

2026



LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education
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The Oklahoma Association for Career and Technical Education (OkACTE) supports legislation and public policy that preserves the integrity of Oklahoma's Career and Technology Education system while promoting workforce readiness and economic vitality.

Apprenticeships & Workforce Pathways

- Create an LPN to RN apprenticeship pilot program.

Educator Workforce & Professional Protection

- Develop teacher retention and recruiting programs.
- Support changes to the Teacher Retirement System that attract and retain teachers.
- Authorize ODCTE to provide a public retirement option in addition to the Teacher Retirement System.
- Protect teachers by ensuring reports of student/teacher communications are not placed in personnel files until a finding of guilt is established.

Student Outcomes & Program Integrity

- Protect graduation requirements.

Funding, Finance & Fiscal Stability

- Support appropriating money from the Legacy Fund for CareerTech expansion.
- Protect the Oklahoma Ad Valorem funding system.
- Support Technology Centers' ability to charge credit card fees to the consumer.

Governance, Authority & Accountability

- Support ODCTE's efforts to obtain full accreditation for Technology Centers.
- Establish ODCTE as the governing authority for all state apprenticeship programs.
- Authorize ODCTE the ability to retain outside counsel.

Policy Definitions & Communication Clarity

- Establish a definition of "adult students" for communication purposes.
- Establish a definition of "emergency" for communication purposes.



OKLAHOMA
CareerTech

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

FY27

FY26 General Appropriation **\$175,562,874**

➤ Meet the statutory requirement of funding the flex benefit allowance for the technology centers (Title 70. Schools §70-26-104)	\$1,300,000 (tentative)
➤ Workforce Training <i>Investment to meet the increased need for a trained workforce, by increasing full-time program enrollments by 10,000 over the next five years</i>	\$31,650,000
➤ K-12 CareerTech Program Support <i>Increase support to growing number of new K-12 CTE programs Increase supplement for K-12 CTE instructors for additional reporting requirements</i>	\$5,500,000
➤ Technology Center Expansion Incentive <i>Allocations available to technology centers to expand services into areas of Oklahoma not currently served by a technology center (a one-time request)</i>	\$10,000,000
➤ Career Exploration <i>Allocations for technology center districts to expand services for career exploration</i>	\$20,000,000
Total FY27 Appropriations Increase Requested	\$68,450,000
TOTAL FY27 Appropriations Request	\$244,012,874