

The Oklahoma Association for Career and Technical Education, OkACTE, advocates for policy and legislation that best serves and protects the integrity of the Oklahoma Career and Technnology system. Our legislative priorities reflect our commitment to fostering a skilled workforce and strengthening Oklahoma's economy.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT & ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- ✓ Protect and strengthen CareerTech's mission and education focus.
- ✓ Maintain flexible graduation requirements that include Career and Technology Education courses and programs.
- ✓ Support pathways to increase health care professionals.

COMMUNICATION

- ✓ Support clarification on student communication regulations and rules.

FUNDING

- ✓ Increase funding to CareerTech programs and continue to fund new programs as indicated in ODCTE's recommendation.

RETIREMENT

- ✓ Ensure TRS remains a defined benefit plan and create incentives for retired educators to return to the classroom
- ✓ Create an innovative process and funding mechanism to support a Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for retirees.

WORKFORCE

- ✓ Support enhancing CTE Apprenticeships and Work-Based Learning opportunities.
- ✓ Eliminate the adjunct teacher annual renewal. Support creating a certification to exist for the entirety of employment of the instructor.



Investing in Oklahomans

FY25 General Appropriation \$163,901,505

(Does not include one-time funding of \$28,590,000)

▶ **Meet the statutory requirement of funding the flex benefit allowance for the technology centers (Title 70. Schools §70-26-104) \$1,300,000**

▶ **Workforce Training \$41,650,000**

Investment in meeting the increased need for a trained workforce, by increasing full-time program enrollments by 10,000 over the next five years.

» Add or Expand 41 Health Careers Training Programs \$10,950,000

» Add or Expand 37 Construction Trades Training Programs . . . \$9,900,000

» Add or Expand 31 Manufacturing Training Programs. \$8,300,000

» Add or Expand 47 Additional Training Programs \$12,500,000

▶ **Incarcerated Individual Career Training \$450,000**

Increase transition services for inmates re-entering society. With the growth in trained inmates, additional staff is needed to aide in the transition to work.

▶ **K-12 CareerTech Program Support. \$3,500,000**

Increase support to growing number of new K-12 CTE programs. Increase supplement for K-12 CTE instructors for additional reporting requirements.

▶ **Career and Technology Expansion \$1,000,000**

One-time allocations available to technology centers for expansion of programs into areas of Oklahoma not currently served by a technology center.

Total FY26 Appropriations Increase Requested \$47,900,000

TOTAL FY26 Appropriations Request \$211,801,505