Associate and bachelor’s degree holders earn a median income **25% and 75% higher**, respectively, than those with only a high school diploma.

*U.S. News and World Report* 2021 rankings place Oklahoma tuition and fees as **11th-lowest in the nation**.

**STEM** degrees and certificates conferred at state system institutions increased **43%** over the last decade. **More than 7,450 STEM and 6,220 healthcare** degrees and certificates were awarded at all levels in the last academic year.

Nearly **90%** of Oklahoma residents who earn an undergraduate degree remain and are employed in the state one year after graduation.

For every $1 of state appropriations invested, the state system of higher education generates **$9.40** in economic return.

**66** out of 100 of the top 100 critical occupations in Oklahoma (2018–2028), **66** require an associate degree or higher.

Only **26.2%** of Oklahoma citizens hold a bachelor’s degree or higher. The national average is more than 33%, and of our surrounding states—including Arkansas, New Mexico, Missouri, Texas, Kansas, and Colorado—only Arkansas has fewer citizens with a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Oklahoma ranks **50th in the nation** in the percent change in state fiscal support for higher education from 2010–2020, with a **37.2% decline** in public higher education appropriations per FTE.
BY THE NUMBERS

Enrollment
- During the 2020-21 academic year, 30,318 students enrolled at institutions in or adjacent to District 44.

Graduation
- During the 2020-21 academic year, 6,811 students graduated from institutions in or adjacent to District 44.

Oklahoma's Promise
- In District 44, 90 students from the 2021 high school graduating class qualified for the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship.
- Currently, 357 high school students in District 44 are enrolled in Oklahoma's Promise.
- Since inception in 1992, 1,613 high school students from District 44 have received the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship.
- During the 2020-21 academic year, nearly 2,100 students at public higher education institutions in or adjacent to District 44 received approximately $9.6 million in scholarships from Oklahoma's Promise.

Concurrent Enrollment
- During the 2020-21 academic year, 291 students enrolled in 2,569 credit hours through concurrent courses at institutions in or adjacent to District 44.

FY 2023 BUDGET NEED

FY 2022 APPROPRIATION .................................................. $812,819,822

FY 2023 BUDGET NEED:

1. Critical Workforce Development Initiatives .......................... $40,014,000
   A. STEM Workforce Development: $33,200,000
      i. Engineering/STEM Workforce Needs (Phase II) $12,900,000
      ii. Nursing Workforce Needs $10,000,000
      iii. Physician Residency Capacity Expansion $10,000,000
      iv. Pre-Collegiate STEM Summer Academies $300,000
   B. Initiatives to Address the Teacher Education Shortage $4,514,000
   C. Adult Degree Completion (Reach Higher) & Workforce Re-entry $2,300,000

2. System Operations .......................................................... $34,300,000
   A. Campus Operational Support Needs $30,000,000
   B. Deferred Maintenance for Campus Infrastructure (Section 13 Offset) $3,000,000
   C. State System Shared Services, Innovations, & Online Education Resources $800,000
   D. System Innovation, Collaboration, & Efficiency Incentive Grants $500,000

3. Student Success and College Degree Completion Initiatives ........................ $10,850,000
   A. Concurrent Enrollment Program $4,000,000
   B. Student Enrollment, Retention, & Graduation Assistance $6,850,000
      i. Need-Based Financial Aid Programs $4,900,000
      ii. Regional University Baccalaureate Scholarship Program $250,000
      iii. Academic Scholars Program $1,700,000

FY 2023 TOTAL BUDGET NEED ........................................... $897,983,822
- $ Difference from FY 2022 State Appropriations $85,164,000
- % Difference from FY 2022 State Appropriations 10.5%