NATIONAL JOB OUTLOOK & WAGES

Employment of kindergarten and elementary school teachers is projected to grow 7 percent from 2016 to 2026, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

Median Wages (2016)
$55,490 annually

OKLAHOMA MEDIAN WAGES

First year teachers in the public schools of Oklahoma shall receive in salary and/or fringe benefits not less than the amount of $31,600. When determining minimum salary, “fringe benefits” shall mean only the employee’s share of retirement, if paid by the district.

Median Wages (2016)
$41,150 annually

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This degree is for students interested in teaching grades 1-8. Students will teach all subjects, including math, science, English and social studies. Students will interact with OSU faculty daily, enjoy three separate experiences to teach/shadow in schools and student teach. The last semester of the program is dedicated to student teaching. Students can student teach abroad if they wish.

Students will leave OSU with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, prepared for the certification exams to teach in the Oklahoma public school systems. The Elementary Education Program is an accredited program. education.okstate.edu/elem

EXCEL PROGRAM

The Excellence in Collaborative and Experiential Learning (ExCEL) Program is a collaborative partnership between the College of Education, Health and Aviation and Stillwater Public Schools. Open to elementary education majors in their final semester before student teaching, the program features a three-day-a-week internship in a public school classroom, during which, teacher candidates are partnered with expert classroom teachers. Candidates return to the OSU campus one day a week for methods classes.

Participants gain experience in almost every aspect of elementary school teaching and develop productive relationships with a variety of educational professionals. Many ExCEL students choose to stay in their placement classroom for student teaching, so they can receive a full year of supported internship before starting their first job. education.okstate.edu/elem/special
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TEACHING

Students may perform their clinical internship (student teaching) abroad in either Costa Rica or Mexico. The goal of the international internship program is to expand students’ personal and professional experience, and enrich their global perspectives as teachers. In addition, this experience can help students incorporate international teaching opportunities in their careers. education.okstate.edu/is/abroad

URBAN TEACHING PROGRAM

OSU and Tulsa Public Schools (TPS) have formed a partnership to prepare teachers for the urban classroom. Students complete field experiences in TPS partner schools and participate in TPS professional development alongside TPS teachers, then student teach in the TPS school district. Successful program graduates will be given priority-hiring status. education.okstate.edu/peu/tps

TEACH GRANT

The U.S. Department of Education’s Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH Grant) Program provides funds to students who are completing or plan to complete coursework that is required to begin a career in teaching, and who agree to teach full time for at least four years as a highly qualified teacher, at a school serving low-income students and in a high-need field.

masters.okstate.edu/aid/grants/teach

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Elementary Education students have the option to pursue a master’s degree in special education through an accelerated program, allowing them to obtain a bachelor’s and master’s degree in five years. The Council for Exceptional Children’s nationally recognized master’s degree in teaching, learning and leadership is designed to prepare educators to work effectively with children and youth with mild to moderate disabilities. The master’s program provides students with a structured capstone experience to apply special education knowledge in a research or classroom setting. The program encompasses two primary pathways: Advanced Educator and Initial Certification. Classes are scheduled during evenings and weekends, and can be taken on a part-time or full-time basis. Classes include both classroom interaction and online learning. To be eligible for state certification, students must pass Teacher Certification Examinations.

masters.okstate.edu/sped

LIVING LEARNING PROGRAM

The Education, Health and Aviation Living Learning Program (LLP) is a residential community for students with a declared major in the College of Education, Health and Aviation (EHA). Located on the third floor of Village E, this LLP provides students with an opportunity to meet fellow EHA students, faculty and staff. A focus is placed on leadership development, resources/strategies for academic success and personal growth. Community-building is paramount with a focus on creating meaningful relationships through genuine interactions.

masters.okstate.edu/lp

COURSE PREVIEW

- Teaching Language Arts in the Elementary and Middle School
- Geometric Structures for Early Childhood and Elementary Teachers
- Psychological Foundations of Childhood
- Children’s Literature Across the Curriculum
- Educating Exceptional Learners