The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma continually strives to create jobs and economic growth to be able to offer a variety of programs and resources for our Choctaw members. It is our goal to provide opportunities to our members that will help them achieve success for generations to come.

**Vision**
Living out the Chahta spirit of faith, family, and culture.

**Mission**
To the Choctaw proud, ours is the sovereign nation offering opportunities for growth and prosperity.

The High School Student Services program is a terrific opportunity for student success. The program proudly serves more than 3,000 students each year and assists them with college, trade school, or workforce information during and after high school.

All the best,

Chief Gary Batton

Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr.
Dear High School Student Services Participant,

The Choctaw Nation High School Student Services program would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking an active role in your education. Our program serves students in grades 9th-12th who are Choctaw Tribal Members. The goal of the program is to assist our Choctaw students with academic information to promote education and/or career path beyond high school.

We realize that finding resources can be overwhelming for students and parents alike. Educational advice is essential in preparing students for life after high school and it is important to begin planning early. The High School Student Services program has put together this Student Success Planner as a resource tool to assist Choctaw families as they begin planning for life after high school. I encourage you to review this planner and utilize the information in the book as you make decisions about the future.

Remember, the High School Student Services Program plays a critical role in linking students to various Choctaw Nation education programs. If at any time you have questions, please feel free to call our office. We look forward to meeting you throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

High School Student Services
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GRADE LEVEL INFORMATION
The checklist below contains information that can help you start planning today.

☐ Create a high school plan
   ◆ Starting a four-year plan is a great way to ensure you are ready for graduation and life after high school.
     - mappingyourfuture.org/collegeprep/

☐ Participate in extracurricular activities
   ◆ Colleges and employers look far beyond your academics. It is good to start getting involved now.
     - fastweb.com
     - shadysideacademy.org

☐ Start thinking about life after school
   ◆ Whether you want to go to college, the military, technical school, or begin a career, it is important to start identifying your interests now.
     - educationplanner.org/students/career-planning/find-careers/

☐ Start saving
   ◆ No matter what your plans are after graduation, life after high school can get expensive! It is never too early to start saving.
     - okcollegestart.org/raise.me

☐ Consider a practice ACT or SAT
   ◆ Taking a practice test early can help you learn what to expect and ease your nerves when it’s time for the real thing.
     - ACT.org
     - Academy.act.org

☐ Oklahoma’s Promise
   ◆ Check website to see if you qualify.
     - okhighered.org/okpromise

☐ Start building your resume
   ◆ Creating your resume now and adding on awards or new work experience as it happens over the next four years will save you a lot of time after graduation.
     - careeronestop.org
The checklist below contains information that you may find helpful in planning for your future.

☐ Prepare for the upcoming year by taking challenging classes and getting more involved with extracurricular activities
   - Find out if your school offers Advanced Placement (AP) testing.
   - Contact our office at 800-522-6170 for more information.
   - Check out this website for a list of extracurricular activities: fastweb.com

☐ Start practicing taking the ACT or SAT to improve your score
   - Refer to page 17 for more information about national test dates.
   - If you would like to register for an ACT Workshop, please call our office at 800-522-6170.

☐ Consider a job or volunteer work over the summer
   - The Choctaw Nation Summer Youth Virtual Job Shadowing provides participants with basic work skills and good work habits necessary to enter into the job market. Must be 16 on or before the first day of work.
   - For more information and to obtain an application, visit: -477etsapp.choctawnation.com

☐ Talk to your family about creating a school budget
   - Life after high school can be expensive, it is never too early to start saving for school. Oklahoma’s Promise can provide students the opportunity to earn a scholarship for college tuition.
   - Oklahoma Promise: Check website to see if you qualify.
     - okhighered.org/okpromise/
   - Raise.me is a platform that helps high school students prepare for college by earning scholarships for their achievements in high school
     - raise.me
   - Check out the Oklahoma 529 College Savings Plan here.
     - ok4saving.org/

☐ If you haven’t already started creating a resume, create one and continue adding to it throughout school
   - Having a resume on file is a great way to keep track of your achievements and can be useful when applying for internships or jobs. Use this website to get started:
     - careeronestop.org
The checklist below contains information that you may find helpful in planning for your future.

- **Oklahoma Promise: Check website to see if you qualify.**
  - okhighered.org/okpromise/

- **Start a college savings plan or add to one you have already started**
  - Go to ok4saving.org to find a savings program for you.

- **Create a resume and make a list of people you can ask for a reference letter**
  - You can find a great tool to create your resume at careeronestop.org.
  - Make a list of all the awards and honors you have received to put on your resume.
  - If you have questions about what can be considered an award or honor, you may visit:
    - petersons.com/blog/career-planning-resume-writing-honors-awards-and-accomplishments
  - Create an Excel spreadsheet with all of your honors and awards as you receive them to help keep track of when you received them.

- **Decide whether you want to go to college, technical school, work, or into the military**
  - Contact your counselor to receive information about each option.

- **Begin planning campus visits to your top five colleges**
  - Ask your high school counselor if the school will be providing any college visits.
  - Check out Choctaw Nation College Connect or other college fairs in your area.

- **Be aware of the dates for the upcoming SAT and ACT exams**
  - To find ACT test dates, refer to page 17 or visit act.org/.
  - To find SAT test dates, visit collegereadiness.collegeboard.org.
  - For any questions, contact High School Student Services at 800-522-6170.

- **Be aware of scholarships you can apply for and apply to as many as possible**
  - Start an account with raise.me to view participating schools you might be interested in attending.
  - A great resource to find many different types of scholarships is scholarships360.org/.
  - To find out about more scholarships, join the High School Student Services Facebook page @CNOHSSS.
  - To find Choctaw Nation scholarships, be sure to check out chahtafoundation.com/.

- **Create a strong personal statement for applications**
  - For help creating a strong personal statement, follow the link below:
    - shmoop.com/college/personal-statement-examples.html

- **Consider a job or volunteer work over the summer**
  - The Choctaw Nation Summer Youth Employment Services provides participants with basic work skills and good work habits necessary to enter into the job market. Must be 16 on or before the first day of work.
  - For more information and to obtain an application, visit:
    - 477etsapp.choctawnation.com
The checklist below contains information that you may find helpful as you apply for services and scholarships necessary for the post-secondary path you choose.

☐ **Get a plan**
- Creating a plan only aids in the process of achieving your goals!
- Update your resume (check out careeronestop.org for free templates and information to create a standout resume.)
- Letters of Recommendation - Find a few credible sources to write you letters of recommendation as soon as possible.

☐ **Choctaw Nation Higher Education, Career Development and Chahta Foundation.**
- Higher Education: Scholarships and Grants – Concurrent students and students seeking an associate degree or higher.
  - choctawnation.com/higher-education-0
- Career Development: Tribal members seeking education or careers that require a licensure or certification.
  - choctawcareers.com/
- Chahta Foundation: Competitive scholarship opportunities for Choctaw students chahtafoundation.com
- Summer Youth Employment.
  - https://477etsapp.choctawnation.com/

☐ **Scholarships**
- Post-secondary education: Begin applying for scholarships available to you now and in the future.
- HSSS Facebook: Follow our Facebook page @Choctaw Nation High School Student Services for educational resources/scholarship information and applications.
- Scholarship Sites:
  - scholarships360.org
  - okcollegestart.org
  - Raise.me

☐ **Be aware of the dates for the upcoming SAT and ACT exams**
- To find ACT test dates, refer to page 17 or visit act.org/.
- To find SAT test dates, visit collegereadiness.collegeboard.org.
- For any questions, contact High School Student Services at 800-522-6170.

☐ **Applications**
- Start working on college and technical school applications as well as your FAFSA application.
- FAFSA Website: studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa.
- Documents needed to complete FAFSA include:
  - Your Social Security number
  - Social Security numbers for one or both parents
  - Driver’s License
  - Tax information

☐ **College Visits/Career Expos**
- College visits are a great way to get to know your top choices and familiarize yourself with their campus.
- High School Career Expo.
CHOCTAW PROGRAMS
HALITO!
The Choctaw language is the heart of the identity of the Choctaw people. It encompasses the native spirit of our celebrated ancestors and awakens the desire in younger generations to persevere.

The School of Choctaw Language utilizes the talents of 19 teachers certified by the State of Oklahoma with various areas of expertise, including the language and culture of our Choctaw people.

Our teachers believe that a strong will to learn can ignite the passion for learning the Choctaw language. Our teachers have developed a curriculum based on the world language standards established by the Oklahoma State Board of Education, which is taught in public schools and colleges around southeastern Oklahoma.

The Choctaw classes are taught through the distance learning system to 41 public schools, two colleges, and carry a world language credit. The Choctaw language is also taught to students in 14 Head Start Centers throughout the Choctaw Nation. Additional classes are taught in 28 communities within the Choctaw Nation boundaries and at two locations in California. The School of Choctaw Language also offers online internet language classes that are taught during the day and evenings.

The language department also utilizes choctawschool.com, featuring, “learn at your own pace” lessons with sound clips provided by first-language Choctaw speakers. We also offer free “Lesson of the Day” emails that are delivered straight to your inbox. It is an honor to speak, write, read, and sing the Choctaw language. Begin your language journey with the School of Choctaw Language today.

Chi pisa la chike. (I'll see you later.)

Phrases of Conversation:
- Halito. = Hello.
- Chim achukma? = How are you?
- Vm achukma. = I’m fine.
- Chishnato? = And you?
- Yakoke. = Thank you.
- Chahta chia ho? = Are you Choctaw?
- Chahta sia. = I am Choctaw.
- Chi hohchifo yvt nanta? = What is your name?
- Sv hohchifo yvt ______. = My name is ______.
- Katimma ish vutta? = Where do you live?
- ______ vutta li. = I live in______.

Common Words:
- Oklahoma = Red People
- Chahta Okla = Choctaw People
- Tvshka Homma = Red Warrior

Colors:
- lakna = yellow
- homma = red
- okchakko = blue
- okhamali = green
- lakna hvta = orange
- homakbi = purple
- tohbi = white
- lusakbi = brown
- lusa = black

Numbers:
- achvffa = one
- tuklo = two
- tuchina = three
- ushta = four
- tahlapi = five
- hannali = six
- untuklo = seven
- untuchina = eight
- chakkali = nine
- pokkoli = ten
CHOCTAW CULTURAL CENTER

A LIVING, BREATHING EXPERIENCE.

CHOCTAWCULTURALCENTER.COM

@CHOCTAW_CC | @CHOCTAWCULTURALCENTER | @CHOCTAWCULTURALCENTER
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SERVICES

OUR GOAL:
To assist our students with academic information to promote education and/or career path beyond high school.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY:
- Must be Tribal Member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- Must be attending an accredited high school, grades 9-12, and verified by the High School Student Services staff
- Each student must have a signed Student Record Release form on file with the Choctaw Nation High School Student Services program

SERVICES AVAILABLE AND PRE-APPROVED REIMBURSEMENTS:
- Cap and Gown**
- School visits*
- Parent-teacher conferences*
- Scholarship information
- Student Success Planner
- Notification of event dates
- ACT/SAT test fee**
- ACT prep workshops
- Driver’s Ed - up to $100, must have completed the course already
- College app fee - up to $100 for only 1 college app
- ACT study guide - up to $20
- Career Tech expenses - up to $100

*Inside the 10.5 counties
**Until annual funds are depleted

CONTACT
800-522-6170 | HIGHSCHOOLSTUDENTSERVICES@CHOCTAWNATION.COM
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
High School Student Services

ACT Prep Workshops 2022-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Date</th>
<th>Workshop Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2022</td>
<td>Friday, August 26, 2022</td>
<td>Hugo- Kiamichi Technology Center - Seminar Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20, 2022</td>
<td>Friday, October 7, 2022</td>
<td>McAlester - Kiamichi Technology Center - Seminar Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8, 2022</td>
<td>Friday, November 23, 2022</td>
<td>Idabel - Kiamichi Technology Center - Seminar Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 9, 2023</td>
<td>Friday, January 27, 2023</td>
<td>Durant - Kiamichi Technology Center - Seminar Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 2023</td>
<td>Friday, March 31, 2023</td>
<td>Poteau – Kiamichi Technology Center - Seminar Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choctaw students who are members of High School Student Services will have their ACT Workshop fees paid for by the HSSS program. Students must register for ACT Workshops, please see contact information below.

You must be a High School Students Services member to attend the ACT workshops.

* ACT Workshop dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice. Please call the High School Student Services office at 800-522-6170 Ext. 4105 the day before your scheduled workshop to confirm.

High School Student Services members call: 580-924-8280
Toll Free: 800-522-6170
## ACT Testing Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Late Fee Required Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 10, 2022</td>
<td>August 5</td>
<td>August 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22, 2022</td>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>September 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10, 2022</td>
<td>November 4</td>
<td>November 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 11, 2023</td>
<td>January 6</td>
<td>January 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15, 2023</td>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>March 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 10, 2023</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>May 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15, 2023</td>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>June 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No test centers are scheduled in New York for the February and July test dates.

To register, visit [ACTStudent.org](http://ACTStudent.org) or see your high school counselor. For reimbursement, call 800-522-6170.
JOHNSON-O’MALLEY PROGRAM

◆ The JOM Program provides supplemental funding to contracted public schools within the Choctaw Nation’s 10 1/2-county service area. These funds are used to meet the specialized and unique educational needs of eligible students. Eligible students are Native Americans from age 3 through grade 12, who are verified as members or whose parents are members of a federally recognized tribe, except those students who are enrolled in Bureau or sectarian-operated schools.

◆ The Johnson-O’Malley Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act PL 115-404, will seek to obtain a complete update of the student count for eligible Native American students while increasing participation around the country from schools and Tribes. It will initiate conversations with the Department of the Interior and BIE regarding the modernization of rules and regulations for Johnson-O’Malley Programs. As well as reinforce the recognition of Tribal sovereignty and the respect of federal treaty rights.

ELIGIBILITY
◆ Eligible students are:
  ◆ Native Americans age three through grade twelve
  ◆ Verified members or whose parents are members of a federally recognized tribe
  ◆ Cannot be enrolled in Bureau or sectarian-operated schools
  ◆ Live in the 10 1/2-county service area of the Choctaw Nation

BY THE NUMBERS
◆ Participating schools: 75
◆ JOM student enrollment: 13,140
◆ Service area: 10 1/2 counties

CONTACT
800-522-6170 | JOM@CHOCTAWNATION.COM
EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO INSPIRE POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH SERVANT LEADERSHIP

CONTACT A LOCAL YAB CHAPTER TODAY:
CHOCTAWNATION.COM/YAB

AVAILABLE TO ALL 8TH – 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WHO LIVE IN THE CHOCTAW NATION SERVICE AREA

FACEBOOK.COM/CNYAB | CONTACT: (800) 522-6170 OR YAB@CHOCTAWNATION.COM
INCENTIVES ARE GIVEN TWICE A YEAR AT THE END OF EACH SEMESTER, FOR THE FOLLOWING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

APPLICATION PERIOD: FALL, JAN 1 - APR 1 | SPRING, JUN 1 - SEP 1

- All A’s: $25 GIFT CARD
- Perfect Attendance: $25 GIFT CARD
- All A’s & B’s: (including all B’s): $10 GIFT CARD

NOTE: Individual schools will no longer apply for STAR rewards on the student’s behalf.

GET REWARDED FOR GRADES AND PERFECT ATTENDANCE!

The STAR Program application is now available through Chahta Achvffa, the Choctaw Nation’s official member portal. Parents and guardians can now apply for rewards for their students in 2nd - 12th grade in the Fall and Spring semesters, providing final semester grades.

APPLY FOR THE STAR PROGRAM AT CHOCTAWNATION.COM/CHAHTAACHVFFA

800-522-6170 | CHOCTAWNATION.COM/STAR-PROGRAM

Stay Connected

Choctaw Nation

STAR Program

CHOCTAWNATION.COM
The Choctaw Nation offers a $100 grant to Choctaw tribal students who are attending 3-year-old head start through high school. The grant is provided one time each funding year and will be on a Visa card specifically for clothing; it will be declined at ATMs, gas stations, restaurants, movie theaters, etc.

Eligibility Requirements

• Students must possess a Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma tribal membership card (This is not the CDIB).
• Students must be at least 3-years-old in head start/daycare setting through 12th grade.
• If the student is between ages 19 to 21 attending high school additional school enrollment documentation will be required.

580-634-0681
CHAHTAACHVFFA.CHOCTAWNATION.COM

APPLICATIONS OPEN JUNE 1 - AUGUST 31, 2022
WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN

Choctaw Nation WIC is a supplemental nutrition program that contributes to healthy pregnancies, healthy babies, and healthy children.

WIC BENEFITS INCLUDE:
• Healthy foods
• Nutrition and health information
• Breastfeeding support
• Referrals to healthcare and community services

YOU MAY QUALIFY IF YOU:
• Are pregnant, breastfeeding, just had a baby or have or care for a child under 5 years old
• Have low to medium income
• Receive SoonerCare, SNAP, TANF or FDPIR

WIC MOBILE APP
Access your WIC benefits and information on our easy-to-use mobile app. The MyWIC app allows you to monitor your benefits, appointments and more!

Mobile app available for Android and iPhone

CALL OR TEXT TODAY TO FIND OUT IF YOU QUALIFY!
580-920-2100 | CELL: 580-740-9909
DURANT WIC OFFICE | 1801 CHUKKA HINA | DURANT
The Choctaw Nation offers online High School Equivalency classes for Choctaw members nationwide who did not finish high school. Our program is also open to Native American students who live in the Choctaw Nation Reservation Area and non-tribal Choctaw Nation associates.

Most students complete the program within 12 weeks of study. A $250 incentive is available to students enrolled in the program upon completion. All books, supplies and testing fees are provided to tribal members. Non-tribal Choctaw Nation associates must pay their own testing fees.

Students can fill out the Adult Education application at Chahta Achvffa, ChoctawNation.com/Adult-Education. You must provide the following documentation when applying:

- CDIB or Tribal Membership and Current Driver’s License or State Issued ID

CONTACT: 800-522-6170 | ADULTED@CHOCTAWNATION.COM
APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN
1/15 – 3/31 EVERY YEAR
APPLY AT
CHAHTAFOUNDATION.COM

WE ARE THE HOME FOR CHOCTAW COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Chahta Foundation offers competitive scholarships for Choctaw students, including general degrees to specialized areas such as healthcare and business. Any Choctaw student pursuing a college degree is encouraged to apply for these competitive scholarships.

Dozens of scholarship opportunities
High School Senior to Doctorate-Level Degrees

Universal application
Apply once – Multiple Opportunities

New opportunities
Reapply each year

Online application
Mobile devices love us

CHAHTAFOUNDATION.COM
SCHOLARSHIP@CHAHTAFOUNDATION.COM
580-924-8280
CONCURRENT STUDENTS!

The Choctaw Nation Higher Education Program offers assistance for tribal member high school students who are concurrently enrolled at an accredited college or university.

To apply, visit higheredapplication.choctawnation.com and upload the following:

- An updated high school transcript
- Complete college transcript
- FERPA Authorization form
- CDIB membership card
- College class schedule
- A 2018 IRS.gov W9 form with the student’s information

Fall Application: August 1st - October 1st
Spring Application: January 2st - March 1st
Summer Application: May 1st - June 15th

*Call Higher Education for further program requirements
The Choctaw Nation Higher Education Program offers assistance for all tribal member students who are enrolled at an accredited college or university.

To apply, visit higheredapplication.choctawnation.com and upload the following:

- College ID documentation
- FERPA Authorization Form
- CDIB Membership Card
- College class schedule
- Complete college transcript

Fall Application: August 1st - October 1st
Spring Application: January 2st - March 1st
Summer Application: May 1st - June 15th

*Call Higher Education for further program requirements
The Choctaw Nation offers a one-time college clothing allowance for full-time and part-time status students throughout the United States who are currently attending an accredited college or university.

Students must be a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and completed at least 12 college credit hours.

Application open January 2 to March 1

APPLY NOW: CHAHTAACHVFFA.CHOCTAWNATION.COM
TECHNOLOGY ALLOWANCE

- One-time stipend
- Must have earned at least 12 college credit hours overall
- Must be enrolled in at least 3 credit hours for the current spring semester
- Must have a college cumulative GPA of at least 2.0

THE OPENING DATE FOR THIS APPLICATION IS JANUARY 2
THE CLOSING DATE FOR THIS APPLICATION IS MARCH 1

CONTACT

580-642-7174
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN COLLEGE?

COLLEGE FRESHMAN YEAR INITIATIVE
Contact a First Year Experience Coordinator at one of these colleges:

Carl Albert State College
918-647-1423

Eastern Oklahoma State College
918-465-1705

Southeastern Oklahoma State University
580-745-3314

The goal of the College Freshman Year Initiative (FYI) is to create a community among Choctaw students, their college campus, and our staff wherein freshman students are empowered to make informed decisions and develop academic and life skills to become confident, proactive, and accountable participants in their college education. In order to achieve this goal, we’ve placed Choctaw First Year Experience Coordinators on the campuses of Southeastern Oklahoma State University-Durant, Carl Albert State College-Poteau, and Eastern Oklahoma State College-Wilburton to closely assist Choctaw students throughout their freshman year and foster success through graduation.

If you are a first-time freshman, a Choctaw Tribal Member, and are considering attending one of these schools, please call our office today.

CONTACT

800-522-6170
WWW.CHOCTAWNATION.COM
At Camp Chahta, our College Counselors will help you with:

- Applying for financial aid
- Adjusting to dorm life
- Registration and Enrollment
- Making new friends
- Orientation
- Participating in cultural activities

FAMILY NIGHT BEGINS AT 6:00 PM
FIND YOUR PASSION
FIND YOUR CAREER

CAREER DEVELOPMENT VISION
The Choctaw Nation Career Development Program works to enhance the lives of the Choctaw Tribal Members. Career Development provides opportunities for education and training that lead to industry recognized certifications or licensures and self-sustaining employment.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY
Interested participants must be Post-Secondary Choctaw Tribal Members. Proof of membership will be required for access to services.

AVAILABLE SERVICES
- Career Guidance Services
- Assessment Testing
- Academic Remediation
- Financial Assistance for Quality Training
- Soft Skills
- Employment Services

CONTACT
800-522-6170
CHOCTAWCAREERS.COM

DYLAN GRANT
Commercial Truck Driver
Arbuckle Truck Driving School
Explore A High School Career Expo

Inspiring, Engaging & Preparing Our Youth for Tomorrow’s Workforce

- Explore careers through interactive sessions
- Complete key ICAP graduation requirements (Oklahoma Students)
- Connect with education and training representatives
- Learn about career opportunities from employers in live sessions
- Discover financial aid options and receive feedback on questions

Motivational Speaker: Mark Robinson - BestMotivationalSpeakers.com

Open to all 11th – 12th grade students within the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma’s reservation
The Southeast Expo Center | 4500 W Highway 270, McAlester, OK 74501

October 26, 2022 | 10AM CST
Registration Required: Bit.ly/HS-Expo

Savannah Mitchell – Smitchell@Choctawnation.com | 580-740-6998
Tisha Giles – Tgiles@Choctawnation.com | 580-642-8353

Choctaw Nation Education Services
ATTENTION CHOCTAW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Career Tech Concurrent Service

Career Development has a new service for high school junior and senior students enrolled at a Career and Technology Center and live within the reservation; called Career Tech Concurrent. This service will assist Choctaw students with out-of-pocket expenses needed to:

For more information, contact Tisha Giles at 866-933-2260 or by email at tgiles@choctawnation.com to see if you qualify

Choctaw Nation Career Development
MILITARY MENTORING

ARE YOU A JUNIOR OR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL TRIBAL MEMBER CONSIDERING A CAREER IN THE MILITARY?

We have mentors who are available to answer your questions concerning military service!

For more information, contact Tisha Giles at 866-933-2260 or by email at tgiles@choctawnation.com
YOUTH WORK OPPORTUNITIES

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- CDIB/Tribal Membership Card from a Federally Recognized Tribe
- Residence Verification - Physical & Mailing
- Household Income Verification
- Selective Service (Males 18 yrs. & older)
- Employment Development Plan
- Acknowledgement Form
- Statement of Understanding (Applicants below 18 yrs. of age)

APPLY ONLINE: 477ETSAPP.CHOCТАWNATION.COM
APPLICATION OPEN FROM JANUARY 1ST - APRIL 1ST

(Program funded by Public Law 102-477)
WHERE INTERNSHIPS LEAD TO MORE THAN JUST A JOB

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Internship Program provides opportunities for Choctaw college students to gain career fundamentals while earning college credits.

The CNO Internship Program is a paid program that allows students rewarding opportunities both academically and professionally.

The program is temporary but could lead to regular employment upon graduation.

Space is limited, so sign up today.

CONTACT

800-522-6170
CAREERS.CHOCTAWNATION.COM
EDUCATION AND TRAINING ASSISTANCE

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Vocational Development Program can offer financial assistance and stipend for education/training programs. A one-time financial assistance for job relocation is also available for those who qualify.

Guidelines:

• Be at least 1/4 Native American
• Be a high school graduate or have completed a GED course
• Live within the Choctaw boundaries
• Plan to attend an APPROVED two-year accredited college, training institution, or career tech as a full-time student

CONTACT

800-522-6170
The Choctaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program offers services to assist American Indians with disabilities attain their goal of gainful employment. This program is designed to provide services consistent with individual consumers’ strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice so they may prepare for and engage in gainful employment.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Must have a physical or mental impairment which constitutes a substantial impediment to employment
- A presumption that the applicant can benefit in terms of an employment outcome from the provision of VR services unless the program can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the individual is incapable of benefiting from VR services for an employment outcome
- A determination that the applicant requires VR services to prepare for, enter into, engage in, or retain gainful employment consistent with the applicant’s strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and informed choices
- Applicants must reside within the Choctaw Nation boundaries
- Must be a member of the Choctaw Nation or another federally recognized tribe

**EXAMPLES OF SERVICES PROVIDED**

- Medical, psychological and vocational evaluations
- Assistive devices such as artificial limbs, hearing aids, wheelchairs, etc.
- Vocational training in schools, colleges and on-the-job
- Transportation during vocational rehabilitation
- Placement on the right job
- A follow-up to ensure the worker and job are properly matched
- Traditional and cultural services

**EXAMPLES OF DISABILITIES**

- Amputations
- Blindness and other visual impairments
- Head injuries
- Deaf/Hard of hearing
- Learning disability
- Mental health disorders
- Orthopedic impairments
- Seizure disorders
- Speech problems
- Spinal cord injuries
- Diabetes
- Obesity

**800-522-6170 | CHOCTAWNATION.COM**
Notes
ARE YOU READY FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?
DO YOU HAVE A PLAN FOR COLLEGE?
Oklahoma’s official guide to preparing for college

September 2020

High School Juniors and Seniors
Right now, college probably seems a million miles away. But NOW is the best time to start making plans for what happens after high school. You don’t have to make any big decisions yet, but the sooner you start thinking about what you’re interested in doing for a living, the easier your choices will be later. Where are you headed after graduation? What do you have to do to get there? Don’t know where to start? You’re not alone! Read this booklet to get some good ideas about how to begin your journey. Then talk to your family and school counselor about your plan for college.

**WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?**

- You’ll have the time to explore your interests, discover things you didn’t know and set new goals.
- College is fun! You’ll meet interesting people and make new friends.
- You’ll learn how to learn — how to think critically, solve problems and develop new skills.
- A degree can take you out of a minimum-wage job and into a good-paying career you enjoy. Studies prove it: continue your education after high school, and you’re likely to make more money and enjoy a better life.

**OKcollegestart.org** is the official source for planning a college education in Oklahoma and offers interactive tools to help you prepare and pay for college. The website provides information about admission requirements, financial aid and scholarships, college costs and more. You can search by keywords and receive personalized results to compare colleges.

**LET’S TALK MONEY**

**WITHOUT A DEGREE**

Let’s say you decide to skip college and take a job as a data entry keyer. You’ll get paid about $15 an hour, which is approximately $2,136 a month or $25,632 per year in take-home pay.

**GROSS PAY**

$2,600

**less taxes, Social Security and Medicare**

**TAKE-HOME PAY**

$2,136

**month**

**WITH A DEGREE**

Now let’s say you take the time to explore careers, go that extra mile and graduate from college with a degree in computer programming. As a computer programmer, you’ll make about $39 an hour. That’s $4,880 a month or $58,560 per year in take-home pay.

**GROSS PAY**

$6,760

**less taxes, Social Security and Medicare**

**TAKE-HOME PAY**

$4,880

**month**

**THE MORE YOU LEARN, THE MORE YOU CAN EARN**

In fact, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, someone with a bachelor’s degree earns about 50% more than someone with just a high school diploma. That makes a huge impact on your monthly paycheck and can help you afford the lifestyle you want.

**GLOSSARY**

If any of the terms used in this publication are unfamiliar to you, check out the glossary in the *Prepare for College* section under the *College Planning* tab at [OKcollegestart.org](http://OKcollegestart.org).
WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DEGREE MAKES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Associate or Bachelor’s Degree</th>
<th>Moderate On-the-Job Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Programmer</td>
<td>Data Entry Keyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$39.49 per hour</td>
<td>$15.40 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architect or Engineer</td>
<td>Construction Laborer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40.48 per hour</td>
<td>$15.63 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Scientist</td>
<td>Veterinary Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20.46 per hour</td>
<td>$12.72 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detective/Criminal Investigator</td>
<td>Security Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$31.70 per hour</td>
<td>$15.49 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Teacher (except Special Education)</td>
<td>Child Care Worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$14.57 per hour</td>
<td>$9.82 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurse</td>
<td>Nursing Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$31.15 per hour</td>
<td>$12.51 per hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


CAREERS
Want to investigate your skills and interests and explore career options that may be right for you? Check out the Career Planning tab at OKcollegestart.org.

OKLAHOMA MONEY MATTERS
To learn more about earning income and managing money, check out Oklahoma Money Matters (OKMM). OKMM offers information and resources to help students and parents prepare financially for college, strengthen family financial planning and empower young adults with money management skills for independent living. Visit OklahomaMoneyMatters.org or call 800.970.OKMM (6566).

COURSES TO TAKE
You must take certain courses in high school to graduate and for admission to an Oklahoma public college or university. These requirements will prepare you for college, and you’ll learn valuable skills in case you decide to get a job right out of high school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Science</td>
<td>3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Citizenship Skills</td>
<td>3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>15 UNITS</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about the specific courses you must take to earn a “standard” high school diploma, visit OKcollegestart.org. Remember that requirements may change, and they may be different for private colleges and universities, so always check with your counselor for details.
THINK AHEAD

A great way to speed up your college career is to consider earning college credit even before you graduate from high school — as early as your junior year. Taking advantage of opportunities such as Advanced Placement (AP) courses and concurrent enrollment can save you time, tuition, and room and board, and will also prepare you for the demands of college. To learn more, visit OKcollegestart.org and ask your high school counselor what options are available at your school.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

For more information about preparing for the ACT exam, visit ACT.org, and for information about preparing for the SAT exam, visit SAT.org. Visit OKcollegestart.org to learn more about preparing for college entrance exams and take the free practice tests for the ACT and SAT. Talk to your counselor about taking the ACT and SAT.

GRADES TO MAKE

If you want to attend an Oklahoma college or university, you must meet certain requirements. When you apply for admission, public colleges and universities will look at:

- Your score on a national standardized test (ACT or SAT).
- Your overall grade point average (GPA) and ranking within your high school class OR
- Your GPA in the 15 core courses required for college entry.

For more information about 2020-21 admission requirements for first-time entering students at Oklahoma public colleges and universities, visit OKcollegestart.org/College_Planning/Prepare_for_College/grades_to_make. You can also talk to your school counselor or check with the college(s) you want to attend.

NOTE: While all students are encouraged to take the ACT or SAT if the tests are available, public colleges and universities will be authorized to use multiple measures of student performance to make admission and placement decisions for the fall 2021 semester. For more information, students should contact the admissions office at the college or university they would like to attend.

THE CHOICE

Choosing where to go to college is an important decision. Your selection will affect your future and even your success as a student. Here are some things to think about.

- **Location:** Are you willing to move away from home? Do you prefer a city or country setting? Do you want to live on campus?
- **Type of school:** Do you want to go to a large or small school?
- **Admission requirements:** How are your grades and test scores?
- **Academics:** What do you want to study?
- **Financial aid:** How much financial assistance do you need? Can the campus provide you with aid (scholarships, part-time employment)?
- **Activities:** Which campus offers the best options for your interests?

CAMPUS VISITS

Still undecided about which college to attend? Schedule some college visits to the schools you might be interested in attending. These visits can help you make a more educated decision.

While on your campus visits, talk to as many people as you can and don’t pass up a chance to ask questions. Use the **Making the Most of Campus Visits** guide found at UCanGo2.org/publications/HS to make your trip a success. Many schools now offer virtual campus tours. To find a list of participating colleges, visit OKcollegestart.org/College_Planning/Explore_Schools/Explore_Schools.
**Types of Schools and Degrees**

**RESEARCH UNIVERSITY**
An institution that grants bachelor's, graduate and professional degrees and offers a wide variety of courses and degree programs. Generally, they have large student bodies and expansive campuses.

**REGIONAL UNIVERSITY**
An institution that offers bachelor's and master's degrees, and in some instances, associate or professional degrees. They tend to have mid-sized student populations and campuses.

**PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY**
An institution that grants bachelor's degrees in arts and science fields, including humanities. A public liberal arts university tends to have smaller class sizes that facilitate close interaction between faculty and students.

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
An institution that grants associate degrees for transfer to four-year institutions or for career preparation. They usually offer flexible class schedules with smaller class sizes.

**TECHNICAL BRANCH**
An institution that grants applied associate degrees, some Bachelor of Technology degrees and a limited number of associate degrees for transfer to four-year institutions. Technical branches have a special emphasis on education and training in technical fields.

**CERTIFICATE**
A credential awarded for an organized program of study that does not lead to an academic degree.

**ASSOCIATE IN ARTS (A.A.) OR ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE (A.S.) DEGREE**
A degree awarded upon completion of two years of full-time college work (at least 60 credit hours) that is designed to transfer to a four-year university. The State Regents recognize these two types of associate degrees that transfer to any state system university.

**ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.) DEGREE**
A degree requiring two years of full-time college work (at least 60 credit hours) that emphasizes an occupational specialty and is designed to lead the individual directly to employment. Some A.A.S. degrees may lead to a Bachelor of Technology degree.

**BACHELOR’S DEGREE**
A degree requiring four years of full-time college work (at least 120 credit hours). The State Regents recognize three types of bachelor's degrees — Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of (Specialty), such as Music, Education, etc.

To learn more about selecting the right school for you, check out the Explore Schools section under the College Planning tab at OKcollegestart.org.

**Paying for College**
College costs vary; some institutions are more expensive than others, especially for out-of-state students. Fortunately, the cost of attending an Oklahoma public college or university is among the lowest in the nation. In addition, the availability of financial aid from various sources can make college even more affordable for qualified students.

**2020-21 ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR RESIDENT STUDENTS**
Oklahoma Public Colleges and Universities (30 credit hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES</th>
<th>REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES</th>
<th>COMMUNITY COLLEGES</th>
<th>TECHNICAL BRANCHES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUITION</td>
<td>$5,072</td>
<td>$5,665</td>
<td>$3,386</td>
<td>$4,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANDATORY FEES</td>
<td>$3,968</td>
<td>$1,605</td>
<td>$1,212</td>
<td>$991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit OKcollegestart.org and select How Much Does College Cost? on the Financial Aid 101 page under the Financial Aid Planning tab for a more detailed breakdown of costs, including room and board.
Types of Financial Aid

There are four different types of financial aid available: scholarships, grants, work-study and student loans. To learn more about financial aid, visit OKcollegestart.org.

WHAT’S THE FAFSA?

To apply for federal financial aid (grants, work-study and student loans) and the Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant Program (OTAG), you and your parents must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Oklahoma’s Promise recipients will also be required to complete the FAFSA each year. You’ll need to have your parents’ tax return(s) — along with yours — to complete the FAFSA. Even if you don’t think you need financial aid (or qualify for it), fill out the FAFSA anyway. Most students qualify for some form of federal financial aid! Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after Oct. 1 of your senior year and prior to each year you need financial aid for college. Visit StartWithFAFSA.org to find FAFSA completion tools, including video tutorials available in English and Spanish.

FINANCIAL AID CHECKLIST

- Don’t wait. Fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible after Oct. 1 of your senior year and prior to every year you need financial aid. Many students don’t realize they may qualify for federal aid such as grants, scholarships, work-study or low-cost student loans. Learn more at FAFSA.gov.
- Explore OKcollegestart.org and UCanGo2.org to learn more about paying for college. Start researching the colleges you’re interested in and learn what types of financial aid they offer.
- Find out if scholarships are available in the fields you’re interested in and what the requirements are, so you can plan early to apply. Scholarships are called “free money” because they don’t have to be paid back. Students qualify for scholarships based on financial need, grades, talents and life experiences.
- Ask family members to open an Oklahoma 529 College Savings Plan (OCSP) account by calling 877.654.7284 or visiting ok4saving.org. OCSP offers tax advantages for families, and funds can be used at nearly all colleges and universities in the United States.
- Learn about the student financial aid application process and programs by calling or visiting the websites for the resources listed in this brochure.

TIPS FOR SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

- **GO LOCAL.**
  Many clubs, civic organizations and churches offer scholarships. If you aren’t sure, ask! Applying locally for scholarships means you’re competing against fewer people.
- **DO THE “WRITE” THING.**
  Many scholarships require an essay, but don’t let that discourage you. Scholarships that require essays have fewer applicants, which means you have a greater chance of winning the award.
- **DON’T MISS THE BOAT.**
  Apply for as many scholarships as possible and keep track of the requirements for each one so you don’t miss out on free money by forgetting to include your transcript or submitting your application after the deadline.
- **DO YOUR RESEARCH.**
  Set up an appointment with your school counselor to talk about your scholarship options. Many colleges post available scholarships on their websites. Check with the school(s) you plan to attend to learn about scholarships they may offer.
JUNIOR CHECKLIST

- Take core classes that meet college entrance requirements.
- If you signed up for Oklahoma’s Promise in the eighth-10th grade, use the curriculum checklist at OKPromise.org to keep track of your courses, continue to make good grades and stay out of trouble.
- Explore opportunities to earn college credit while still in high school, like concurrent enrollment and AP courses.
- Prepare to take ACT/SAT exams. You may want to take these more than once to raise your score. Visit OKcollegestart.org to take free practice exams.
- Attend college fairs in your area. Visit GoToCollegeFairs.com to find a list of all fairs close to you, and ask about colleges offering virtual college fairs.
- When you narrow the list of schools you’re interested in, schedule campus visits or visit OKcollegestart.org/College_Planning/Explore_Schools/Explore_Schools to review virtual tour options.
- Explore OKcollegestart.org and UCanGo2.org to learn more about paying for college. Start researching the colleges you’re interested in and learn what types of financial aid they offer. Search and apply for scholarships on OKcollegestart.org and UCanGo2.org. We recommend juniors apply for one or two scholarships per week.

SENIOR CHECKLIST

- Talk to your family and school counselor about your goals after high school.
- Research grants and scholarships available through your school, business community and local civic organizations. Search and apply for scholarships on OKcollegestart.org and UCanGo2.org. We recommend seniors apply for two or three scholarships per week.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after Oct. 1 of your senior year and prior to each year you need financial aid. The FAFSA is used to determine your eligibility for most types of financial aid, including federal (and some state) grants, work-study programs, student loans and scholarships.
- Visit FSAID.ed.gov to request a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) and submit your FAFSA online.
- Submit admission and financial aid applications to the college(s) of your choice; pay close attention to deadlines.
- Review your Student Aid Report (SAR) for accuracy. Any inaccurate items need to be corrected, either at FAFSA.gov or by contacting your college’s financial aid office.
- Respond quickly to any requests from colleges and universities for additional information.

Review more detailed junior and senior checklists at UCanGo2.org/publications/HS.

COLLEGE PLANNING RESOURCES

Remember, OKcollegestart.org is your one-stop shop for interactive college planning tools and information about career exploration, selecting a college or university, ACT/SAT test prep, financial aid and more. Open a free student account and find OKcollegestart.org on Facebook today! OKcollegestart.org or 866.443.7420

UCanGo2 provides resources and information to demonstrate the value of higher education, inspire confidence to support academic achievement, and help students plan, prepare and pay for education after high school. Find UCanGo2 on Facebook today! UCanGo2.org or 866.443.7420

Ready Set Repay works with student loan borrowers and Oklahoma higher education institutions to help students make smart borrowing decisions and successfully repay their student loans. Learn more about student loan management at ReadySetRepay.org. Find Ready Set Repay on Facebook today! ReadySetRepay.org or 800.635.3743

- College Questions Answered Promptly studentinfo@osrhe.edu
- ACT Student Center actstudent.org
- Federal Student Aid studentaid.gov
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) FAFSA.gov StartWithFAFSA.org
- Oklahoma GEAR UP okgearup.org
- Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant Program (OTAG) otag.org
OKLAHOMA PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
Current as of September 2020

RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES
1. Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
   okstate.edu, 800.233.5019
2. OSU Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa
   healthsciences.okstate.edu, 800.677.1972
3. OSU-Tulsa
   osu-tulsa.okstate.edu, 800.364.0710
4. University of Oklahoma, Norman
   ou.edu, 800.234.6868
5. OU Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City
   healthsciences.okstate.edu, 800.677.1972
6. OU-Tulsa,
   okstate.edu, 800.233.5019
7. Cameron University, Lawton
   cameron.edu, 888.454.7600
8. Cameron University, Duncan
   duncan.ou.edu, 877.282.3626
9. East Central University, Ada
   ecok.edu, 580.332.8000
10. Langston University, Langston
    langston.edu, 877.466.2231
11. Langston University, Tulsa
    langston.edu/tulsa, 918.877.8100
12. Northeastern State University, Tahlequah
    nsuok.edu, 918.722.9614
13. Northeastern State University, Broken Arrow
    nsuok.edu/brokenarrow.aspx, 918.449.6000
14. Northeastern State University, Muskogee
    nsuok.edu/muskogee, 918.683.0040
15. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva
    nwosu.edu, 580.327.1700
16. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Enid
    nwosu.edu/enid, 580.237.0334
17. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Woodward
    nwosu.edu/woodward, 580.256.0047
18. Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Goodwell
    opsu.edu, 800.664.6778
19. Rogers State University, Claremore
    rsu.edu, 918.343.7777
20. Rogers State University, Bartlesville
    rsu.edu/bartlesville, 918.338.8000
21. Rogers State University, Pryor
    rsu.edu/pryor, 918.825.6117
22. Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant
    se.edu, 918.435.1327
23. Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Idabel
    se.edu/mccurtain, 888.286.9431
24. Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford
    swosu.edu, 580.772.6611
25. Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Sayre
    swosu.edu/sayre, 580.928.5533
26. University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond
    uco.edu, 405.974.2000
27. University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha
    usao.edu, 800.933.8726
28. Carl Albert State College, Poteau
    carlalbert.edu, 918.647.1200
29. Carl Albert State College, Sallisaw
    carlalbert.edu, 918.775.6977
30. Connors State College, Seminole
    ccsok.edu, 918.426.5272
31. Connors State College, Warner
    connorsstate.edu, 918.463.2931
32. Connors State College, Muskogee
    connorsstate.edu, 918.687.6477
33. Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton
    eosc.edu, 918.465.2361
34. Eastern Oklahoma State College, Tishomingo
    mscok.edu, 580.371.2371
35. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Miami
    neo.edu, 888.464.6636
36. Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa
    noc.edu, 580.628.6200
37. Northern Oklahoma College, Enid
    noc.edu/enid, 580.242.6300
38. Oklahoma City Community College
    occ.c, 405.682.1611
39. Redlands Community College, El Reno
    redlandsc.cc, 866.415.6367
40. Rose State College, Midwest City
    rose.edu, 866.621.0987
41. Seminole State College, Seminole
    sscok.edu, 405.382.9950
42. Tulsa Community College
tulacc.edu, 918.959.7000
43. Western Oklahoma State College, Altus
    wosc.edu, 580.477.2000
44. Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology, Okmulgee
    osuit.edu, 800.722.4471
45. Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City
    osuokc.edu, 800.560.4099
46. Langston University, Oklahoma City
    langston.edu/okc/langston-okc, 405.962.1620
47. Northern Oklahoma College, Stillwater
    noc.edu/stillwater, 405.744.2246
48. University Center at Ponca City,
    ucponcacity.com, 580.718.5600
49. University Center of Southern Oklahoma, Ardmore
    ucso.osrhe.edu, 580.319.0300

PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY
27. University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha

COMMUNITY COLLEGES
28. Carl Albert State College, Poteau
29. Carl Albert State College, Sallisaw
30. Connors State College, Warner
31. Connors State College, Muskogee
32. Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton
33. Eastern Oklahoma State College, Tishomingo
34. Murray State College, McAlester
35. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Miami

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other federal laws and regulations, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication is issued by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as authorized by 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3206. Copies have not been printed but are available through the agency website at www.okhighered.org. Two printout copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. This publication was produced in September 2020.
Don’t fall for these myths about federal student aid and the application process.

“Federal student aid is just ‘free money’ like grants.”
Reality: Federal student aid includes three different kinds of financial help: grants, low-interest loans, and work-study funds (a part-time job on or near campus). To learn more about the different types of federal student aid, visit StudentAid.gov/types.

“My parents make too much money, so I won’t qualify for aid.”
Reality: There is no income cut-off to qualify for federal student aid. Many factors—such as the size of your family and your year in school—are taken into account. And remember: when you fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form, you’re also automatically applying for funds from your state, and possibly from your school as well. In fact, some schools won’t even consider you for any of their scholarships (including academic scholarships) until you’ve submitted a FAFSA form. Don’t make assumptions about what you’ll get—fill out the FAFSA form and find out.

“Only students with good grades get financial aid.”
Reality: While a high grade point average will help a student get into a good school and may help with academic scholarships, most of the federal student aid programs do not take a student’s grades into consideration. Provided a student maintains satisfactory academic progress in his or her program of study, federal student aid will help a student with an average academic record complete his or her education.

“I don’t have good credit, so I can’t get a student loan.”
Reality: You don’t need to get a credit check for most federal student loans (except for Direct PLUS Loans). Also, you won’t need a cosigner to get a federal student loan in most cases.

“My ethnicity or age makes me ineligible for federal student aid.”
Reality: There are basic eligibility requirements (which you can find at StudentAid.gov/eligibility), but ethnicity and age are not considered.
“My parents aren’t U.S. citizens, so there’s no way I’ll get aid.”
Reality: Your parents’ citizenship status is NOT a factor, and the FAFSA form won’t even ask you about it. If your parents don’t have Social Security numbers, they must enter 000-00-0000 when the FAFSA form asks for their Social Security numbers.

“I support myself, so I don’t have to include parent information on the FAFSA® form.”
Reality: This is not necessarily true. Even if you support yourself and file taxes on your own, you may still be considered a dependent student for federal student aid purposes. If you are considered dependent, you must provide your parents’ information on the FAFSA form. The form asks a series of questions to determine your dependency status. You can preview the questions at StudentAid.gov/dependency.
Don’t fall for these myths about federal student aid and the application process.

“Federal student aid is just ‘free money’ like grants.”
Reality: Federal student aid includes three different kinds of financial help: grants, low-interest loans, and work-study funds (a part-time job on or near campus). To learn more about the different types of federal student aid, visit StudentAid.gov/types.

“My parents make too much money, so I won’t qualify for aid.”
Reality: There is no income cut-off to qualify for federal student aid. Many factors—such as the size of your family and your year in school—are taken into account. And remember: when you fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form, you’re also automatically applying for funds from your state, and possibly from your school as well. In fact, some schools won’t even consider you for any of their scholarships (including academic scholarships) until you’ve submitted a FAFSA form. Don’t make assumptions about what you’ll get—fill out the FAFSA form and find out.

“Only students with good grades get financial aid.”
Reality: While a high grade point average will help a student get into a good school and may help with academic scholarships, most of the federal student aid programs do not take a student’s grades into consideration. Provided a student maintains satisfactory academic progress in his or her program of study, federal student aid will help a student with an average academic record complete his or her education.

“I don’t have good credit, so I can’t get a student loan.”
Reality: You don’t need to get a credit check for most federal student loans (except for Direct PLUS Loans). Also, you won’t need a cosigner to get a federal student loan in most cases.

“My ethnicity or age makes me ineligible for federal student aid.”
Reality: There are basic eligibility requirements (which you can find at StudentAid.gov/eligibility), but ethnicity
Thinking of going to college?

Visit UCanGo2.org for free information about planning, preparing and paying for college.
Start Now.

Familiarize yourself with a wide variety of scholarship opportunities. SENIORS: Fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1st and every year thereafter you are in college.

Do Your Research

Visit with your high school counselor to see what scholarships may be available to you during your senior year. Check with your prospective colleges and see if there are any scholarships specifically for Native American students and incoming freshmen.

Free resources and scholarship searches you may find helpful include:

- chahtafoundation.com
- okbu.edu/financial-aid/martin-scholarship.html
- fastweb.com
- okcollegestart.org
- scholarships.com
- college-scholarships.com
- salliemae.com/planforcollege
- scholarship360.org
- ucango2.org
- raise.me

List of Colleges and Universities in Oklahoma:

okhighered.org/state-system/colleges-universities/list.shtml

Know the Deadlines

There are endless opportunities for scholarships, and keeping yourself organized during the application process is very important. You wouldn’t want to do all the work for a scholarship only to realize you missed the deadline. Keeping on track can be easy if you find a method that works for you.
Handy Resources

UCanGO2

Education beyond high school is possible for everyone. UCanGo2 can help you prepare, plan and pay for your higher education. Visit the website to view and download publications and other resources.

UCanGo2.org

OKCollegeStart

The state’s official college planning website, which provides information to Oklahoma students, counselors, and parents about exploring colleges, comparing careers, and planning and paying for education beyond high school.

OKCollegeStart.org

Ready Set Repay

Ready Set Repay is an initiative of the Oklahoma College Assistance Program that helps students make smart borrowing decisions and successfully repay their student loans.

ReadySetRepay.org

OCAP

An operating division of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, OCAP provides college access, aid awareness, financial literacy and student loan management programs and services for students, parents, schools, and community partners.

OCAP.org

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

The State Regents are the coordinating board for Oklahoma public higher education. They set academic standards, grant degrees and manage numerous scholarships and special programs.

OKHigherEd.org
What is an Individual Career Academic Plan (ICAP)?
The term ICAP refers to both a process that helps students engage in academic and
career development activities and a product that is created and maintained for students’
academic, career and personal advancement.

ICAP is a student-driven, ongoing process that actively engages students, enabling them to:
- Understand their own interests, strengths, values and learning styles
- Create a vision of their future
- Develop individual goals
- Prepare a personal plan for achieving their vision and goals

As illustrated in the table below, the difference between the two columns is that with ICAP,
the product (the plan) is intended to be dynamic and flexible, reflecting the following:
- Students’ coursework, learning and assessment results
- Students’ postsecondary plans, aligned with their career, academic and personal/social
goals and financial reality
- Students’ records of college- and career-readiness activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4-Year Plan (Traditional)</th>
<th>ICAP (The Vision)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Product-based</td>
<td>Process-based</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some or select students (CTE, Special Education)</td>
<td>All students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acts as a 4-year plan of courses</td>
<td>Acts as a navigational tool for students in grades 6-12 and beyond</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career application in elective CTE classes</td>
<td>Career application in all classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career development in elective courses or not at all</td>
<td>Career development infused throughout all courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student “on own” for his/her development</td>
<td>Student-driven with collaboration (advisor, mentor, parents)</td>
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<tr>
<td>High school graduation = end point</td>
<td>High school graduation = checkpoint</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career development is only the school counselor’s job</td>
<td>Career development is systematic, whole-school responsibility</td>
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</table>

The ICAP process and related products can provide clear benefits to both students and
schools if the district supports ICAP efforts in a strategic and coordinated manner.
Districts must make a shift in thinking, approaching and delivering career development in
their schools in order to help students and their families become more informed consumers
of the education and training required to meet their personal goals.

This shift is a strategic one, toward a holistic and student-centered approach away
from the ‘random acts of career development’ that occur now. Strong infrastructure,
relationships and student awareness are key to successful implementation of ICAP.
The following table outlines the components that comprise ICAP and are aligned to the ICAP model. Many are already in place in your district. The shift will be systemic, toward a student-centered model that allows all students access to the components they need to meet their individual goal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 STAGES OF SUCCESSFUL INDIVIDUAL CAREER AND ACADEMIC PLANNING</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASSESS</strong> Self-Awareness Activities</td>
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<td>Set personal goals</td>
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<td>Write personal reflection</td>
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<td>Career skills inventory</td>
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<td><strong>Academic Preparation</strong></td>
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<td>Graduation requirements</td>
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<td>Elective courses</td>
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<td>International Baccalaureate programs</td>
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<td>Project Lead the Way</td>
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<td>Pre-ACT/ACT PSAT/SAT</td>
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Adapted from Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Academic and Career Planning (ACP) resources at: https://dpi.wi.gov/ACP
4 STAGES OF SUCCESSFUL INDIVIDUAL CAREER AND ACADEMIC PLANNING

**ASSESS**
Who am I? Get to know your interests, skills and strengths.

**EXPLORE**
Where do I want to go? Explore career pathways and education opportunities.

**PLAN**
How do I get there? Set your route! Set goals, choose courses, join clubs and activities, obtain financing, complete applications, write resumes.

**ACT**
Review and revise plan as necessary.

Adapted from Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Academic and Career Planning (ACP) resources at: https://dpi.wi.gov/ACP
Tracking My Classes & Achievements

Jot down your volunteer work and achievements and track the classes you need to take each year to meet college admission requirements. For example, will you take American history in the spring semester of your junior year? Write it down here. Refer back to the list of required courses on Page 22 to see which classes you need to take and use this worksheet as a map. You can also track your plan of study at OKcollegestart.org.

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<th>FRESHMAN YEAR</th>
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The Choctaw Nation High School Student Services encourages you to make a difference in the lives of those around you. Volunteer.
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<th>School Name</th>
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<td>What scholarships do you offer for incoming freshman? How do I apply?</td>
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<td>What are your admission requirements?</td>
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Happy Birthday, Councilperson Robert Karr

Happy Birthday, Councilperson Ronald Perry
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- **State of the Nation Address**
- **Labor Day**
- **Hugo ACT Prep Workshop**
- **ACT Testing**
- **Patriot Day**
- **Fall Equinox**

*September 2022*
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- Indigenous People Day
- Happy Birthday, Councilperson Tony Ward
- McAlester ACT Workshop
- Happy Birthday, Councilperson Eddie Bohanan
- Career Expo
- Happy Birthday, Councilperson Jennifer Woods
- Halloween
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Happy Birthday, Councilperson James Dry

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**Mother’s Day**

**Memorial Day**

**Tribal Holiday**
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