



OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Improving our future by degrees

FY26 BUDGET HEARING

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Chancellor Sean Burrage

January 9, 2025



OKLAHOMA HIGHER EDUCATION

▶ **Fast Facts**

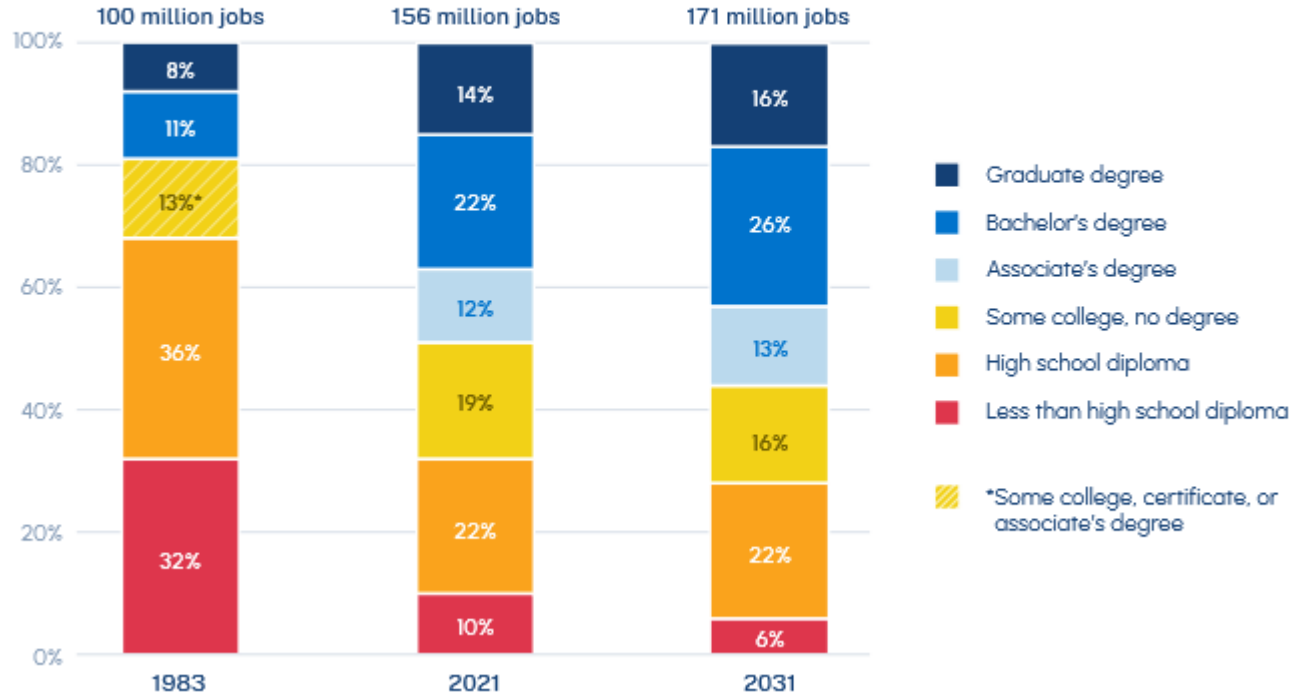
- ▶ 199,303 students enrolled in AY24.
- ▶ 38,077 degrees & certificates awarded in AY24.

▶ **Accomplishments**

- ▶ Increased degree & certificate production
- ▶ Alignment with Oklahoma's workforce needs
- ▶ Affordability
- ▶ Strong employment outcomes
- ▶ High return on investment

WORKFORCE NEEDS

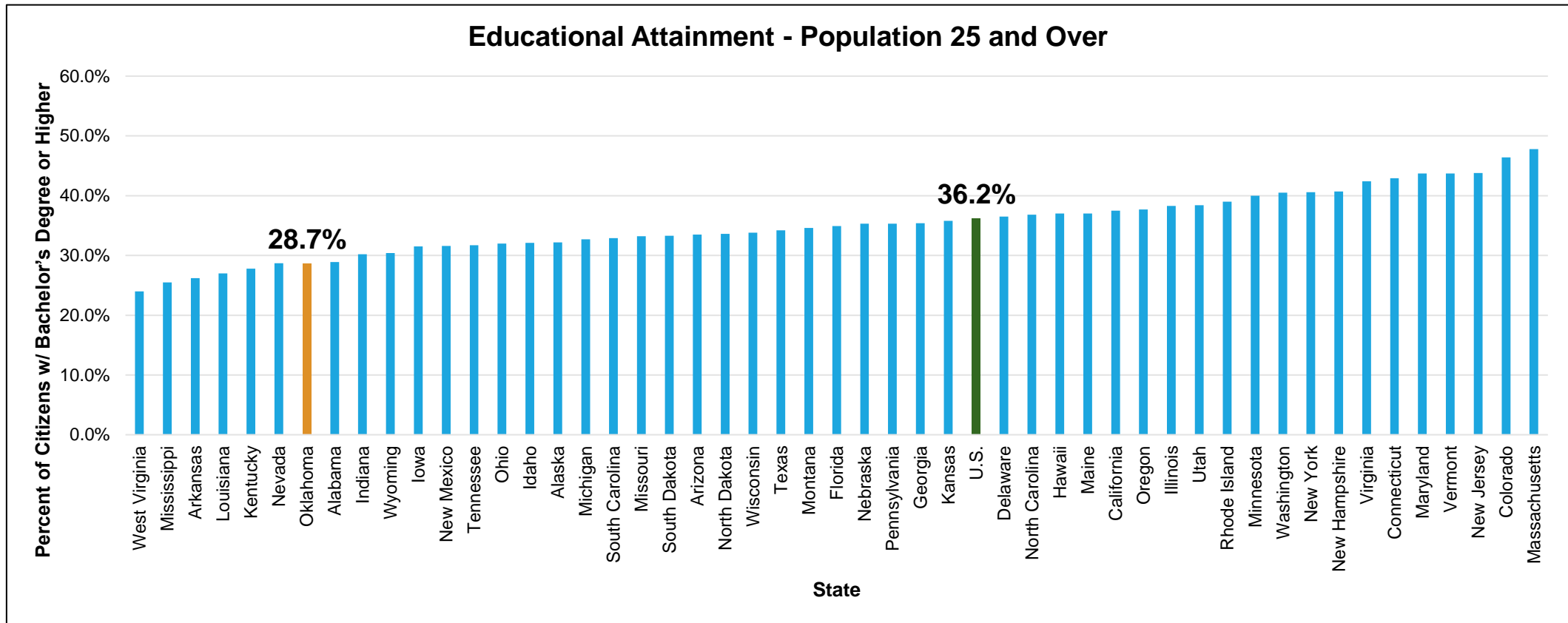
FIGURE 1. Forty-two percent of jobs in 2031 will require at least a bachelor's degree, while only 28 percent will go to workers with a high school diploma or less.



- ▶ By 2031, 42% of jobs in the U.S. will require at least a bachelor's degree.
- ▶ 72% of jobs in 2031 will require education or training beyond high school.

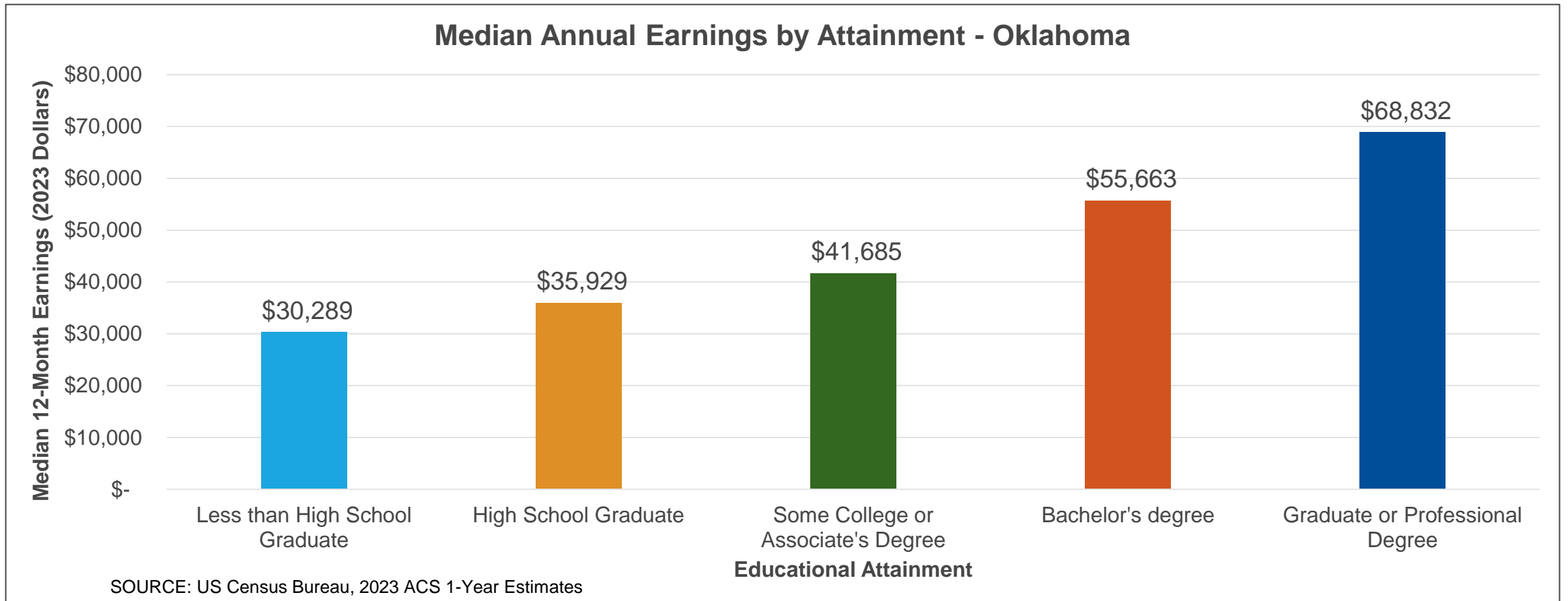
Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. (2024). [After Everything: Projection of Jobs, Education, and Training Requirements through 2031.](#)

STATE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



SOURCE: US Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 1-Year Estimates

A COLLEGE DEGREE PAYS MORE...



SOURCE: US Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 1-Year Estimates



FY26 FUNDING REQUEST

FY 2025 BASE APPROPRIATION..... \$1,023,746,221

FY 2026 BUDGET NEED:

Legislative Initiatives and Programming.....	\$9,260,000
A. Strong Readers Act (SB 362, 2024).....	\$5,500,000
B. Concurrent Enrollment Participation Expansion.....	\$3,760,000
Strategic Funding	\$85,740,000
A. Critical Workforce Needs	\$42,040,000
i. STEM and Other Critical Workforce Degrees and Credentials.....	\$19,440,000
ii. Nursing and Healthcare Instruction and Workforce Needs	\$10,000,000
iii. Adult Degree Completion Outreach and Financial Aid	\$12,600,000
B. Institutional Excellence and Student Success	\$43,700,000
i. Performance-based Formula Allocations	\$25,000,000
ii. Student Support/Career Navigators/FAFSA Completion/Scholarships	\$12,500,000
iii. Innovation, Technology and Efficiency Initiatives.....	\$2,700,000
iv. Campus Safety, Security and Cybersecurity	\$3,500,000

FY 2026 TOTAL BUDGET NEED \$1,118,746,221

- ▶ \$ Difference from FY 2025 State Appropriation \$95,000,000
- ▶ % Difference from FY 2025 State Appropriation 9.3%

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Funding Type	Amount Requested for FY2026
Recurring	\$9,260,000

▶ Strong Readers Act - \$5,500,000

- ▶ Funding will support staffing, development of curricular requirements, advisement, assessments, and instruction required to implement the Strong Readers Act.

▶ Concurrent Enrollment - \$3,760,000

- ▶ Funding will support increased participation in the program for junior and senior high school students enrolled concurrently at colleges and universities. Fall 2024 preliminary enrollment data indicates an increase of 10.8 percent in concurrently enrolled students.



CRITICAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

Funding Type	Amount Requested for FY2026
Recurring	\$42,040,000

▶ **STEM & Other Critical Workforce Degrees - \$19,440,000**

- ▶ Funding will support the production of graduates in STEM and fields of study aligned with Oklahoma's critical workforce needs.

▶ **Nursing & Healthcare Instruction & Workforce Needs - \$10,000,000**

- ▶ Funding will increase state system capacity to deliver nursing education programs to meet the critical shortage of RNs in the state.

▶ **Adult Degree Completion Outreach & Financial Aid - \$12,600,000**

- ▶ More than 400,000 Oklahomans have earned some college credit but no degree. The State Regents are committed to creating more efficient pathways to degree completion for adult learners, including the development of micro-credentials, providing financial support, and expanding student support initiatives specifically for the adult learner.

INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE & STUDENT SUCCESS

Funding Type	Amount Requested for FY2026
Recurring	\$43,700,000

▶ Performance-Based Allocations - \$25,000,000

- ▶ Discretionary funding for colleges and universities to address operating obligations, including faculty salaries, risk management, utilities, library acquisitions, equipment, and supplies.

▶ Student Success & Support Services - \$12,500,000

- ▶ Funding will support student access and success through student support services.

▶ Innovation, Technology & Efficiency - \$2,700,000

- ▶ Funding will support development of shared services, including people, processes, and technologies to achieve greater efficiencies within the system.

▶ Campus Safety, Security & Cybersecurity - \$3,500,000

- ▶ Funding will support both physical and cyber security measures and the deployment of security controls across networks and platforms required to maintain a safe environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.



DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

FY26 Deferred Maintenance Projects from OCAMP Revised Apportionment\$101,250,000
(all colleges & universities)

- ▶ Accelerate distribution of all OCAMP funding in FY26 rather than over the next 3 fiscal year to leverage the purchasing power of these funds more efficiently.
- ▶ Anticipated deferred maintenance uses include:
 - ▶ ADA compliance requirements
 - ▶ Critical infrastructure improvements
 - ▶ Heating and cooling systems
 - ▶ Roofing projects

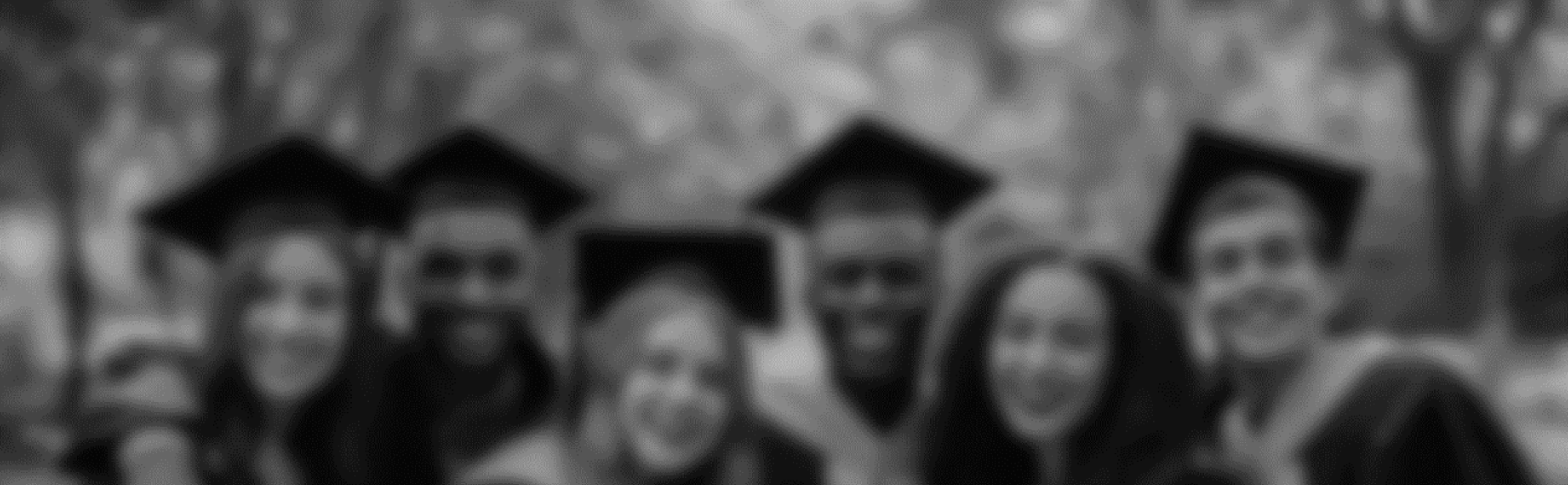
INSTITUTION-SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS

INSTITUTION-SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS	\$301,500,000
A. State Regents Agency 605 Modernization and Upgrades	\$2,000,000
B. Establishment of Collaboration and Consolidation Assistance Fund.....	\$3,500,000
C. Research Universities	
i. University of Oklahoma	\$75,000,000
ii. Oklahoma State University	\$75,000,000
D. Regional Universities — Workforce Investment for Allocation	\$55,000,000
E. Two-Year Colleges — Workforce Investment for Allocation	\$11,000,000
F. Constituent Agencies — Operating, Capital.....	\$80,000,000

► Funding will support:

- Academic program needs
- Workforce & STEM priorities
- Research expansion
- Scholarships





QUESTIONS?

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