



Reach Higher Policy Workshop July 21, 2022

Ms. Sheila Smith
Senior Reach Higher Manager

Ms. Tisha Bradford
Reach Higher Manager

Ms. Brittany Blake
Coordinator for Academic Affairs Initiatives

Reach Higher FlexFinish



Ms. Sheila Smith
Senior Reach Higher Manager

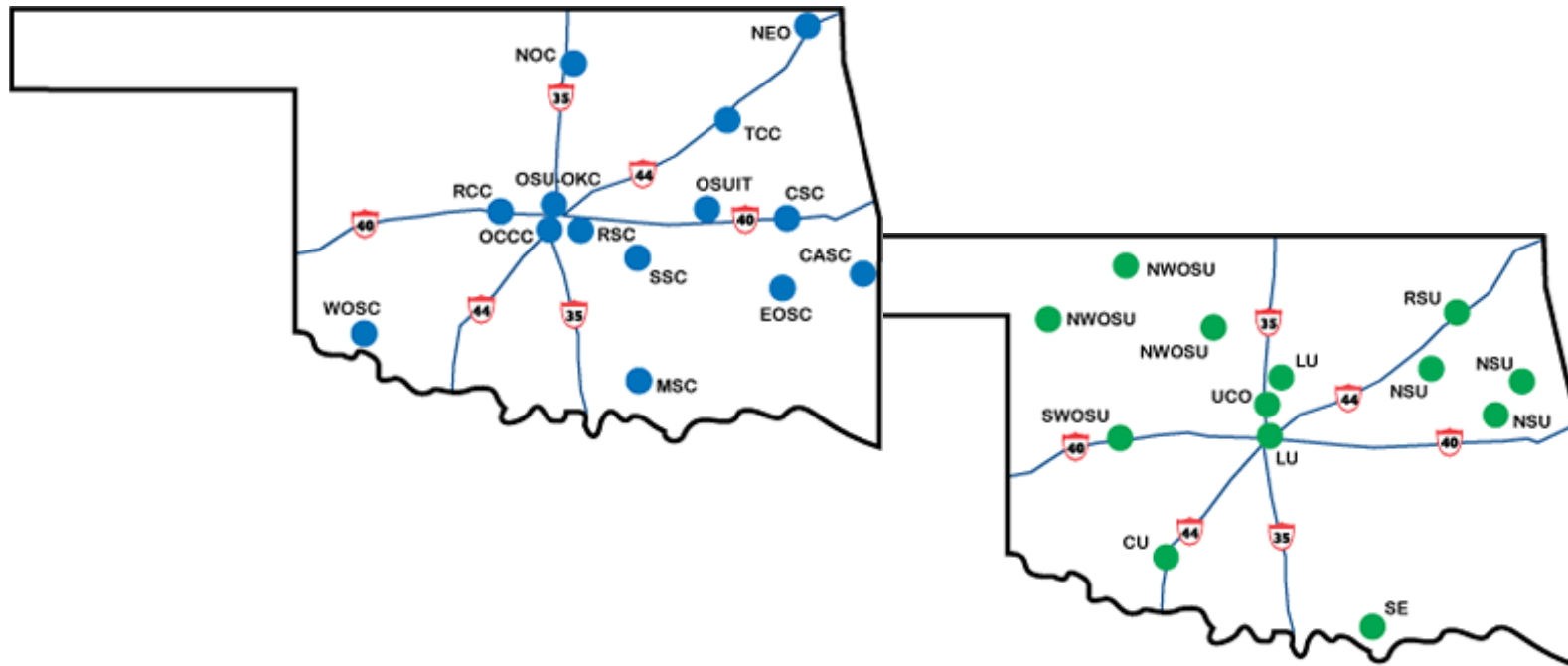


Background

- The Reach Higher initiative provides adult degree completion programs in flexible, non-traditional formats
 - Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership
 - Associate in Arts in Enterprise Development
 - Associate in Science in Enterprise Development
- Available at seven universities and 14 community colleges and technical branches across the state

Current Status

10,124 Program graduates through Spring 2022 for 2-and 4-year institutions



Policy Issues

Admission Criteria

- Have a minimum of 2.0 graduation/retention GPA in past college course work. A provisional admission status may be granted to a student with a minimum 1.70 graduation/retention GPA, provided that an institutional review was conducted to determine whether the student could attain the requisite 2.0 graduation/retention GPA at the completion of all required coursework.
- Admission made under this provision must be reviewed and approved by the chief academic officer and reported to the Reach Higher Manager during the semester of admission. Reporting on the student's progress may be required.

Policy Issues

Admission Criteria

- Have completed general education requirements as defined by the home institution admitting the student. A provisional admission status may be used for students who do not yet meet this requirement.
- Satisfy all institutional requirements for completion of remedial coursework. A provisional admission status may be granted to a student not meeting this standard, however, all remedial coursework must be completed within the first two semesters of enrollment in the Reach Higher program or within 24 credit hours earned after admission to the Reach Higher program. Admission made under this provision must be reviewed and approved by the chief academic officer and reported to the Reach Higher Manager during the semester of admission. Reporting on the student's progress may be required.

Policy Issues Associate Degree Programs

- Resident Credit
 - General Education requirements (37 credit hours) can be satisfied by credit earned at an Oklahoma institution participating in the Course Equivalency Project (CEP). Courses taken from the CEP listings will fulfill resident credit requirements.
 - Core courses/major requirements (23 credit hours) must include 15 of the final credit hours from Oklahoma institutions participating in the Reach Higher associate degree completion program including the 12 Oklahoma community colleges and 2 Oklahoma technical branches accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Policy Issues Associate Degree Programs

- Course Substitution
 - Institutions may allow course substitutions within a content area if the course is equal to or higher in rigor and consistent with institutional practice for course substitutions in such content areas for other degree programs at the institution.

Policy Issues

Baccalaureate Degree Programs

- Resident Credit
 - All 10 core courses in the Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership (775) program are considered resident credit regardless of the institution of record for the instruction.
 - Course Substitutions: Students enrolled in the Organizational Leadership program may be allowed to substitute up to 9 hours excluding Foundations of Organizational Leadership and Personal Development (ORGL 3113) and Capstone (ORGL 4553) for the following courses:

ORGL Course Substitutions

- ORGL 3333 Data Analysis and Interpretation with a Statistics Course (Business Stats, Psych Stats or CEP equivalent)
- ORGL 3443 Survey of Fiscal Management with Business Finance (or CEP equivalent)
- ORGL 4443 Markets and Stakeholders with Principles of Marketing (or CEP equivalent)
- ORGL 3223 Professional Communication with Business Communication (or CEP equivalent)
- ORGL 4113 Ethics and Organizations with Business Ethics (or CEP equivalent)
- ORGL 4333 Leadership Theory and Practice with a Leadership Theory course.
- ORGL 4213 Organizational Culture and Leadership with Organizational Behavior (or CEP equivalent)

Students are required to have completed the substitution prior to entering the Reach Higher program or may use these listed substitution courses under extenuating circumstances as approved by the Reach Higher Coordinator.

Curriculum Review Update

Reach Higher Organizational Leadership Program
Changes to be Implemented Fall 2022.

- ORGL 4333 Leading and Managing course changes name to Leadership Theory and Practice.
- ORGL 4313 Global Leadership and Diversity replaces ORGL 4223 Individual Organization and Society in the core.
- ORGL 4223 Individual Organization and Society is turned over to the institutions and can be kept as a part of their individual area of focus or as an elective. Reach Higher would no longer manage course content.
- ORGL 4213 Organizational Culture and Leadership becomes a required part of core and replaces ORGL 4993 Professional Internship (which is currently optional). ORGL 4993 Professional Internship is at the institution's discretion as part of their area of focus or elective.

Student and Community Resources

- The Reach Higher program has compiled a list of community resources and they are now available on the Reach Higher website to assist students and their families.
- We understand that adult students encounter challenges from time to time, and we encourage them to connect with available emergency resources such as food pantries, emergency shelter, transportation or help paying a utility bill.
- Students can search 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at no cost. The information is also completely confidential.
- <https://reachhigherok.org/resources/>

New Reach Higher Scholarships

- **Reach Higher Delta Dental of Oklahoma Scholarship Program**

For Adult Students Pursuing a Dental-Related Degree and Career

- **Reach Higher Adult Degree Completion Scholarship Program**

For Adult Students Returning to Pursue a Degree in a "Critical Occupation" as defined by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, an in-demand degree as determined by a Reach Higher partner, or one of the three degree completion programs.

New Reach Higher Scholarships – DELTA DENTAL

Reach Higher Delta Dental of Oklahoma Scholarship Program
For Adult Students Pursuing a Dental-Related Degree and Career

The Reach Higher program and the Delta Dental of Oklahoma Foundation are committed to increasing the number of credentialed dental professionals in the state of Oklahoma by encouraging and supporting adult students to finish their degrees within the field of dentistry.

The *Reach Higher* Delta Dental of Oklahoma Scholarship Program seeks to:

- help alleviate Oklahoma's dental care worker shortage,
- increase awareness among Oklahoma adult students of the opportunities available within the field of dentistry, and
- improve retention rates of adult students currently enrolled in dental programs.

Reach Higher Delta Dental of Oklahoma Scholarship Program

- This scholarship program is a collaboration between Delta Dental of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, and the Reach Higher program. Scholarships will be available to adult students enrolled in these programs:

Institution	Degree	Option
Oklahoma City Community College	AS in Chemistry (166)	Pre-Dentistry Option
Northern Oklahoma College	AAS in Health Services Technology (084)	Dental Assisting
Rose State College	AAS in Dental Hygiene (011) AAS in Dental Assisting (054) Certificate in Dental Assisting (101)	
Tulsa Community College	AS in Pre-Professional Health Sciences (010) AAS in Dental Hygiene (167)	Pre-Dental/ Medicine/Optomety
Western Oklahoma State College	AS in Mathematics and Science (068)	Pre-Dental Professional



Reach Higher Delta Dental of Oklahoma Scholarship Program

- Adult students enrolled in the specified programs can contact the Reach Higher Coordinator or Navigator at their home institutions to receive a scholarship application and additional application requirements.
- For a list of current Reach Higher Coordinators and Navigators, please visit <https://reachhigherok.org/>.

New Reach Higher Scholarships – Reach Higher Adult Degree Completion Scholarship

Reach Higher Adult Degree Completion Scholarship Program
For Adult Students Completing an “In-Demand” Degree Program

The State Regents dedicated scholarship funds for adults in the Reach Higher FlexFinish and DirectComplete programs who are completing degrees in preparation for a “Critical Occupation” as defined by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, an in-demand degree as determined by a Reach Higher partner, or one of the three Reach Higher degree completion programs.

The Reach Higher Scholarship Program will:

- Provide funds to Reach Higher institutions to award locally to Reach Higher adult students;
- Institutions will be provided guidelines for awards of up to \$1,500 at the community colleges and up to \$2,000 at the universities per academic year for a Reach Higher student.
- Institutions will report on Reach Higher students’ progress and completions.
- More details will be provided before the fall semester begins.

Reach Higher DirectComplete

Ms. Tisha Bradford
Reach Higher Manager



Background

- Built on Reach Higher foundation.
- Oklahoma received infrastructure grant in 2017 for an Adult Promise type initiative.
- Degree programs that lead to critical occupations listed on OK Works' 100 Critical Occupations List.
- Funding from multiple entities leveraged to cover adult students' costs to complete degrees that lead to employment in a Critical Occupation.

Participating Institutions



Partners and Assets

- Resources for Education mini-workshops- Asset Maps
- Schusterman foundation: \$40,000 in scholarships for Tulsa region only
- 14 DirectComplete Colleges and Universities representing 6 of 7 workforce regions
- Three nations offer DirectComplete scholarships for their citizens (the Comanche Nation, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and the Kiowa Tribe)
- Strong partnerships with Workforce Development Boards, OESC, DRS, OK Works, and several Chambers of Commerce throughout the state
- New Reach Higher Adult Degree Completion Scholarship Program

Partners



JACKSON COUNTY
Memorial Hospital



A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network



WorkforceTulsa
growing talent  growing opportunity



A proud partner of the americanjobcenter network



Professional Development & Marketing

- 17 business, industry, government, non-profit, and service partners in local areas;
- 14 higher education institutional partners;
- 11 partners or institutions offering scholarships to program participants;
- Professional development to serve diverse populations: Native American Convening, Hispanic Convening, African-American Convening.

Professional Development & Marketing

- Recruitment activities: Reach Higher [RECONNECT](#) with “family friendly” enrollment activities hosted June 2022 by 20 institutions, over 300 participants and 95 students enrolled.
- Website developments:
 - The [Reach Higher](#) website was redesigned and updated with program information on RHFF and RHDC.
 - “[Show What You Know OK](#)” website was designed and launched to provide resources for students on transfer credit, prior learning assessments, industry credentials earned following technology center programs, and military experience articulated to college credit.
- Reach Higher outreach and marketing: leveraging digital and print media resources for institutions to use in local marketing efforts with reduced development costs to institutions.

Program Sustainability

- Statewide promotion and marketing for Reach Higher.
- Monthly meetings with Tulsa Talent Hub, Native American Business partners at AICCOK throughout the state, Tulsa Housing Authority and Faith in Business- Tulsa.
- Reach Higher Ambassador program – volunteers are provided with marketing materials pertaining to the program and encouraged to carry the “Reach Higher” messages of opportunity and empowerment through degree completion for Oklahoma’s workforce needs in critical occupations.



Reach Higher Program Initiatives

Ms. Brittany Blake
Coordinator for Academic Affairs Initiatives

- Reach Higher Cultural Response Initiative.
- Reach Higher Coach Connect. Virtual coaching and training workshops.
- Share Your Story- Link where students and graduates can share their higher ed journeys <https://reachhigherok.org/share-your-story>

Reach Higher Contacts

- **Sheila Smith**, Senior Reach Higher Manager, shsmith@osrhe.edu or 405-225-9151.
- **Tisha Bradford**, Reach Higher Manager, tbradford@osrhe.edu or 405-225-9433.
- **Brittany Blake**, Coordinator for Academic Affairs Initiatives, bblake@osrhe.edu or 405-225-9214.
- **Dr. Debbie Blanke**, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, dblank@osrhe.edu or 225-9145.
- **Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp**, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, sbeauchamp@osrhe.edu or 405-225-9399.