

# 2021 HIGHER EDUCATION IMPACT



OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS  
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

*Improving our future by degrees*

## DISTRICT 55

SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY · WESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE

## HIGHER EDUCATION IN OKLAHOMA

- Oklahoma's public colleges and universities remain one of the most significant positive impacts on the state's economy, communities and citizens.
  - More than 206,000 students enrolled annually.
  - Nearly 37,000 degrees and certificates awarded in the last academic year.
- *U.S. News and World Report* ranks Oklahoma tuition and fees as 12<sup>th</sup>-lowest in the nation and student debt at graduation as 13<sup>th</sup>-lowest in the nation.
- STEM degrees and certificates conferred at state system institutions increased 54% over the last nine years.
- Workforce initiatives focus on continued growth in engineering, nursing, medicine and teacher education.
- Strategic innovations include development of microcredentials, which provide alternative learning pathways directly aligned with high-demand skills requested by employers.
- To fully fund the concurrent enrollment program for high school seniors and juniors will require an additional investment of \$4 million.
- For every \$1 of state appropriations invested, the state system of higher education generates \$9.40 in economic return.

## BY THE NUMBERS

### Economic Impact

- Every dollar invested in Southwestern Oklahoma State University generates \$7.10 in economic output.
- Every dollar invested in Western Oklahoma State College generates \$5.20 in economic output.

### Enrollment

- During the 2019-20 academic year, 7,517 students enrolled at institutions in or adjacent to District 55.

### Graduation

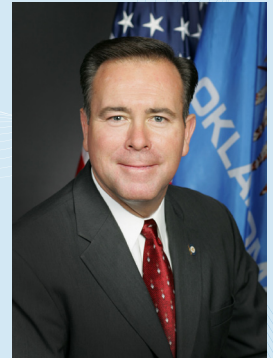
- During the 2019-20 academic year, 1,394 students graduated from institutions in or adjacent to District 55.

### Oklahoma's Promise

- In District 55, 114 students from the 2020 high school graduating class qualified for the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship.
- Currently, 362 high school students in District 55 are enrolled in Oklahoma's Promise.
- Since inception in 1992, 2,329 high school students from District 55 have received the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship.
- During the 2019-20 academic year, nearly 700 students at public higher education institutions in or adjacent to District 55 received approximately \$3.5 million in scholarships from Oklahoma's Promise.

### Concurrent Enrollment

- During the 2019-20 academic year, 662 students enrolled in 5,968 credit hours through concurrent courses at institutions in or adjacent to District 55.



**REP. TODD RUSS**

Phone: (405) 557-7312

Email: [todd.russ@okhouse.gov](mailto:todd.russ@okhouse.gov)

**Oklahoma State Regents  
for Higher Education**

405.225.9100

[www.okhighered.org](http://www.okhighered.org)

**Glen D. Johnson**

Chancellor

[chancellorjohnson@osrhe.edu](mailto:chancellorjohnson@osrhe.edu)

**LeeAnna McNally**

Vice Chancellor for

Governmental Relations

[lmcnally@osrhe.edu](mailto:lmcnally@osrhe.edu)

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other federal laws and regulations, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication is issued by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as authorized by 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3206. Copies have not been printed but are available through the agency website at [www.okhighered.org](http://www.okhighered.org). Two printout copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.