006, have had a noticeable impact on campuses across Oklahoma as the state system continues to produce results that build our economy:

- Over 238,000 students enrolled
- More than 28,000 degrees granted
- Over 4,000 students earning college credit through cooperative agreements between community colleges and career techs.
- 12 institutions received allocations to increase the number of Nursing and Allied Health graduates.
- Tuition increases were held to 5.2 percent system-wide
- 233 new faculty
- 900 new course sections

2007 Legislative Agenda – At a glance

- **\$171 Million in new funding**
 - \$80 million for student-based priorities
 - \$42.9 million for college & university mandatory costs
 - \$25.8 million for targeted needs
 - \$22.2 million for student financial aid
- **Additional Request:**
 - \$75 million for endowed chairs

However, higher education is about competitiveness. We need to continue closing the student funding gap. Last session's appropriations have helped close that gap, but Oklahoma's college students still receive about **\$587* less in state support per student than the national average.** Last year was a good start, but it would take approximately \$80 million to reach the national average in per student funding.

Higher Education Competitiveness Update on the Student Funding Gap

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| FY 2006 | -\$1,212 |
| FY 2007 | -\$587 |
| Need | \$80 M |

Because our per-student funding is below the national average, it is difficult to consistently provide the quality educational experiences our students need to compete in the global marketplace. With limited funding, institutions often cannot offer the kind of salaries necessary to recruit and retain the faculty they want. Lab supplies, library resources, technology upgrades and other enhancements can be out of reach when institutions are faced with cost increases beyond their control.

(*This figure is based on State Higher Education published data and is adjusted for cost of living differential and enrollment mix.)



FY 2008 Funding Request

Student-based priorities - \$80 million

Improvements necessary for colleges and universities to increase quality of education for students and the higher education system, such as additional full-time faculty, additional researchers, adjunct faculty, professional staff in academic support/student services, library services, graduate assistants and student employees. This includes funding for increases in instructional materials and instructional technology and funding to attract and retain outstanding faculty.

College and University Mandatory Costs - \$42.9 million

Such as utilities, employee health insurance, risk management premiums and annualization of partial-year salaries.

Targeted Needs - \$25.8 million

1. Brain Gain Performance Funding
2. Base adjustments for institutions with unfunded enrollment growth
3. Workforce and college prep initiatives
4. Operating costs for new campus facilities

FY08 New Funds Request = \$171 million
TOTAL FY08 Funding Request = \$1.19 billion

Student Financial Aid - \$22.2 million

- Oklahoma's Promise – Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP) - \$11.0 million
- Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant (OTAG) & Oklahoma Tuition Equalization Grant (OTEG) - \$10.3 million
- Academic Scholars - \$0.7 million
- Math & Science Teacher Scholarships - \$0.2 million

Accessibility

The regional universities have developed an **adult degree completion program** with assistance from the State Regents, to offer students all over Oklahoma the opportunity to complete their baccalaureate degree beginning this spring. The program is a collaboration among institutions that will utilize distance learning technologies as well as classroom instruction.

The student information portal, www.OKcollegestart.org, will be launched in the spring of 2007. It will provide a single comprehensive, web-based system for prospective and current students that will include online admission applications, college information, career opportunities, financial aid information and ACT student services.

Higher education institutions have **cooperative alliance agreements** with 26 technology centers. These are voluntary partnerships that increase access to technical college-credit programs for high school and adult students in Oklahoma. In fall 2006, a total of 4,217 students have been reported as enrolled in a total of 35,806 credit hours.

As of the summer 2006 semester, 7,639 high school students earned a total of 32,496 credit hours of college through traditional **concurrent enrollment programs**.

The State Regents are making a concerted effort to address the growing shortages in **Oklahoma's health care workforce** by dedicating \$4.5 million to institutions offering nursing and allied health care programs. The initiative is expected to annually produce an additional 300 registered nurses, 130 allied health professionals and 15 additional master's level nursing faculty members.

Oklahoma's Promise/OHLAP will reach a significant milestone this fiscal year. The total in scholarships awarded since the program's inception will reach \$100 million. The total number of students having received the scholarship will pass 20,000.

The \$475 higher education **capital bond program** was signed into law in March 2005. Eighty-three of the 140 capital infrastructure projects are already in some phase of the construction process.

The State Regents **GEAR UP** project has implemented its Phase II activities. GEAR UP funding has provided nearly \$750,000 in subgrants to 24 Oklahoma public school sites and eight community organizations.

Enrollment Growth

The demand for higher education continues to be high. A college degree is the pathway to success. States that have a high per capita income also have a high educational attainment.

In Oklahoma, there is still room for improvement. According to the 2005 Census data, the per capita income for Oklahoma is \$20,709. Further, only 22.4 percent of the state's population has a bachelor's degree or higher.

The good news is that college enrollment in Oklahoma continues to grow. From 2000-01 to 2004-05, Oklahoma's colleges and universities have seen a 17.5 percent increase in enrollment. We need to continue to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed.

Affordability

Oklahoma's public colleges and universities continue to be among the most affordable in the region and nation. Resident tuition and fees at the two public research universities remain at the bottom of the Big 12. Oklahoma's regional universities and community colleges are below the national average in resident tuition and fees. In fact, the most recent report from the Educational Policy Institute ranked Oklahoma number two in the nation in affordability for a four-year college education.

Accountability

Administrative caps - Oklahoma public colleges and universities have continued to find ways to serve a growing student body while keeping administrative costs low. Public institutions are operating well below the cap on administrative expenditures established for each institution. Currently, administrative costs are only 8.2 percent of the institutions' total budgets. This is well within national norms.

Programs of Excellence Grants - In June 2006 approximately \$1.5 million was budgeted for second-year funding for the Programs of Excellence grants awarded to five institutions in 2005. The Programs of Excellence grants are designed to assist institutions in building high-quality, innovative and relevant academic programs that will attract and graduate serious students who will be likely to stay in Oklahoma and contribute to the state's prosperity.

Inside the FY 2007 Budget

Oklahoma's public colleges and universities receive the majority of funds allocated for higher education. In FY 2007 the state's institutions received \$877.2 million, 86.1 percent, of the total appropriation. Further, institutions received an additional \$4.5 million for grants, \$7.5 million for endowed chairs and \$37.2 million for their debt on capital bond projects.

The remainder of the FY 2007 appropriation went toward scholarships, shared system resources, OneNet, Office of Accountability and the State Regents Office.

