

**ESSP** trade & industrial education

postsecondary adult career education

**NRS**

**FCS**

counseling & career development

science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

**T&I**

**support staff**

**LEADERSHIP**

OKLAHOMA

**ACTE**

**SS**

**HEA**

administration

**AG**

family consumer sciences

business, marketing, information technology education

**ADM**

**health careers education**

agricultural education

**STEM**

**PACE**

**CCD**

**new & related services**

education services – special populations



# Oklahoma ACTE

Since 1929, the Oklahoma ACTE (formerly the Oklahoma Vocational Association) has provided members with the resources they need to enhance their skills. With over 4,000 members, Oklahoma ACTE is recognized as a dynamic educational leadership organization. Oklahoma ACTE works with its national affiliate, the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), to help its members stay on the cutting edge of education, family, workplace, and community development. Oklahoma ACTE's members are the backbone of career and technology education and workforce education policy development in Oklahoma.



## Our Mission

The mission of OkACTE is to develop and execute vetted strategies that promote and recognize excellence and provide a voice for our members and stakeholders.

## Our Vision

OkACTE is a member driven, value-added organization committed to making positive and significant impacts on the professional success of our members and stakeholders through quality opportunities.

## Our Goals

- Professional and leadership development and delivery of professional development to our membership.
- Create relationships and communications with public policy makers through staff and membership involvement.
- Provide relevance to education through partnerships with business and industry.
- Recognize innovative professional strategies of our membership

## OkACTE Staff

**Skye McNeil, Executive Director** | Lead Lobbyist for Oklahoma CareerTech

**Dazsa Carter, Assistant Director** | Membership Programming and Event Management

**Lorri Carlile, Director Outreach & Partnerships** | Sponsorships, Awards, Event planning

**Carmen Jones, Director of Membership Services** | Membership Database, Positional Memberships, Membership Dues

**Ora Morgan, Finance Manager** | Financial Services and Reporting

# MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

OkACTE is dedicated in providing its members with opportunities to engage in many programs and events to enhance with membership experience. Members can stay abreast of events, changes in legislation, and media surrounding the Oklahoma CareerTech system by engaging with us using the following tools below.

## Membership Emails

Stay in the loop of the events and news involving the Oklahoma CareerTech system. These emails are for members only.

## Legislative Updates

During the Legislative Session, these emails update membership on the bills that are hot topics for the OkACTE members. These emails are typically sent at the end of each week during Legislative Session (February – June).

## ICYMI Emails

*In Case You Missed It* emails are highlights and links from media coverage throughout the state regarding programs and news about the Oklahoma CareerTech system.

## OkACTE/CCOSA Mutual Benevolence Plan

OkACTE has partnered with CCOSA to offer a death plan for members and spouses. In the event of the death of a member or spouse the beneficiary will receive a check from OkACTE to help defray the costs incurred.

*Enrollment available ONLY during the first five years of employment.*

## OkACTE Fellowship Program

The OkACTE Fellowship program was established to provide leadership development for CTE professionals to further their development in professional associations. This program is designed to identify, train and motivate a cadre of leaders who will continue to position the Oklahoma CareerTech system as a leader in developing an educated, prepared, adaptable and competitive workforce. The Fellowship program is a one-year commitment from September to August.

## OkACTE Membership Dues Installment Plan

OkACTE is excited to offer members the opportunity to join or renew their membership with the OkACTE Membership Dues Installation Plan! This opportunity is available to OkACTE members whose annual dues total \$100 or more. Members can elect to participate in the plan based on 2-payment installment options: 4-payments installments to pay in June, July, August and September; or 2-payments installments to pay in September and October. Participation guidelines can be located on the OkACTE website under the Membership tab.

## Retirement & Investing Planning

Annual workshops are presented that will give you tools to make informed decisions about your journey to and beyond retirement.

## OkACTE Website

Members have a one-stop-shop for all things OkACTE with the OkACTE website. Learn more about our programming, sponsorship programs and more at [www.okacte.org](http://www.okacte.org).

## Oklahoma Summit App

Download the OkACTE app for free in the Apple App Store or GooglePlay. This app is used for all OkACTE events, to keep members engaged with news and more.

## Professional Liability Insurance

For just **\$40 per year** PLI covers up to \$1,000,000 per insured per occurrence plus the cost of defense, investigation, and legal fees. It also covers up to \$10,000 per member per claim for attorney fees and up to \$1,000 premium on bail bonds.

This brief description of the policy is to provide information only to members and in no way alters or modifies the policy on file with the Association. If you would like to receive a copy of the policy or have questions, please call Carmen Jones at (405)525-8906.

**Cost of Professional Liability Insurance** Insurance premium per member - \$28.00 Insurance Tax and Fees (6%) - \$1.56 OkACTE Association Service Fee - \$10.44  
**TOTAL \$40.00**

# Advocacy

One of OkACTE's major functions is representing the membership before the Oklahoma legislature. The Executive Director works at the Capitol on a daily basis during the legislative session, tracks legislation, educates legislators on career and technology issues, attends meetings and networks with other education organizations.

Every year OkACTE tracks and monitors legislative bills in preparation for Legislative Session. These bills can vary from CareerTech education policy, common education policy, education funding, teacher pay raise, tax credits, licensing, Ad Valorem, retirement, state employee pay raise, guns, economic development and much more. Our goal is to have a pulse on every bill that could positively or negatively impact any area of our system.

## OkACTE Legislative Agenda

In preparation for legislative session, the OkACTE Political Action Committee evaluates and approves a list of priorities. These priorities are guidelines that the Executive Director follows during that year's legislative session. Below is the 2023 OkACTE Legislative Agenda.

### **CAREER GUIDANCE & ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

- \* Support changes to the College Prep/Work Ready graduation requirements to validate the importance of CTE courses in preparing students for their future. Acknowledge industry recognized credentials as a positive outcome of PK-12 education.
- \* Ensure that Oklahoma's promise is available to all eligible students including those who participate in high quality career and technical education programs at technology centers.

### **ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES**

- \* Support legislation that provides all taxing jurisdictions an equal voice in the development and approval of economic development incentives such as Tax Increment Financing districts.
- \* Fully support legislation that encourages sound growth in emerging and expanding industries such as but not limited to film, movies, music, aerospace, manufacturing and healthcare.
- \* Support legislation that reduces employer risk when partnering with educational entities to provide work-based learning opportunities for students.
- \* Support the implementation of a pilot program to allow diploma RN program to be created at four technology centers. The programs must be offered in cooperation with higher education institution and an industry partner.

### **FUNDING & RELATED PRIORITIES**

- \* Fully fund the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education's 2024 budget increase by \$55,701,865 million of which will:
  - Increase support for existing PK-12 CTE Programs (411 & 412 funding)
  - Increase enrollment capacity at Technology Centers
  - Increase training services to Oklahoma's Employers
  - Increase services at Oklahoma Skills Centers
  - Fully fund of the Flex Benefit Allowance for all educational employees
- \* Maintain the Oklahoma Department of CareerTech as an independent state agency supporting all facets of Oklahoma's Career and Technology Education programs.
- \* Support full funding of the Oklahoma Ad Valorem Reimbursement Fund.
- \* Support the restoration and/or increase of funding of critical social services to insure that all citizens have access to the support they need to eliminate barriers which keep them from bettering their situations through education.
- \* Oppose any voucher proposal that takes away funding or resources from public education.
- \* Support a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all TRS retirees.
- \* Continue and strengthen partnerships with K-12 and higher education.

# OkACTE Structure



There are three organizational bodies within OkACTE: CareerTech Administrative Council (CTAC), the Oklahoma Association for Career and Technical Education (OkACTE) and the Oklahoma Association of Technology Centers (OATC). CTAC is the governing board that directs the office of the Executive Director of OkACTE and OATC. OATC is the governing body that promotes and fosters career and technology education and provides professional development and service for board members and superintendents and leadership advancement of career and technology education.

## CareerTech Administrative Council Executive Committee

- Chairman of CTAC
- Vice Chair of CTAC
- OkACTE President
- OkACTE President Elect
- OATC President
- ODCTE Director (ex-officio)

## OkACTE

- OkACTE Executive Committee
- OkACTE President
- OkACTE President Elect
- OkACTE Past President
- OkACTE Division Presidents
- OkACTE Executive Director (Non-voting Ex-officio)
- ODCTE State Director (Non-voting Ex-officio)

## OkACTE Membership Divisions

- Administration
- Agricultural Education
- Business, Marketing, Information Technology Education (BMITE)
- Counseling & Career Development (CCD)
- Education Services- Special Populations (ESSP)
- Family Consumer Sciences (FCS)
- Health Careers Education
- New & Related Services
- Postsecondary Adult Career Education
- Retirees
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Support Staff
- Trade and Industry Services

## CareerTech Administrative Council

- OkACTE President
- OkACTE President Elect
- One Representative from each OkACTE Division
- OkACTE Division Presidents
- OATC President
- OATC Past President & President Elect
- OATC Board Members

## OATC

- OATC Executive Committee
- President
- President Elect
- Past President
- One Board Member and Superintendent from OATC Board of Directors
- OkACTE/OATC Executive Director (Ex-officio)
- ODCTE State Director (Ex-officio)

## OATC Board of Directors

- OATC President
- President-Elect
- Past President
- OATC Fiscal Officer
- (4) Superintendents
- (4) Board Members
- ODCTE State Director (Ex-officio)
- (2) OSSBA District 15 Representatives (Ex-officio)

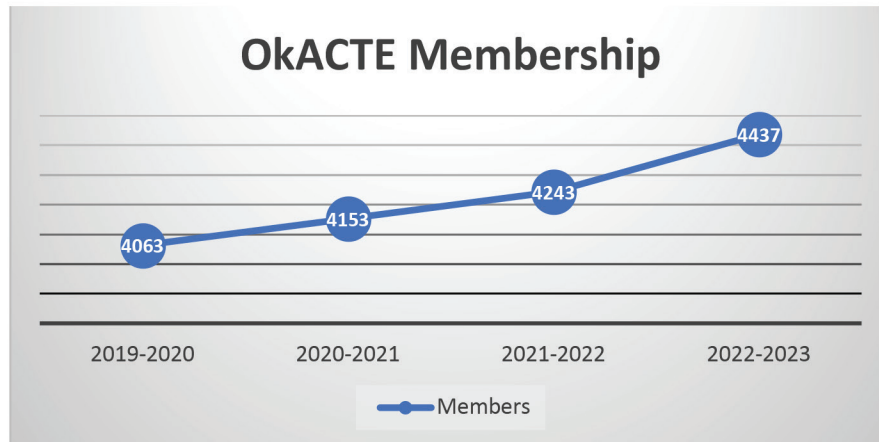
## OATC Membership

- (29) Technology Center Districts
- Technology Center Board of Education Members
- Technology Center Superintendents
- Mid-Del Public Schools Superintendent



## OkACTE Membership

The foundation for everything we do at OkACTE is our membership; we are member-centered and member-driven. We are pleased to announce that over the past three years we have increased membership by 700, bringing our total membership to more than 4,000. This increase allows us to capitalize on more unity, more impact, and more advocacy. We are always striving to increase benefits and added value and that will continue to be our goal. Thank you for being a member and we hope that our service to you is valuable and impactful.



## OkACTE Executive Officers 2023-2024



Dr. Brent Casey  
Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center  
President



Kristal McCathern  
Southern Technology Center  
President Elect



Ricky Wilkinson  
Autry Technology Center  
Past President

## Membership Types

OkACTE is an ACTE unified state. A unified state includes individuals with career and technology education who pay both state association and national dues. The Loyalty Division (retirees) and Support Staff divisions have altered national association dues. Your OkACTE membership includes both a state and national divisional membership.

<b>OkACTE</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>Individuals concerned with career and technology education within Ok</b>
<b>ACTE</b>	<b>\$80</b>	
<b>Loyalty</b>	<b>\$46</b>	<b>(Includes National Dues)</b>
<b>Division</b>	<b>\$10 - \$190</b>	<b>(State/National dues are set by each division's governance board and vary in each division)</b>

## OkACTE Divisional Membership

Your membership includes a division. The divisions represent the content area focus and/or special interest group of the member. The divisions provide a specific identity to career and technical educators beyond their state or region; members are also identified by the type of career and technical education they provide or represent. These divisions are also included in your OkACTE membership and are represented on state level.

## OkACTE Divisions

OkACTE has 12 membership divisions. An elected President represents each Division as a member of the Executive Committee. The President leads their divisional officers and committee chairs.

- Administration (ADM)
- Agricultural Education (AG)
- Business, Marketing, Information Technology Education (BMITE)
- Counseling & Career Development (CCD)
- Education Services- Special Populations (ESSP)
- Family Consumer Sciences (FCS)
- Health Careers Education (HCE)
- New & Related Services (NRS)
- Postsecondary Adult Career Education (PACE)
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Support Staff (SS)
- Trade and Industry Services (T&I)

## OkACTE Committees

Each division has committee chairs that are appointed or elected to serve on each OkACTE standing committees.

### Awards Committee

Committee members review and score applications for the award winners. The committee is responsible for maintaining application requirements, criteria, and rubrics, and providing input on ways to further improve processes and recognition for award winners.

### CareerTech Administrative Council

The CareerTech Administrative Council is the governing body that directs the operations of the Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education and the Oklahoma Association of Technology Centers, Inc.

### Comprehensive Professionals Council

The Comprehensive Professionals Council (CPC) is the voice of the K-12 professionals in the Oklahoma CareerTech system. CPC will assist in shaping policy and lead in strategic planning efforts while cultivating a stronger presence for the comprehensive professionals within the Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education. CPC is made up of (2) committee representatives from all membership divisions.

### Diversity Action Committee

The Diversity Action Committee serves to untie the profession of career and technology and advocate awareness of diversity among OkACTE, the students that

are taught, and businesses in which our members are involved.

### Membership Services Committee

The Membership Services Committee serves as an advisory board for the OkACTE membership services. This group annually evaluates the programming that has been implemented, and reviews prospective programming annually

### OkACTE/CCOSA Mutual Benevolence Board

OkACTE & CCOSA Mutual Benevolence Plan (MBP) organizes and facilitates the voluntary, monetary contributions to the beneficiary of an eligible member upon the death of that member. Each program participant contributes \$10.00 to the Mutual Benevolence Plan fund to provide financial assistance to the beneficiary of an active member of the program.

### OkACTE Political Action Committee

The OkACTE PAC is an organization with a purpose to raise money and help finance the campaigns of candidates sensitive to the interests of OkACTE members. The OkACTE PAC allows Oklahoma career and technology educators to pool financial resources providing more substantial influence on the political process.



# OkACTE EVENTS

## **ACTE National Policy Seminar**

ACTE holds this annual event to provide attendees with policy and advocacy how-to sessions to help them continue to strengthen support for CTE on a national level, dedicate time on Capitol Hill to meet with legislators and advocate for their CTE programs within their home states. The seminar is generally held in March.

## **ACTE CareerTech Vision**

ACTE's premier conference is a high-quality professional development that provides networking opportunities, educational breakout sessions and direct access to thousands of individuals and organizations representing all facets of career and technical education from across the nation.

## **ACTE Region IV**

ACTE's Region IV conference provides professional development and networking opportunities to ACTE members from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Educational breakout sessions and opportunities to learn more regarding the host state is available to participants.

## **Diversity Symposium**

The OkACTE Diversity Action Committee provides CTE professionals an opportunity to learn about culturally responsive approaches to students and colleagues in the CareerTech setting. This professional development provides expert lead workshops, learning experiences and networking.

## **HR Forum**

This is for any CareerTech employee involved in the onboarding and exiting processes for any CareerTech employee. During the HR Forum, we will cover subjects such as: Benefits of OkACTE membership, the Mutual Benevolence Plan, Professional Liability, and Retiree Membership. Understanding OkACTE Membership Payment Plans and discussion and training for the Positional Membership process.

## **LAUNCH**

Formerly known as Young Professional of CareerTech (YPCT), these events are held to promote networking with fellow Oklahoma CareerTech professionals to allow attendees to explore ways to leverage their professional careers and to gain knowledge in CTE. A meet and greet is held annually

during the OK Summit and for the first time, this year, an additional event was held during the school year. The goals of these events are to help with advancing careers and long-term retention of our professionals.

## **Leadership OkACTE**

Leadership OkACTE is designed to assist division leaders in fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of their office and to the members of their divisions. Leaders are given an opportunity to learn about effective leadership, network with their division officer team and other division leaders and do strategic planning for the upcoming year.

## **Legislative & Appropriations Forum**

Welcome to the legislative process! This event gives OkACTE members the opportunity to give us input as we define the priorities for Legislative Session. Your voice matters to us, and we value your time and effort to be more involved in the process.

## **Legislative Seminar**

Legislative Seminar provides members with advocacy how-to sessions, which help to continue and strengthen support for CareerTech, time to meet with legislators and advocate for CTE programs and allows an opportunity to have their legislators join them for lunch in the Capitol rotunda.

## **Oklahoma Summit**

Oklahoma Summit, formerly known as Oklahoma CareerTech Summer Conference, is held annually the first week of August bringing together approximately 4,000 OK CTE professionals. Attendees are given an opportunity to attend professional development sessions, visit the exhibit hall with over 100 vendors, attend spotlight sessions, networking opportunities and attend the general session where fellow CTE professionals are honored for their outstanding accomplishments to our system.

## **Partners in Progress**

Business and Industry Day is held annually to honor our industry partners who work one-on-one with our technology center districts. Each partner is recognized for their commitment to work with our technology centers and students. Legislators are invited to attend the event, where our business partners are encouraged to share their CareerTech success stories.

# MEMBERSHIP FROM NATIONAL TO STATE

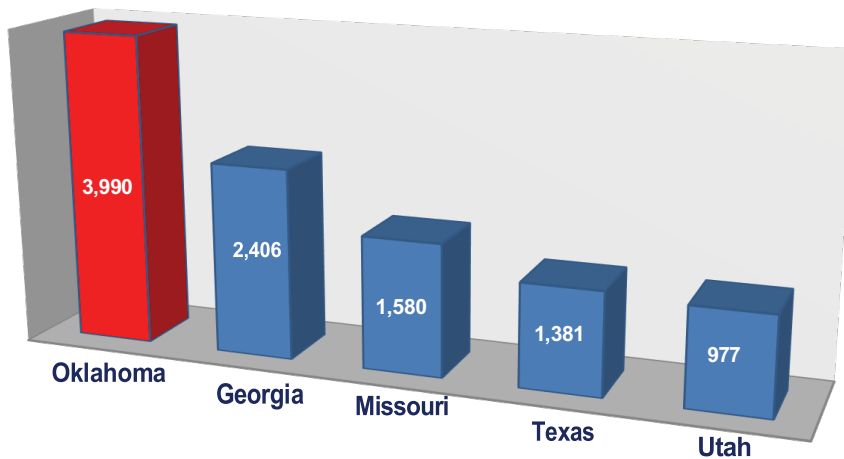
## ACTE MEMBERSHIP

OkACTE is a state affiliate of the Association for Career & Technical Education, ACTE. ACTE is the largest national education association of thriving professionals dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers. ACTE offers individuals actively engaged and employed in the CTE community a wealth of professional development and networking opportunities. OkACTE has a **unified membership** with ACTE, meaning every OkACTE member holds a state and national ACTE membership simultaneously and benefit from involvement at both local and national levels.



Find out more about [ACTE here](#).

## ACTE STATE MEMBERSHIP BY COMPARISON



## ACTE DIVISIONS

The Association for Career and Technical Education® (ACTE) is organized into 12 Divisions to provide members professional development resources, events, and networking opportunities specific to their position or area of expertise. As an ACTE member, you have designated at least one Division when they join ACTE, and an elected Vice President represents each Division on ACTE's Board of Directors. ACTE division titles may differ from the state divisions.

- [Administration Division](#)
- [Agricultural Education Division](#)
- [Business Education Division](#)
- [Counseling and Career Development Division](#)
- [Engineering and Technology Education Division](#)
- [Family and Consumer Sciences Education Division](#)
- [Health Science Education Division](#)
- [New and Related Services Division](#)
- [Postsecondary, Adult and Career Education Division](#)
- [Trade and Industrial Education Division](#)
- [Work Based Learning](#)

# OKACTE DIVISIONAL IMPACT NATIONALLY

## ACTE Oklahoma Board Members

Oklahoma has a strong presence within ACTE. We've included a listing of Oklahomans who hold positions with the ACTE National Board as well as ACTE National Officers.



Brooke Kusch  
Autry Technology Center,  
Vice President Elect  
Counseling and Career Development Division



Shawn Freie  
Canadian Valley Technology Center  
Vice President-Elect  
Postsecondary Adult Career Division



Michael Culwell  
Kiamichi Technology Center  
Region IV Vice President

## ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES

Divisions have an impact on ACTE through voting delegates and organized states such as Oklahoma that meet and caucus prior to the ACTE Delegates Assembly have a major impact on many issues. For example: the vote to increase ACTE dues and have an ongoing dues increase based on the consumer price index statistics - did not pass after Oklahoma delegates voiced their opinions.

Within each state, every division has ACTE voting delegates; the number is pro-rated for membership, for example:

- Agricultural Education - 2 delegates
- Education Services— Special Populations (ESSP) - 1 delegate
- T & I Education - 2 delegates

\*Example: the vote to increase ACTE dues and have an ongoing dues increase based on the consumer price index statistics - did not pass after Oklahoma delegates voiced their opinions.

## ACTE National Leadership Fellowship Program Two Cohort Types to Enhance Experience

ACTE's premier leadership development program, the National Leadership Fellowship Program, is expanding its offerings by recruiting a cohort of New Professionals! The New Professionals Fellows will be targeted to members with 2-5 years CTE experience and will provide participants with the leadership, professional and policy skills they need to grow as a CTE and ACTE advocate! ACTE will continue to offer the original Experienced Fellows cohort, which is for members with more than 5 years CTE experience.

To apply for the National Fellowship Programs, please visit their site. The applications are due annually in September.

# REGION IV

## ACTE Region IV Membership

As an ACTE member, you are automatically a member of one of five geographic regions. These regions were established to support state associations in providing opportunities for members to get involved at the state and national levels. Each year, regions host their own conferences to provide members with professional development, leadership development and networking opportunities closer to home.

Oklahoma is a member of Region IV along with the following states:

[Arkansas](#)

[Louisiana](#)

[New Mexico](#)

[Mississippi](#)

[Texas](#)

## ACTE Region IV Committees

### Audit Review Committee

Volunteer Commitment: 3-5 hours per year, 3 years  
(July 1–June 30)

Impact of Work: Committee members are primarily responsible for ensuring the Association’s financial statements and disclosures are validated and to evaluate the Association’s accounting procedures and to oversee ACTE’s financial reporting, internal control and audit processes.

Expertise Required: Financial experience is required.

### Awards Committee

Volunteer Commitment: 50+ hours per year, 2 years  
(July 1–June 30)

Impact of Work: Committee members review and score applications for the ACTE Excellence Awards and collectively determine national award winners. The committee is responsible for maintaining national application requirements, criteria, and rubrics, and providing input on ways to further improve processes and recognition for award winners.

Expertise Required: Previous experience on an awards committee is strongly recommended

### Bylaws Committee

Volunteer Commitment: 5+ hours per year, 2 years  
(July 1–June 30)

Impact of Work: Committee members are responsible for ensuring the organizational documents of the Association conform to law and are reflective of the desires and needs of members and ensuring appropriate conformity of organizational and operational documents of the Association.

Expertise Required: It is recommended that members of this committee have knowledge of ACTE’s organizational structure.

### Nominating Committee

Volunteer Commitment: 7+ hours per year, 2 years  
(July 1–June 30)

Impact of Work: Committee members are responsible for the implementation of the nomination and election process for the governance year. The committee is to abide by the bylaws and approved Policy and Procedures Manual in fulfilling its objectives. The committee is to present at least two candidates for president-elect and ensure all Region and Division vice president candidates meet the required criteria. The entire slate is to be presented to the Assembly of Delegates at ACTE’s CareerTech VISION.

Expertise Required: It is recommended that members of this committee have knowledge of ACTE’s organizational structure.