

2026 HIGHER EDUCATION IMPACT

DISTRICT 56



Rep. Dick Lowe
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INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED

- ▶ Oklahoma City Community College
- ▶ Redlands Community College
- ▶ Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- ▶ University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

COUNTIES REPRESENTED

- ▶ Caddo
- ▶ Canadian
- ▶ Grady

HIGHER EDUCATION IN OKLAHOMA



Over 200,000 students enrolled annually



Over 41,000 degrees and certificates awarded at all levels in the last academic year, and an increase of **more than 15%** over the last decade



For every \$1 of state appropriations invested, the state system of higher education **yields \$17.48 in economic output.**



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



Data from the National Center for Education Statistics show the **cost of attendance** at Oklahoma universities is **among the lowest in the nation.**



Over the last decade, STEM degrees **increased nearly 29%** at all levels.



Our students learn here, earn here — **91%** of Oklahomans who graduate from a state system college or university remain and work in the state one year after graduation.



Of Oklahoma's 100 critical occupations, the **top 22** highest-paying jobs require an associate degree or higher, and **eight of the top 10** fastest-growing jobs require a college degree.

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BY THE NUMBERS

Enrollment

- ▶ During the 2024-25 academic year, 26,696 students enrolled at institutions in or adjacent to District 56.

Graduation

- ▶ During the 2024-25 academic year, 3,441 students graduated from institutions in or adjacent to District 56.

Oklahoma's Promise

- ▶ In District 56, 467 students from the 2025 high school graduating class qualified for the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship.
- ▶ Currently, 831 high school students in District 56 are enrolled in Oklahoma's Promise.
- ▶ Since inception in 1992, 6,535 high school students from District 56 have received the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship.
- ▶ During the 2024-25 academic year, nearly 1,600 students at public higher education institutions in or adjacent to District 56 received approximately \$7 million in scholarships from Oklahoma's Promise.

Concurrent Enrollment

- ▶ During the 2024-25 academic year, 4,639 students enrolled in 38,043 credit hours through concurrent courses at institutions in or adjacent to District 56.