RESTORE HISTORIC BUDGET CUTS
State support for Oklahoma’s higher education system has been cut more than $274 million (26%) since the start of the recession.

FY 2020 BUDGET NEED
FY 2019 Appropriation ........................................... $776,707,166
FY 2020 Budget Need:
1. Faculty Salary Increases (7.5% increase) ........................................... $38,700,000
2. Restoration of Base Operational Funding
   a. Increase in number of faculty/instructor positions and
   restoration of course offerings ........................................... $20,400,000
   b. Fixed cost increases ........................................... $24,300,000
   c. Deferred maintenance for campus infrastructure (Section 13 offset) ........................................... $5,800,000
3. Financial Aid and Scholarship Programs ........................................... $12,300,000
   a. Concurrent enrollment program ........................................... $3,300,000
   b. Restoration of Scholarship Programs ........................................... $9,000,000
FY 2020 Total Budget Need ........................................... $878,207,166
• $ Difference from FY 2019 State Appropriations ........................................... $101,500,000
• % Difference from FY 2019 State Appropriations ........................................... 13.1%

REVERSE THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF HISTORIC BUDGET CUTS
The state system proposes a plan to increase higher education appropriations for operations by approximately $50 million each year for 6 years to restore cuts exceeding $274 million (26%) since the start of the recession.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT
The concurrent enrollment program strengthens student preparation, reduces family college costs, and decreases the time required to complete a degree.

FACULTY SALARIES
The most recent national rankings from the Southern Regional Education Board list Oklahoma as 44th for four-year institutions and 46th for two-year institutions in average faculty salary. The average salary for all faculty in Oklahoma’s colleges and universities is more than 10% below their peers in other states. Additional funding for faculty salary increases is critical to our public institutions’ efforts to competitively retain and recruit quality faculty. Low salary levels are straining faculty retention and recruiting in nursing, business, education, sciences, engineering and other high demand programs that are essential to meet Oklahoma’s workforce needs.
The State Regents’ Task Force on the Future of Higher Education conducted a comprehensive assessment of Oklahoma public higher education, including academic models, online education, structural reforms, fiscal services, operational efficiencies, workforce development, and information technology. After 10 months of study and deliberations, the Task Force unanimously issued a set of comprehensive cost saving, innovative strategies to increase degree completion in our state.

STUDENTS WHO LEARN HERE EARN HERE
A student with a college degree will earn $1.1 million more in a lifetime than a high school graduate. More than 87% of Oklahoma residents who graduate with a bachelor’s degree remain in the state and are employed in the state one year after graduation.

Source: 2018 Employment Outcomes Report

OKLAHOMA’S PROMISE
The state system of higher education strongly supports protecting the dedicated funding source for the Oklahoma’s Promise scholarship, which provides college funding for approximately 18,000 students. Over 80,000 Oklahoma students have met the eligibility requirements and earned the scholarship since the program’s inception.

WORKFORCE & ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION
According to the Georgetown Center for Education and the Workforce, by 2020, 67% of jobs in Oklahoma will require a college degree or additional postsecondary education and training, and 37% will require an associate degree, bachelor’s degree or higher. Oklahoma higher education links academic programs directly to employment needs in the state’s wealth-generating ecosystems, and degree and certificate production in critical STEM disciplines has increased 47% over the last seven years.

Our public higher education system supported $8.2 billion in total economic output in FY 2016. For every dollar of state appropriations invested, the state system of higher education generates $9.40 in economic output.

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AFFORDABILITY
U.S. News and World Report ranks Oklahoma tuition and fees as 7th-lowest in the nation and student debt at graduation as 10th-lowest in the nation.

CONTACT
Glen D. Johnson
Chancellor
chancellorjohnson@osrhe.edu

LeeAnna McNally
Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations
lmcnally@osrhe.edu

Oklahoma State Regents
for Higher Education
405.225.9100
www.okhighered.org

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