



OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Improving our future by degrees

February 1, 2023

The Honorable Ryan Walters
Oklahoma Secretary of Education
2300 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 212
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Secretary Walters:

In response to your letter sent on January 23, 2023, we have worked with teams from our state system colleges and universities to compile information regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion expenditures and program materials for the last 10 years. The [linked materials](#) represent the best efforts of hundreds of staff across the state system of higher education to provide the requested information in a very short amount of time during the busy start of the spring semester.

As you will see from the responses, diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts at our college and university campuses are designed to facilitate student engagement and provide support services to students with varied backgrounds and needs, including but not limited to:

- veterans;
- first-generation students;
- low-income students;
- students with food, medical or housing insecurities;
- adult learners;
- students of color (e.g., Hispanic, African American, Native American, Asian);
- students with different gender identities;
- international students, including refugees;
- students with mental health concerns;
- single parents;
- students aging out of foster care;
- students with different abilities and disabilities; and
- in certain fields of study, women or men.

It is important to note that there are certain laws that require diversity, equity and inclusion practices, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additionally, Higher Learning Commission and program-specific accreditors – including those for nursing, engineering, education, and business degree programs – require institutions to demonstrate diversity, equity, and inclusion in their practices, policies and curriculum to maintain accreditation.

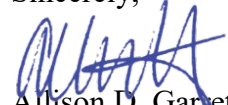
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Our goal as a state system is to meet the needs of all the students we serve, helping them in every way we can to enroll, persist and complete their degrees successfully to become the doctors, nurses, teachers, engineers, and computer programmers of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Allison D. Garrett".

Allison D. Garrett

Chancellor

cc: State Regents
State System College and University Presidents