



Bachelor Degree Completion Program

The Issue and Oklahoma's Plan: Data from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) indicate that 334,497 Oklahomans over the age of 25 have more than a year of college, but have not earned a baccalaureate degree. Over 69,000 students have been identified that were enrolled in higher education, between 1992-2002, who have earned at least 77 hours of college credit, but are not currently enrolled and do not hold a bachelor's degree. These data, together with input from Oklahoma business and industry leaders demonstrated that Oklahomans and their employers could benefit from a degree completion program that was flexible and convenient for an adult student population. From these discussions, the Reach Higher: Oklahoma's Degree Completion Program was born.

Participating Universities: Seven regional, state universities deliver the program across the state:

Cameron University in Lawton

Langston University's Oklahoma City campus

Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Muskogee, and Broken Arrow

Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, Enid, and Woodward

Rogers State University in Claremore, Bartlesville, and Pryor

Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford

University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond.

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership.

When courses started: March 2007.

How many Courses: 10 courses specifically designed for the degree by a consortium of Reach Higher faculty.

The Goals: The goals of the Reach Higher program are:

- To increase the number of Oklahoman's who obtain a bachelor's degree.
- To facilitate life-long learning goals of adult learners.
- To enable people with at least 72 hours of college credit to finish a bachelor's degree in an accelerated format.
- To offer flexible and intensive course schedules to meet the needs of working adults.
- To offer a curriculum designed with the input of Oklahoma business leaders to ensure that students are prepared to succeed in the workplace.
- To contribute to the economic development goals of the state of Oklahoma through providing a relevant degree option for working adults to earn a baccalaureate degree.

Online Application: All Reach Higher institutions accept the online application. The home institution may request additional information from the student for its records, consistent with its internal application process. Student apply online at www.ReachHigherOklahoma.org

Admission Criteria*:

- Have a minimum of 72 credit hours earned or an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from an Oklahoma state system institution or equivalent. A provisional admission status may be used for students who do not yet meet this requirement.
- Have a minimum of 2.0 graduation/retention GPA in past college course work.
- Have completed general education requirements as defined by the home institution admitting the student. A provisional admission status may be used for students who do not yet meet this requirement.
- Satisfy all institutional requirements for completion of remedial coursework.
- Once a student is approved for admission, the applicant will be notified in writing and assigned an advisor or contact person. The student should then complete an individual degree plan with the advisor at the home institution.

*Note: once a student has been admitted to the home institution, the student is “admitted” to any other ReachHigher institution for their Reach Higher courses. Reach Higher Coordinators and other administrators will share needed documents for the admission process and enroll the Reach Higher student as “guest student.”

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Curriculum: The 10 ORGL courses were designed by faculty with input from a business advisory group in 2006. Each semester, faculty teaching these courses meet to make improvements and revisions to the course content and syllabus, as well as select consistent text(s) and materials for the courses.

Pre-Requisites: No pre-requisites are required for the ORGL courses. Strong advising is expected to ensure the student is adequately prepared for the content of each course prior to enrollment. It is expected that the “ORGL 4553 Capstone” course will not be taken until near the final semester of enrollment prior to completion.

Course Sequence: It is expected that “ORGL 3113 Foundations of Organizational Leadership and Personal Development” will be the first course taken in the ORGL sequence and “ORGL 4553 Capstone” will be among the last courses taken in the ORGL sequence. There is no prescribed sequence for the remaining ORGL courses, however, appropriate advising is essential to ensure students are prepared for each ORGL course.

Transcripts: Transcripts are required by the home institution and are available from the home institution to a secondary institution if the student takes classes from another Reach Higher institution. There is no need to request transcripts from the student twice.

Resident Credit: All courses offered by ReachHigher institutions under the ORGL prefix are considered resident credit for graduation purposes, regardless of the institution from which the student takes the course.

Assessment: Each institution shall include this degree program in its regular assessment plans and processes. In addition, the Reach Higher 4-year council will guide assessment activities for the statewide bachelor’s degree program.

Copyright and Intellectual Property: Curriculum and academic support resources developed for the Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership core curriculum shall be used for instruction by faculty at all participating Reach Higher institutions.

Fiscal Provisions for Reach Higher: All ‘tuition’ shall be remitted to the provider institution (home institution and/or instructional provider institution). A standard tuition rate for all ORGL courses (which includes ALL fees), will be charged. Out-of-state residents will be charged a rate higher than the resident rate. All credit hour production and headcount enrollment shall be credited to the instructional provider institution for purposes of inclusion in the state funding formula calculation.

Degree Requirements: The Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership requires a minimum of 124 credit hours as prescribed below:

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Degree Requirements	Credit Hours
<i>General Education</i>	<i>40-48</i>
<i>Major Courses</i>	<i>27-30</i>
ORGL 3113 Foundations of Organizational Leadership and Personal Development	3
ORGL 3223 Professional Communication	3
ORGL 3333 Data Analysis and Interpretation	3
ORGL 3443 Foundation of Fiscal Management	3
ORGL 4113 Ethics and Organizations	3
ORGL 4223 The Individual, the Organization & Society	3
ORGL 4333 Leading and Managing	3
ORGL 4443 Markets and Stakeholders	3
ORGL 4553 Capstone	3
ORGL 4993 Internship in Organizational Leadership (optional)	3
<i>Institutional Focus Courses</i> (institutional specific courses to meet local business needs)	<i>12-15</i>
<i>Professional Electives and Free Electives</i>	<i>34-39</i>

Total Hours:

124

Focus Areas: Each Reach Higher institution is allowed to create “focus areas” requiring 12-15 hours that help meet local business and community needs. Institutions may have these approved as official “options” to be listed on the transcript (required State Regents’ approval). The focus areas specified to date are in communications, business, supervision, human resources, management, marketing, liberal studies, social studies, training & development. Current listings of focus courses at each Reach Higher institution may be found at: <http://www.okhighered.org/reachhigher/bachelor/focus-areas.pdf>

Electronic Delivery: All ORGL courses are expected to be made available online, with the exception of ORGL 3113 Foundations and ORGL 4553 Capstone, which is expected to have some face-to-face contact, even if through ITV or some other synchronous medium. Exceptions to this must be approved by the 4-year Reach Higher Council (and the State Regents’ Online Program Approval process).

Academic Integrity: Institutions will apply pertinent academic misconduct, academic dishonesty, and academic integrity policies to students in this degree program consistent with any other program offered by the institution. Academic misconduct actions taken by one Reach Higher institution do not disqualify a student from completing the degree at another Reach Higher institution, however, each institution will rely on its own policy on admitting students who have been academically disciplined at another institution.

Program Review: In carrying out constitutional responsibilities within the framework of 70 O.S. §3208 (2001), the State Regents recognize the primary role of institutional faculty, administrators, and governing boards in initiating and recommending needed changes in functions and educational programs. Each institution has a distinct mission, academic expertise and understanding of its own programs; the institutionally developed review reports will be the foundation of the statewide review process. It is therefore both desirable and necessary that institutions provide leadership in developing processes and criteria for the review of educational programs and functions at the campus level. The results of institutions' review of educational programs in connection with this policy will be utilized at the campus level to make determinations about the quality and efficiency of instructional programs. Also, the outcomes of such program review will assist the State Regents in decision making at the state level with regard to educational programs and functions.

All degree programs in the State System are scheduled for review on a five-year cycle. The review will encompass all levels of degree programs. At the core of the review process is the selection of criteria to be used

in the evaluation. Both qualitative and quantitative criteria must be included in the review process. Careful collection and analysis of data is essential to the review process. The various criteria may be weighted differently for each program depending upon its objectives; the evaluation should make clear the relative weight given to the criteria by the institution. Refer to State Regents “3.7 Academic Program Review” for details.

Reporting: The instructional provider institution shall include all Reach Higher student, course, and professional staff data in their submissions to UDS and other requested data forms.

Applicability of Other Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Policies and Procedures:

With the exceptions noted above, all other State Regents’ Policies and Procedures apply, including, but not limited to:

- Admission and Retention Policy
- Degree Requirements Policy
- Electronic Delivery Policy
- Assessment and Remediation Policy
- Program Approval Policy
- Program Review Policy

Contacts and further information:

Dr.	Tim	McElroy	Northeastern State University	mcelroyt@nsuok.edu	(918) 683-0040, ext. 5017
Ms.	Mary	Penick	Cameron University	maryp@cameron.edu	(580) 582-2282
Ms.	Angel	Alexander	Langston University-OKC	angel.alexander@langston.edu	(405) 530-7500
Dr.	David	Hawkins	Northwestern Oklahoma State University (Alva)	wdhawkins@nwsu.edu	(580) 327-8440
Dr.	Jerry	Gustafson	Northwestern Oklahoma State University (Enid, Ponca City, Woodward)	jjgustafson@nwsu.edu	(580) 213-3184
Ms.	Ronna	Hatley	Rogers State University	rhatley@rsu.edu	(918) 343-6819
Dr.	Todd	Wiggen	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	todd.wiggen@swosu.edu	(580) 774-3052
Dr.	Candy	Sebert	University of Central Oklahoma	csebert@uco.edu	(405) 974-5780
Ms.	Sheila	Smith	Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education	shsmith@osrhe.edu	(405) 225-9151
Dr.	Debbie	Blanke	Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education	dblank@osrhe.edu	(405) 225-9145