

Bellevue Health &
Rehab is Hiring!

3-11 Charge Nurse

INTERACTIVE AD: [CLICK HERE TO APPLY!](#)



Tammy Hanks, DNP at OneCore Health, located in Oklahoma City is attentive in her profession, but balances life by spending time with her family.

Story and photo by James Coburn, Staff Writer

Tammy Hanks tells people that her best made plans never go the way she wanted, but they always end up better than she is capable of dreaming.

"I landed into nursing. It wasn't my first choice, but I fell in love with it," said Hanks, DNP,

chief nursing officer at OneCore Health, located in Oklahoma City.

"We are a surgical specialty hospital. That's what we want to be great at," Hanks said. "It's really providing that sense of comfort, obviously bringing competence and expertise to surgery. At

the end of the day, we all have the shared goal of safe surgery — let's make this an excellent experience for our patients. Let's recruit and maintain the best staff who just love being here."

See HANKS Page 3



Recruitment Event

**Hiring All Positions —
Clinical, Administrative
and Professional**

**Wednesday, Aug. 30
4 – 7 p.m.**

Samis Family Education Center, First Floor
1200 N. Children's Ave.
Oklahoma City, 73104

*Parking: Please park in the Events lot in front of
Oklahoma Children's Hospital OU Health.*



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- Oklahoma Children's Hospital OU Health
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If you have any questions, please email:

talent@ouhealth.com.

To learn more and view current openings, visit:

careers.ouhealth.com.

**Can't make it? Join us on September 27, 2023 for our
next hiring event at Samis Family Education Center.**

HANKS

Continued from Page 1

As an executive nurse leader, Hanks is an advanced practice registered nurse, pediatric clinical nurse specialist, and perioperative specialist. She earned her BSN from Oklahoma City University, MSN from Texas Christian University, and finished her DNP in nursing leadership at the Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 2021.

A nurse since 2010, she began her career in the pediatric operating room at Oklahoma Children's Hospital where she quickly learned she loved operating room nursing.

Her master's degree led to her involvement in shared governance with OU Health. She examined how each department works together and how nurses can collaborate with decisions to impact the system

As CNO Hanks sets a vision and tone for the organization. She manages staffing guidelines and develops policies and procedures based in evidence-based practice. OneCore Health strives to build layers of backup at every level.

"In a small facility like this, it could mean I am taking care of patients, or I am circulating a case," she said. "I'm still able to be present

every day to talk to patients, learn what's working and what's not."

She said surgery is one of the most vulnerable life experiences for a person. So, being able to bring comfort and knowledge to patient care is what Hanks loves most about her career.

Hanks began her career at OneCore Health as the director of quality compliance. Two months later she moved into the CNO role. Hanks said she is still learning. Her doctorate in nursing leadership enabled her to lead an organization and make changes on an assisted level.

"Things we're working on at a daily basis is looking at our staffing, how we can tweak things here and there to be more efficient and respectful of our resources," Hanks continued. "Here we're strong on our core values and competence, respect, and empowerment. And part of that respect is respecting what we have."

Hanks said everyone feels the strain of the nursing shortage and supply chain costs going up. So, she collaborates in looking at how to be good stewards of resources while functioning safely and efficiently.

She values the dedication that is evident among the core nursing staff and employees. Dedicated PRN employees also have a lot of longevity. Hanks posts patient satisfaction notes weekly.

"We're trained to respond, treat, and restore. I think that shapes the kind of person you are outside of work and how you approach people who are suffering."

Tammy Hanks, DNP

People love our nursing staff. They are compassionate and caring. They take the time to stop and talk to people," Hanks said. "We have a lot of repeat patients, too. We do a lot of pain procedures and pain injections."

Surgical services include comprehensive orthopedics and trauma care, ear, nose and throat, total joint replacement, back and spine, pediatric orthopedics, sports medicine, hand surgery, arthroscopy, podiatry, dental, urology, general surgery, and pain management.

Her memories of pediatric surgery are indelible in her mind. It's the love of a parent and being there as a comfort. Both adults and children are incredibly special to their loved ones.

"To hand them over to a nurse, I think is really meaningful and impactful to have that sense of trust," Hanks said.

Being able to tell a patient that

they handled their surgery well means a lot not only to the nurses, but also the physicians and supporting staff.

"We all get to see the full circle here and that's really special," she said.

Being a nurse has impacted her reactions to intense situations at work and gives her more perspective at home.

"It's changed the way I parent. There are some things I will never let my child do," she said. "Nursing enhances her understanding that things just happen sometimes. It's not about placing blame. But we're trained to respond, treat, and restore. I think that shapes the kind of person you are outside of work and how you approach people who are suffering."

For more information about OneCore Health, visit:

<https://onecorehealth.com/>



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3-11 Charge Nurse

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CAREERS IN NURSING:

A SPECIAL HEART - LPN EMPATHIZES WITH NEEDS

story and photo by James Coburn, Staff Writer

In 2008 Laura Gomez was hospitalized for two months at age 12. She had lupus and her journey would provide impetus for a nursing career.

"There were two reasons," said Gomez, LPN, Valir Rehabilitation Hospital. "One was the nice loving care by the nurses. The other reason was I had a really bad experience with a nurse one time, and I told myself I want to be the opposite of her. And, if there's more people out there that are kind and generous it will make me feel better. I wouldn't want anyone else to be treated that way. And I was a child when that happened."

Gomez, 26, entered the nursing profession in May after graduating from Canadian Valley Technology Center, located in El Reno. She was enrolled in a self-paced nursing program with a certain amount of time to finish.

"I really liked it because I was

still able to manage my outside life and school life," Gomez said.

She learned about Valir Rehabilitation Hospital from a close friend who worked there. She began working as a tech at Valir during her course studies. Gomez had worked as a CNA for eight years before joining the Valir nursing team three months ago. She had previously considered a career in long-term care.

"But she was telling me the type of stuff she got to experience here. And I thought that was interesting," Gomez said at the midtown Oklahoma City hospital.

Gomez felt a calling to help people transition from being in a full-service hospital. Her 12-hour shifts begin in the morning to help people recover from vehicle collisions, among other health conditions.

"We get a report. I usually go in and introduce myself to my patients to see how they're doing

and if they're having any pain," Gomez said.

Afterwards she will provide medicine to patients and do assessments. Gomez will educate patients needing answers. Oftentimes her patients need to understand their limitations by taking their time. She said time management has been an important focus of her own learning process.

Gomez had worked at Valir as a tech before joining the nursing team. She was already qualified to give medicine due to being experienced as a certified medication aide. A Valir mentor oriented her to daily practices as a nurse.

"I kind of knew what was expected. At certain times it was learning the electronic part of it — that was the hardest part. I felt like I had the patient care down, talking with them, being familiar with them."

The nursing staff has been

amazingly helpful to her as a new nurse, she continued. They empathize with her need for mentorship.

"They're all willing to help. I know that everyone gets busy," she said.

Gomez said she is still new to providing IV medications. So, she asked one of the nurses to walk her through the process once more to build confidence.

"She was doing her meds and said, 'Let me just give these meds and I will be there,'" Gomez said. "I really appreciate that."

Being part of a synergetic nursing team making a positive difference in patients' health makes Gomez feel good at the end of the day. Helping patients could be as simple as teaching them about a newly prescribed drug or a safer way to be mobile.

"To know that knowledge is

continued next page

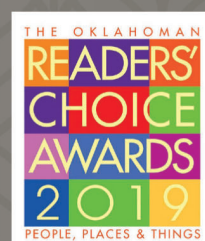


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Laura Gomez, an LPN at Valir Rehabilitation Hospital understand that patience and kindness is essential in health care.

GOMEZ

Continued from Page 4

being put to work and they're very grateful for it, makes me feel good and makes me feel I did something right," Gomez said.

She is grateful for the feedback she has gotten from her patients, especially when they thank her for taking time to patiently explain things in an unhurried manner that hasn't occurred quite as often in other hospitals, Gomez said.

"Honest to God, it makes me feel good," she said.

Most patients need someone to listen to them. She sits at eye-level with patients while they voice their concerns.

"A lot of the time, that's all they need," she said.

Patients will tell her about their families and adult children, and how they love to visit them.

"I know that when I go home at the end of the day that I'm very tired," she said. "But it does feel good to know I've helped someone's life, to know you were there to attend to their needs and knowing I did everything possible to make them feel better."

Nursing gives her the strength, the momentum, and the faith to endure the events that naturally happen.

"Growing up my parents always said I was really helpful. I would say that my strength comes from my parents, just seeing the way that they raised us to be kind and compassionate persons, stay away from conflict and always be a helping hand for someone in need, because you never know when you'll be in need."

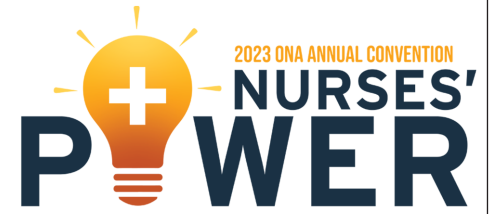
Interested in Joining Valir Rehabilitation Hospital? Visit: <https://valir.com/join-our-team/>

2023 ONA ANNUAL CONVENTION ANNOUNCED

The Oklahoma Nurses Association will be hosting the 2023 annual convention in Oklahoma City September 27th through the 28th.

The goal of the convention is to focus on supporting nurses and building supportive structures for nurses' new normal as the work environment evolves and highlight the difference nurses make every day in the life of patients.

This year, the convention will take place at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Oklahoma City Northwest, 3233 Northwest Expy in Oklahoma City. Register for the convention here: <https://www.oklahomanurses.org/event-5288406>



OCU announces Saints & Stars nursing scholars

Oklahoma City University has announced its incoming Saints & Stars nursing scholars for the fall 2023 semester.

The Saints & Stars program is a five-year agreement between SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital and OCU's Kramer School of Nursing. It is aimed at helping stem the critical shortage of nursing professionals in the state.

The partnership allows students to work part-time with SSM Health while they complete their nursing degree, while also receiving a \$3,500 annual scholarship from SSM Health and a \$5,000 annual discount from OCU.

The latest Saints & Stars scholars are:

Sarah Burlingame, Olympia, Washington, **Hallie Crom**, Choctaw, **Leighla Hall**, Oklahoma City, **Kirstan Kolker**, Choctaw, **Eloise Kropp**, Edmond, **Nikki Lynn**, Tuttle, **Celine Nguyen**, Moore, **Diana Escobedo**, Arcadia, **Elizabeth Reidlinger**, Oklahoma City, **Alexis Rose**, Choctaw, **Shawna Smith**, Oklahoma City, **Michael Uwaeke**, Oklahoma City, **Miranda Kelly**, Oklahoma City, **Jia Wu**, Mustang, **Abigail Grace**, Norman, **Amanda Creson**, Yukon, **Ashton Seratte**, Norman, **Jacky Trinidad**, Norman, **Mariolise Sama**, Oklahoma City, **Shalonda Whitfield**, Mustang

Up to 20 pre-licensure junior students are selected to participate in the program each year through the 2025-26 academic year. The deadline to apply for a Saints & Stars scholarship is May 10. Visit <https://www.okcu.edu/nursing/scholarships> for more information



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Oklahoma ranks in the top 5 states for the highest concentration of Licensed Practical Nurse employment according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Oklahoma ranks in the top 5 states for the highest concentration of Licensed Practical Nurse employment according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This field is expected to grow up to 12% in the next five years, making jobs in nursing both high-demand and readily available to individuals looking to join or advance in this rewarding industry. Moore Norman Technology Center is dedicated to training the next workforce generation of nurses and continuing to provide continued classes for existing RNS to grow in knowledge, technical skills, and experience.

High school students considering a career in nursing or healthcare,

can start training junior year. MNTC offers multiple career programs that utilize a realistic clinical setting for training students in basic nursing care. Students have the opportunity to participate in clinical rotations at local medical facilities and offices, and upon completion, sit for industry certifications leading to employment. High school students enrolled in the Moore and Norman public school districts can start applying in November for classes that start in August of the following year.

Adults making a career shift into the health field can complete their training between 10 - 16

months. MNTC full-time adult-only classes focus on developing more advanced skillsets, preparing nurses to have practice in a clinical setting, hospitals, home health, and assisted living facilities for a direct patient care experience. Applications for adult-only health programs typically open in January and close in April.

MNTC advanced training for nurses doesn't stop after they join the work force. We believe in the power of technical skills development at every stage. Existing nurses can take a variety of continuing education classes to renew certification like CPR BLS for HealthCare Providers, DDMAT Update, Opioid for Healthcare Providers, and 30+ other options to improve their skills and enhance their career. Short-term classes are offered both online and in-person to meet the needs of individuals with full-time demanding careers.

For organizations looking to

invest in their employees, MNTC's Workforce and Economic Development team is prepared to help nursing professionals keep up with rapidly changing health and medical advances. MNTC Workforce and Economic Development training covers everything from certification maintenance to staff education on emerging technologies within this field. Group training can be conducted on site at your facility, or in one of our many state of the art health labs.

Wherever you are in your nursing journey, MNTC is available to support you through technical training by qualified instructors who know what it takes to get trained, get certified, and get hired. If you are considering a nursing career, or looking to develop existing skillsets, visit [mntc.edu](https://www.mntc.edu) to learn more.

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Murray State Offers Paramedic to RN Career Mobility Program

Murray State College offers a hybrid online fast track program that is Murray State College offers a hybrid online fast track program that is designed for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) and Licensed Paramedics. It allows them to advance their careers by earning a registered nursing (RN) degree.

This Nursing Paramedic to RN Career Mobility track was ranked number one as the best in the nation for 2022, according to <https://www.registerednursing.org>.

Certified paramedics who have been licensed within the last three years do not have to take the challenge exam prior to applying for the program. The hybrid online track includes a nursing role transition course to address the responsibilities of a nurse versus a

paramedic.

"This pathway has been a very successful program for us and our students," said DeAnn Priddy, RN, Murray State College Nursing Program Director. "Our goal is to guide each learner and assist them in rising to his or her maximum potential."

Graduates of this program are eligible to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). At the completion of the program, students will graduate with an Associates of Applied Science (A.A.S) degree. From there, students have the opportunity to continue their education toward earning a bachelor's and master's degrees, and doctorate.

Murray State's nursing faculty are dedicated to helping their students achieve their personal best in all areas of nursing. The nursing



MURRAY STATE COLLEGE

program's mission is to provide exemplary nursing education to a diverse student population for the development of tomorrow's healthcare leaders who focus on the unique needs of patients, families and communities.

"This program truly represents Murray's motto, "From Here, Go Anywhere," said Dr. Tim Faltyn, Murray State College president. "To have the opportunity to provide a resource that can help current

professionals advance their career is what makes Murray State the nursing education provider for southern Oklahoma."

Murray State College, located in Ardmore, Oklahoma, and Tishomingo, Oklahoma, provides opportunities for student learning, personal growth, professional success and community enhancement. Murray State serves more than 3,000 students annually. The College offers associate degrees in arts, science and applied science.

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INFORMATION

OSU-CHS receives INSIGHT Into Diversity Inspiring Programs in STEM Award

The Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences recently received the 2023 Inspiring Programs in STEM Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the largest and oldest diversity and inclusion publication in higher education.

The Inspiring Programs in STEM Award honors colleges and universities that encourage and assist students from underrepresented groups to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. OSU-CHS will be featured, along with 79 other recipients, in the September 2023 issue of INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine.

Inspiring Programs in STEM Award winners were selected by INSIGHT Into Diversity based on efforts to inspire and encourage a new generation of young people to consider careers in STEM through

mentoring, teaching, research, and successful programs and initiatives.

INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine selected three OSU-CHS programs:

Operation Orange — a free, one day medical camp for students in grades 8-12 interested in medicine.

Native Pathways — a program to recruit, train and retain American Indian and Alaskan Natives in medicine and science

Native Explorers — a program for college students designed around the disciplines of anatomy and vertebrate paleontology to provide hands-on activities to introduce Native Americans to the scientific method and traditional ways.

“I am truly honored and thrilled that OSU Center for Health Sciences has been recognized for our STEM programs and the exceptional efforts in recruiting diverse students into



the field of medicine,” Assistant Dean of Diversity Brenda Davidson said. “The excitement surrounding this recognition is matched by our belief that our Operation Orange, Native Pathways and Native Explorers programs will have a profound impact on the future of medicine.”

By increasing representation, addressing disparities and inspiring future medical professionals through these events and programs, OSU-CHS aims to have a positive impact on the health and well-being of communities throughout Oklahoma.

“We are honored to be recognized for our efforts in recruiting and training American Indian students in medicine and science,” said Kent Smith, Ph.D.

Smith is the associate dean in the Office of American Indians in Medicine and Science, and professor of anatomy at OSU Center for Health Sciences.

“We are proud to support the graduates of the College of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa and Tahlequah,

See STEM page 12

OKNT

CROSSWORD: Employing Interdependence

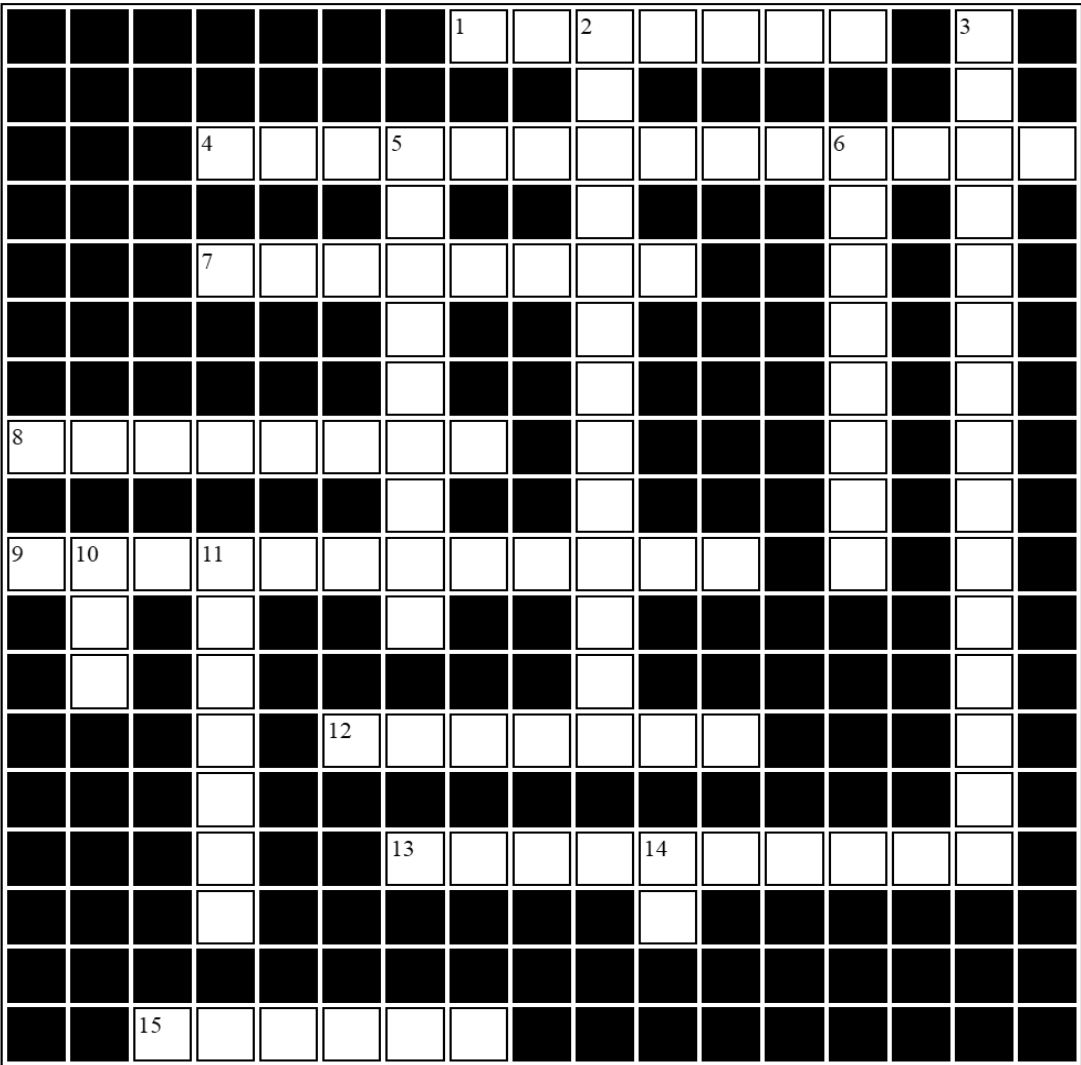
by Brittany, Robin and Boomy

Across

- 1. Placing yourself above others
- 4. Creators use I-messages to express what?
- 7. Important people to choose when making a group
- 8. Moving from independence to interdependence
- 9. Emotional pr psychological reliance on a partner
- 12. Leveling requires a strong inner guide and commitment to what?
- 13. Not being able to achieve things on your own
- 15. Type of listening that strengthens a relationships

Down

- 2. Boldly putting forth opinions and requests
- 3. To give and receive help
- 5. Ineffective communication
- 6. A response to positively address an issue, nurture a relationship of equals or demonstrate a high self-esteem
- 10. Ingredient of success
- 11. Understanding what the other person is thinking or feeling
- 14. Saying;”___” is a tool of an assertive Creator



ANSWERS ON PAGE 12

NURSE TALK

How do you spend your time away from work?



Valir
Rehabilitation
Hospital

"In my leisure time, I am a committed student at the moment. But aside from school I like to travel."



Brittany Quick, LPN

"I have a 3-year-old, so he keeps me pretty busy. Most of the time I'm doing things with him. This summer, swimming."



Rachel Younger, CNA

"In my leisure time I'm more spontaneous – whatever comes, comes. I go with the flow."



Antreal Brown, CNA

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NOC Nursing Graduates Achieve 100% Nursing Exam Pass Rate

Northern Oklahoma College 2023 nursing graduates achieved 100% first time pass rate on the national registered nurse licensure exam.

On April 1, 2023, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing launched the Next Generation NCLEX (NGN) Examination, an enhanced version of its predecessor, the NCLEX.

NOC graduates performed ahead of state and national averages on the next generation NCLEX-RN achieving a 100% pass rate during the period of April 1-June 30, which is the first

testing period of the NGN. In comparison, the state pass rate was 93.77%, and the national pass rate was 94.31% for the same time period.

"NOC nursing faculty have worked diligently to implement changes to prepare students for practice with improved clinical judgment and decision-making skills," said Dr. Nikole Hicks, Nursing Division Chair. "We are very proud of our graduates who are helping to fill a critical need for nurses in their communities."

The NOC associate degree nursing program is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

"NOC has been dedicated to providing exceptional nurses for our communities for over 50 years, and NOC nurses are changing lives all over the world," Dr. Hicks said. "Come join us. Change lives. Be exceptional. Be an NOC Nurse."

The Northern Oklahoma College Nursing Program is accepting applications for the Spring 2024 Semester (Oct. 1) and for the Fall 2024 Semester (March 31) at the Tonkawa, Enid, and Stillwater campuses.

Visit the nursing program here: <https://www.noc.edu/>



Dr. Nikole Hicks, PhD, RNC, CNE, Division Chair.

SWOSU Recognized Among Top Ten Online Colleges in Oklahoma



OnlineU, a prominent college planning website, has recognized Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with a notable placement of #7 on the 2023 Best Online Colleges in Oklahoma list. As a prominent public university, SWOSU provides students with the opportunity to pursue both undergraduate and graduate degrees through online programs.

Combining asynchronous and synchronous learning methods, SWOSU's programs provide students with the flexibility to achieve their educational goals while maintaining their existing commitments. The university's online resources, which include library resources, tutoring, advising, and writing assistance, offer students a comprehensive learning experience that mirrors on-campus support.

This recognition reflects SWOSU's dedication to delivering high-quality online degree programs. SWOSU's program offerings span fields such as [healthcare](#), [education](#), [business](#), [psychology](#), and more.

OnlineU's acknowledgment of SWOSU's excellence emphasizes the university's commitment to accessible and impactful education opportunities.

For additional information about SWOSU's degree programs, please visit <https://bulldog.swosu.edu/student-services/cetl/programs.php>. To view OnlineU's 2023 list of Best Online Colleges in Oklahoma, please visit <https://www.onlineu.com/best-online-colleges/oklahoma>.

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AWARD PRESENTATION WILL START AT 1:30 PM

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More than 95 percent of OSU-OKC nursing graduates pass next-generation licensing exam

Students from Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City's nursing school continue to perform ahead of state and national averages on national licensure exams.

For the period of April 1 – June 30, which is the first testing period under the Next-Gen NCLEX, OSU-OKC had an NCLEX pass rate of 95.45 percent.

In comparison, the state pass rate is 93.77% and the national pass rate is 94.31%.

On April 1, 2023, the National Council of the State Boards of Nursing launched the Next Generation NCLEX (NGN) Examination, an enhanced version of its predecessor, the NCLEX.

"It is obvious that the last couple of years' worth of work in preparation for NGN was well worth the effort," said Tracy Edwards, Nurse Science

department head.

Sixty-three of OSU-OKC's 66 students first-time testing passed the NGN.

Previous quarterly pass rates were:

- OSU-OKC: 82.19%
- State: 75.72%
- National: 80.48%

Faculty have been preparing for the transition over the last two years. Through changes to the way that content is being presented, incorporating next-gen style question formatting into class presentations and other activities, and mimicking next-gen style questions on exams, faculty continue to evolve and refine ways to enhance students' clinical judgment and decision-making.

OSU-OKC's nursing program is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.



The nursing program at OSU-OKC ranks in the top five programs in the state according to <https://www.ncareers.org/>.

Applications are being accepted for the traditional nursing program until Sept. 1. For those interested in the LPN to RN program, applications for the January start will be accepted from Sept. 1 – Dec. 1. For more information, call (405) 945-3210.

For more information about the nursing program at OSU-OKC visit <https://osuokc.edu/nursing>

STEM

Continued from Page 8

which collectively graduates more American Indians than most medical schools in the nation," Smith said.

Offering these opportunities for underrepresented populations is important in fostering diversity and inclusion on campuses and in the workforce.

"We know that many STEM programs are not always recognized for their success, dedication and mentorship for underrepresented students," said Lenore Pearlstein, owner and publisher of INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. "We want to honor the schools and organizations that have created programs that inspire and encourage young people who may currently be in or are interested in a future career in STEM. We are proud to honor these programs as role models to other institutions of higher education and beyond."

A call for nominations for this award was announced in April 2023.

For more information about the 2023 Inspiring Programs in STEM Award and INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, visit their website <https://www.insightintodiversity.com/>.

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Puzzle Answers: Employing Interdependence

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46TH ANNUAL
SENIOR
DAY

Wednesday,
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Free admission for Seniors 55+
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SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

EXHIBITORS, PHOTO BOOTH & FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS.	10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
DOOR PRIZES	Session 1: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Session 2: 1 - 3:30 p.m. Session 3: 3:30 - 6 p.m.
OUT & ABOUT: SPACE WALK	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
SENIORS IN MOTION VIDEO VOTING	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
OKIE STOMPERS	10:05 a.m. & 11 a.m.
BLACK HOLE TOSS	10:35 a.m.
THE MILKY WAY - EXPANSIVE UNIVERSE OR DELICIOUS CANDY	11:30 a.m.
YMCA COMMUNITY TEAM	12 p.m.
LOVE YOU TO THE MOON AND BACK COUPLES CHALLENGE . . .	12:50 p.m.
OUT OF THIS WORLD KARAOKE CONTEST	1:20 p.m.
IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE	2:20 p.m.
THE BIG BANG GAME SHOW	3:05 p.m.
SAVE THE FROZEN PLANET	4:30 p.m.
JIM GARLING	5 p.m.
OKLAHOMA CITY SWING DANCE CLUB	5:20 p.m.
ALIEN INVASION	5:55 p.m.
VOCAL SOUNDS OF OKLAHOMA	6:10 p.m.
ELVIS VISITS THE SPACE STATION	6:30 p.m.
SHAWN KLUSH - TRIBUTE TO ELVIS	7:30 p.m.
Chickasaw Country Entertainment Stage	

For more detailed information visit the Senior Day
page on the Oklahoma State Fair website.

RSU Welcomes New Faculty Members for 2023-24 Academic Year to School of Nursing and Health

With the beginning of the 2023-24 academic year at Rogers State University in Claremore, several new faculty members have joined the Hillcat community.

Rogers State University Academic Dean Dr. Susan Willis is grateful to welcome the new faculty members to RSU and looks forward to the positive impact each will make on the university and their students.

"I am so excited to have these outstanding faculty members join RSU this year," Willis said. "They will all contribute to their respective programs in new and exciting ways. They represent the diversity in faculty that RSU has and will provide our students with the quality instruction we are proud of at RSU."

New faculty members and their respective departments include:

Dr. Alexandra (Ali) Teel serves as instructor of nursing. She holds an Associate of Applied Science in nursing and Bachelor of Science



Dr. Alexandra (Ali) Teel

in Nursing, both from Rogers State University, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice – Family Nurse Practitioner from the University of Oklahoma in Tulsa.

Her work experience includes serving as a nurse technician

and later as a Registered Nurse at Saint Francis Hospital, Trauma Emergency Center (January 2018 – July 2020); clinical adjunct instructor at Rogers State University (January 2017 – January 2023); and Registered Nurse at Ascension St. John Owasso, Emergency Department (August 2022 to present). She also served as an intelligence specialist first class in the US Navy Reserve in Oklahoma City (July 2020 – July 2022).



Charlsie Smith

Charlsie Smith serves as instructor of nursing. She graduated with an Associate of Applied Science in nursing from the University of Tulsa in 2011, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 2014 and is on track to earn her Master of Science in nursing education from Northeastern State University in December 2023.

She worked as a registered nurse, obstetrics and gynecology, at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa (February 2012 – March 2015); a Registered Nurse at Tulsa OBGYN Associates, Inc. (March 2015 – January 2022); and as a school

nurse for Berryhill Public Schools (from January 2022).



Emily Mealin

Emily Mealin serves as instructor of nutrition and allied health. She is a graduate of Florida College (in Temple Terrace, Florida) with an associate degree in liberal studies (May 2010), Western Kentucky University (in Bowling Green, Kentucky) with a Bachelor of Science in hospitality management/dietetics (2013); and the University of Central Oklahoma with a Master of Science in nutrition and food management (in December 2015). She additionally holds a graduate certificate in technology in health promotion.

She has worked as a full-time provisional licensed dietitian at Cherokee Nation Vinita Health Center (April 2018 – January 2019), WIC specialist at Cherokee Nation WIC (January 2019 – November 2019), and public health educator for the Cherokee Nation (from November 2019).

Rogers State University operates three full-service campuses in Claremore, Bartlesville, and Pryor.

Visit Rogers State University here: <https://www.rsu.edu/>

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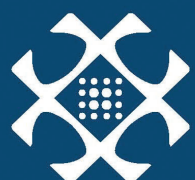
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