Welcome to Graduate Study

Information for Prospective Graduate Students

Oklahoma State University
Thank you for considering the graduate programs offered at Oklahoma State University. Your interest represents the first step in your journey through the world of graduate education, an immensely rewarding experience that culminates in the award of a valued academic credential that will open up a host of exciting and fulfilling career opportunities.

The graduate school environment is fast-paced and dynamic, and it is in many ways a new world. At major research universities such as OSU, research and scholarly enquiry represent the foundation for all graduate programs. Your research will involve thoughtful reading of articles in your field, performing experiments and analyzing results, and critical discussion of ideas and competing theories. Your creativity will be stimulated by the transference of knowledge from the research you carry out into original work. You will learn to interpret data, ask thoughtful questions, critically analyze results and theories, and form intelligent opinions. Research will make you an expert in your chosen field and, when you publish your discoveries, you will share with others the knowledge you have gained.

This focus on research is the hallmark of an exceptional university. Oklahoma State University has a long tradition of involving graduate students in our strong research programs where they contribute to the collection of knowledge. We offer our graduate students state-of-the-art facilities with sophisticated equipment and the opportunity to work with over 1000 members of the graduate faculty, individuals who in turn collaborate with scholars across the nation and throughout the world toward the furtherance of mankind’s store of knowledge and its applications.

OSU’s Graduate College stands ready to help you succeed in your graduate studies. This booklet will provide you with an introduction to graduate study at OSU and an overview of some of the activities available on our campus, and with information on how to apply to the graduate program of your choice. However, as with research itself, it is likely that this booklet raises as many questions as it answers. So, as you read it, make a note of any questions you may have and give us a call or send us an email; our admissions staff will be happy to help you.

I wish you the best as you seek out a graduate program that fits your career goals, and I look forward to the day when I learn how your accomplishments have further contributed to the established legacy of research at OSU.

Sincerely,

A. Gordon Emslie, Ph. D.
Dean, Graduate College
Oklahoma State University was founded on December 25, 1890, as Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, just twenty months after the Oklahoma Land Run of 1889. In 1957, Oklahoma A&M became Oklahoma State University. In July 1988, the Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa became the OSU Center for Health Sciences. Also in 1998, OSU-Tulsa was launched as a new branch campus for graduate and undergraduate programs. Today, graduate students from all 50 U.S. states and from over 90 nations are pursuing graduate study in more than 200 degrees, options, and certificates.

About the Graduate College

Graduate studies at Oklahoma State University began in 1911 with the formal establishment of a graduate faculty committee to supervise advanced study at OSU. Since then, the University has seen major expansion of faculty and facilities at the graduate level. Over the past 20 years, the Graduate College has been instrumental in developing degree and certificate programs that meet the ever-changing needs of our students and of society. With the addition of the OSU-Tulsa campus, many graduate programs are available on both the main campus in Stillwater and in Tulsa. Several graduate degree programs are offered via distance learning. For a complete list of degrees offered by distance learning go to this website: gradcollege.okstate.edu/dl.htm.

As the Graduate College nears its centennial, graduate education at OSU continues to grow with:

- over $15 million in assistantship and fellowship support,
- certificate programs to add onto, or incorporate within, a master’s or doctoral degree,
- a specialized certificate in University Faculty Preparation for doctoral students seeking careers in academia,
- sponsorship of summer research fellowships and student travel to conferences
- 100% electronic submission of graduate student theses and dissertations.
Admission to Graduate Programs

Qualified graduates from colleges and universities of recognized standing are eligible to seek admission to the Graduate College. Admission into a graduate program at Oklahoma State University is a two step-process: applying for admission review through the Graduate College and providing information required by the particular graduate program to which you are applying.

To be reviewed for admission consideration, applicants must submit a complete application to the Graduate College consisting of the following:

- An application for admission. The application can be submitted via our secure website: app.it.okstate.edu/gradcollege
- A nonrefundable application fee
- Official transcript(s) sent from all institutions previously attended.
- Applicants who have not completed a degree from an accredited institution of higher learning at which English is the primary language of instruction, located in a country where English is a recognized primary language, must submit an official TOEFL score with a minimum score of 79 (internet based test), 550 (paper-based test) or an official IELTS examination (academic stream) with a minimum overall band score of 6.5.

The Graduate College forwards application materials to graduate programs for review. Applicants may wish, or be required, to provide the program with additional information such as vita, recommendation letters, or test scores (such as the GRE or GMAT). Information about individual departmental admission requirements can be found through links on the Graduate College website at grad.okstate.edu.

After their evaluation, the graduate program will make an admission recommendation to the Dean of the Graduate College who will then make the final admission decision and notify the applicant accordingly.

Application Deadlines

Each program sets its own schedule for receiving all application materials, so it is very important for you to know the program’s admission requirements and deadlines. You can find a link to all graduate degree programs on our website: grad.okstate.edu.

For domestic and international applicants residing in the United States, it is recommended that a complete application be received at least one month prior to the beginning of school or the departmental deadline (whichever is earlier) to allow adequate time for review.

For international applicants not in the United States, our general application deadlines for departments without an established application deadline are:

Fall Semester - March 1
Spring Semester - August 1

Some programs have specific deadlines which are earlier than these general dates. You should review program web pages to ensure that you submit your materials in a timely manner.

Quick Facts about OSU Graduate Programs:

- Enrollment (Fall Semester 2009) 4,667 (out of 22,845 total enrollment at OSU)
- Enrollment in Master's Programs: 2,801
- Enrollment in Doctoral Programs: 1,476
- Enrollment in other graduate programs: 390
- Female: 47%
- Male: 53%
- Diverse Background: 20%
- International Students: 29%
Free Health Insurance for Graduate Assistants

Graduate students that hold assistantships are provided health insurance coverage when they are employed quarter-time or more throughout a semester and are appropriately enrolled in at least six hours (fall and spring semesters). This $1100 benefit is paid for by the University. The current coverage policy brochure is available at the Graduate College, at University Health Services or via the web at www.academichealthplans.com/okstate.

Graduate Assistantships and Tuition Waivers

OSU is a Research-Extensive University, and graduate students play a vital role in both its teaching and research missions. Over 1700 graduate students help finance their graduate education at OSU through employment as graduate teaching assistants, graduate research assistants, and graduate assistants.

Each year OSU awards more than $15 million in stipends to graduate assistants, graduate teaching assistants, and graduate research assistants. All these students receive full waivers of the out-of-state portion of tuition for all on-campus courses taken. Graduate teaching and research assistants employed at least 20 hours per week currently receive a waiver of all tuition up to the level of full-time enrollment.

Summer Research Fellowships

Summer Research Fellowships ($2,000 each) are available for graduate students who are actively involved in their thesis or dissertation research. Open to all OSU graduate students, the intent of this competitive award is to contribute to the costs of performing research towards the completion of a thesis or dissertation. Application details are available on the Graduate College website in March of each year.

Nancy Randolph Davis Scholarships

OSU graduate students with U.S. citizenship are eligible to apply for this competitive $1,000 scholarship opportunity. Applicants must provide evidence of academic achievement, involvement in leadership activities, demonstrated exemplary achievement in collegiate studies and/or exceptional talent in the creative and performing arts. Application details are available on the Graduate College website in March of each year.

Loans

The U.S. Department of Education offers long-term loans which requires the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), at www.fafsa.ed.gov. OSU’s school code is 003170. These loans are processed by the OSU Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid. The University also provides opportunities for short-term loans for students who meet eligibility requirements. For more information on loans available to students, visit OSU’s Financial Aid web page (www.okstate.edu/finaid/).

About Stillwater and Tulsa

The main OSU campus is located in Stillwater, which is approximately 60 miles from the Tulsa and Oklahoma City metropolitan areas. Stillwater has a population of greater than 45,000. The town has excellent public schools, a transit system for students, and affordable housing.

The OSU-Tulsa campus is located in Tulsa, Oklahoma’s second largest city with a population approaching half a million people. OSU-Tulsa is conveniently located near the downtown area. Tulsa offers a variety of activities with shopping, entertainment, and culture.
CAMPUS SERVICES

CAREER SERVICES

Career Services at OSU is among the best in the nation. Each academic college has a branch office staffed with people ready to help you when it comes time to look for a job at the end of your academic program. These offices are committed to providing you resources, workshops, and services to help with your career decisions. Services include resume development/critiques, job search strategies, career fairs, internship information, and much more. They can also provide you free resume paper and thank you cards for interviewing. Career Services offers career fairs that attract top employers from around the State and the nation. Some employers recognize the quality of our graduates, and therefore the only career fairs they attend in Oklahoma are the ones held at OSU. You can find Career Services’ website at www.hireosugrads.com.

Career Services is available to you throughout your stay at OSU, providing help with on- or off-campus part-time employment. Even as an alumnus you are eligible to use Career Services. We encourage you to use the wide range of services while at OSU. Whether you are on the Stillwater or Tulsa campus, Career Services can assist you.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

University Health Services (UHS) is located on campus and provides a one-stop health service to all OSU students. UHS staffs full-time physicians, registered nurses, pharmacists, and medical technologists. They provide more than 28,000 physician visits and fill more than 40,000 prescriptions each year. Any charges associated with medical care and treatment, tests or prescriptions can be billed to your bursar account or health insurance plan.

COLVIN RECREATIONAL CENTER

We know that all students at OSU will want to take part in activities when not studying. A perfect outlet is the Colvin Recreational Center (campusrec.okstate.edu).

Use of the Colvin Center is free for all enrolled students. Over the weekend or in the evening, you can take a break from your studies and take advantage of the opportunities offered. The Colvin Center has generous hours of operation during the week usually opening at 6:00 am and closing at midnight, with somewhat shortened hours over the weekend.

Activity areas available include an indoor climbing wall, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, gymnastics, fencing, billiards, dance, golf, table tennis, wrestling, fitness machines, and weightlifting. Indoor courts for basketball, volleyball, badminton, and racquetball are open year round and the outdoor facilities include tennis courts, basketball courts, archery range, golf driving range, jogging track, and fields for soccer, rugby, and football. There are a number of fee based classes offered such as aerobics, yoga, spinning, and much more.

The Colvin Center also houses the Outdoor Adventure program which sponsors a variety of regional and national trips as well as workshops for people and families at all skill levels. Past trips included white water rafting on the Rio Grande in New Mexico, hang gliding in Oklahoma, snow boarding in New Mexico, sea kayaking in California, volcano climbing in Mexico (Popocatepetl and El Pico de Orizaba). If you want to go camping or on a picnic with the family, they also provide rentals on camping equipment (back packs, tents, etc) and picnic activities (volleyball nets, tug-of-war rope, canoes) plus many other items. Whether it is exploring the Grand Canyon over spring break or spending the day at one of the local lakes, the Outdoor Adventure program (campusrec.okstate.edu/outdooradventure/) can help outfit you.
**The Library**

The one service most important to our graduate students is the library. The Edmon Low Library ([www.library.okstate.edu/](http://www.library.okstate.edu/)) is one of the most distinguished buildings on campus and has dominated the landscape since 1953. The physical size of the library measures an incredible 238,760 square feet (that's equal to 4.97 football fields!). Our library houses more than seven million books, documents, and microfilms all available for students to use. Graduate students are entitled to a 120 day (4 months) checkout period for books. For material the library doesn't own, Interlibrary Loan Service will accept your online requests for both books and articles. Most articles requested through Interlibrary Loan are delivered electronically to your computer.

Through its website, the library provides access to more than 200 bibliographic databases. The following are examples of those provided by the library: Web of Science, LexiNexis, ProQuest Direct, SciFinder Scholar, PsycInfo, Compendex, and Early English Books Online. You can find a complete list of databases at [www.library.okstate.edu/database/index.cfm](http://www.library.okstate.edu/database/index.cfm). The library also funds access to more than 18,000 online full text journals. A complete list of full text journals is available at [www.library.okstate.edu/ftdb/index.htm](http://www.library.okstate.edu/ftdb/index.htm).

As an OSU student, you have access to all online resources from computers located in the library or any computer with Internet access regardless of your location. With help from the student technology fee, the library launched the first “floating computer lab” on campus. You can check out one of 96 laptops while you study in the library. The laptops have wireless access to the Internet anywhere in the building and with a generous five hour checkout period, you have the freedom to work at your convenience.

**Campus Life**

The campus is a busy place with more than 200 student groups to keep you active. Each group offers a variety of activities. For example, through the efforts of the International Student Organization ([www.orgs.okstate.edu/iso/](http://www.orgs.okstate.edu/iso/)) events such as Diwali Night and Cultural Night happen each year. Diwali Night offers a night of Indian music, dancing and food. Cultural Night allows our international student groups an opportunity to show off their musical talents with dancing, music and clothing from their home country.

One of the most popular events is the International Bazaar. Students from the more than 100 countries represented at OSU set up displays about their home country on the library lawn, and some of the groups sell products or food from their home cuisine to raise money for their student clubs. One of the biggest events students look forward to attending is the Salsa Ball sponsored by the Latin Dance and Cultural Club ([www.orgs.okstate.edu/ldcc/](http://www.orgs.okstate.edu/ldcc/)). The Salsa Ball is a unique opportunity to dress up and set the dance floor on fire. This event brings to campus the dancing passions of more than 350 salsa crazy people. You don’t know how to salsa? That is not a problem. The Latin Dance Club holds free lessons each weekend on campus during the fall and spring semesters.

**Campus Safety**

OSU and the City of Stillwater are among the safest places in the country. In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, a report which details the numbers and types of crimes on the OSU campus for a three-year period is available online at [www.osupd.okstate.edu/stats.php](http://www.osupd.okstate.edu/stats.php). A paper copy of the report may be obtained upon request through the OSU Police Department at 405.744.6523.
Degree Programs, Options, Specializations & Certificates at OSU

All programs listed below are available on the OSU-Stillwater campus. Where noted, graduate programs are also available on the OSU-Tulsa campus.

College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Agricultural Communications (MS)
Agricultural Economics (MS, PhD)
Agricultural Education (MS, PhD)
Animal Breeding & Reproduction (PhD)
Animal Nutrition (PhD)
Animal Science (MS)
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (MS, PhD)
Crop Science (PhD)
Entomology (PhD)
Entomology & Plant Pathology (MS)
Entomology (MS)
Plant Pathology (MS)
Food Science (MS, PhD)
General Agriculture (MAG)
Agronomy (MAG)
Agricultural Economics (MAG)
Agricultural Education (MAG)
Agricultural Leadership (MAG)
Animal Science (MAG)
Entomology (MAG)
Horticulture (MAG)
International Agriculture (MAG)
Natural Resource Ecology & Management (MAG)
Plant Pathology (MAG)
Plant Science (MAG)
Soil Science (MAG)

College of Arts and Sciences
Botany (MS)
Business Geographics (MS)
Chemistry (MS, PhD)
Communication Sci & Disorders (MS) *
Computer Science (MS*, PhD)
Creative Writing (MFA)
English (MA*, PhD)
Fire & Emergency Mgmt Admin (MS*, PhD)
Geography (MS, PhD)
History (MA, PhD)
Mass Communications (MS) *
Mathematics (MS, PhD)
Microbiology (MS, PhD)
Pedagogy & Performance (MM)
Applied Music (MM)
Conducting (MM)
Philosophy (MA)
Physics (MS, PhD)
Optics and Photonics (MS)

College of Education
Applied Educational Studies (EdD)
Aviation & Space Education (EdD)
College Interdisciplinary (EdD) *
Counseling (MS)
Community Counseling (MS) *
School Counseling (MS) *
Education (EdS, PhD)
School Psychology (EdS)
Curriculum Studies (PhD) *
Occupational Education Studies (PhD) *
Professional Education Studies (PhD) *
Social Foundations of Education (PhD) *
Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (PhD)
Educational Administration (PhD) *
Higher Education (PhD) *
Educational Leadership Studies (MS)
College Student Development (MS)
Higher Education (MS) *
School Administration (MS) *
Educational Psychology (MS, PhD)
Educational Psychology (MS*, PhD*)
Educ. Research & Evaluation (MS) *
School Psychometrics (PhD)
Counseling Psychology (PhD)
Research & Evaluation (PhD) *
School Psychology (PhD)
Educational Technology (MS)
Educational Technology (MS)
School Library Media (MS)
Health & Human Performance (MS)
Applied Exercise Science (MS)
Health Promotion (MS)
Physical Education (MS)

College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology
Spear's School of Business
Accounting (MSBA)
Business Administration (MBA, PhD)
MBA Program (MBA) *
Accounting (PhD) *
Entrepreneurship (PhD) *
Finance (PhD)
Management (PhD) *
Mgmt Sci. & Info. Systems (PhD) *
Marketing (PhD) *
Business Geographics (MS)
Economics (MS, PhD)
Management Information Systems (MS) *
Quantitative Financial Economics (MS)
Telecommunications Management (MS) *

College of Human Environmental Sciences
Design, Housing & Merchandising (MS)
 Apparel Design and Production (MS)
 Interior Design (MS)
 Merchandising (MS)
 Hospitality Administration (MS)
 Human Development & Family Sci (MS)
 Child and Family Services (MS) *
 Developmental and Family Sci. (MS) *
 Early Childhood Education (MS) *
 Gerontology (MS)
 Marriage & Family Therapy (MS)
 Human Environmental Sci. (MS, PhD)
 Family Financial Planning (MS)
 Design, Housing & Merchandising (PhD)
 Hospitality Administration (PhD)
 Human Development & Family Sci (PhD)
 Nutritional Sciences (PhD)
 Nutrition (MS)
 Dietetics (MS)
 Nutrition (MS)

College of Interdisciplinary Studies
Environmental Science (MS, PhD)
International Studies (MS)
Natural & Applied Sciences (MS)
Aviation & Space Science (MS) *
Health Care Admin (MS) *
Interdisciplinary Science (MS)
Natural Sciences (MS)
Photonics (PhD)
Plant Science (PhD)

College of Human Sciences
Nutrition (MS)
Nutritional Sciences (PhD)

College of Human Sciences
Zoology (MS, PhD)
Statistics (MS, PhD)
Sociology (MS, PhD)
Political Science (MA)
Psychology (MS, PhD)
Clinical (PhD)
Lifespan Developmental (PhD)
Sociology (MS, PhD)
Statistics (MS, PhD)
Theater (MA)
Zoology (MS, PhD)

Center for Human Development

Center for Veterinary Health Sciences
Veterinary & Biomedical Sci. (MS, PhD)

Center for Health Sciences (Tulsa)
Biomedical Sciences (MS, PhD)
Forensic Sciences (MS, MFSA)

Interdisciplinary Sciences
Environmental Science (MS*, PhD) International Studies (MS)
Natural & Applied Sciences (MS)Aviation & Space Science (MS) *
Health Care Admin (MS) *
Interdisciplinary Science (MS)
Natural Sciences (MS)
Photonics (PhD)
Plant Science (PhD)

Graduate Certificate Programs
Aerospace Security*
Business Data Mining* Engineering & Technology Mgmt
Family Financial Planning
Information Assurance*
International Studies* Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages* University Faculty Preparation

* denotes a program also offered on the OSU-Tulsa campus

Questions?
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