

# 2021 HIGHER EDUCATION IMPACT



OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS  
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

*Improving our future by degrees*

## DISTRICT 26

REDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE · SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

### 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 Redlands Community College generates \$5.00 in economic output.
- Every dollar invested in Southwestern Oklahoma State University generates \$7.10 in economic output.

#### Enrollment

- During the 2019-20 academic year, 8,275 students enrolled at institutions in or adjacent to District 26.

#### Graduation

- During the 2019-20 academic year, 1,426 students graduated from institutions in or adjacent to District 26.

#### Oklahoma's Promise

- In District 26, 243 students from the 2020 high school graduating class qualified for the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship.
- Currently, 736 high school students in District 26 are enrolled in Oklahoma's Promise.
- Since inception in 1992, 4,565 high school students from District 26 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 26 received approximately \$3.6 million in scholarships from Oklahoma's Promise.

#### Concurrent Enrollment

- During the 2019-20 academic year, 1,285 students enrolled in 11,397 credit hours through concurrent courses at institutions in or adjacent to District 26.



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