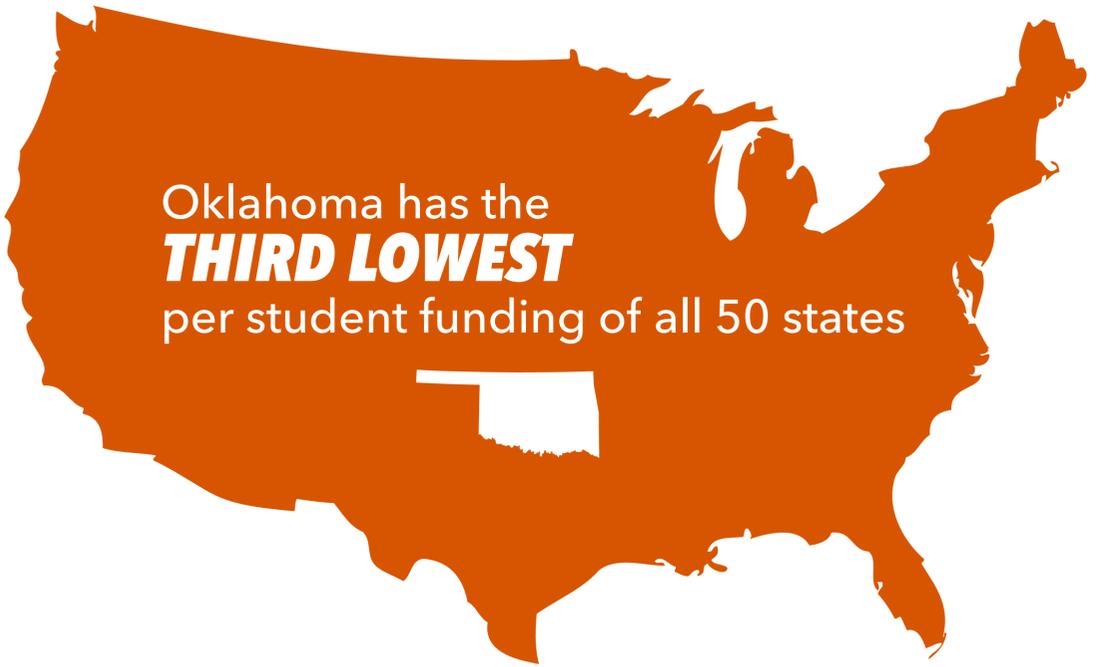




# Oklahoma Education Funding

## Oklahoma is Lagging Behind

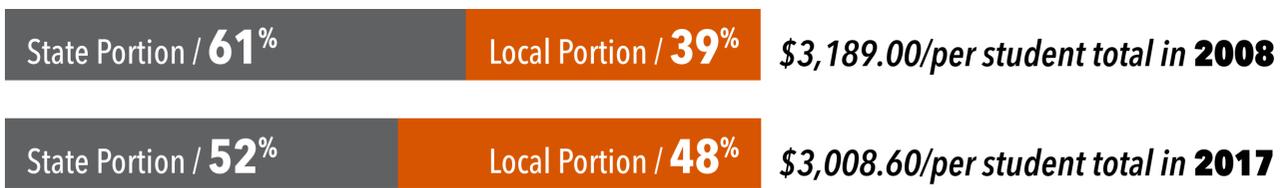


**OKLAHOMA** would have to raise funding by **\$1.3B** annually to match the regional average for per-student spending.

**IN THE LAST NINE YEARS** Oklahoma has seen a **26.9% CUT**

in public school funding. This cut is the deepest in the nation, and **GROWING.**

Since 2009 Broken Arrow Public Schools has seen a \$7.8 million drop in funding. This has resulted in \$267 fewer per student and has shifted the burden of education funding to local taxpayers by 9 percent.



## A Crisis Looms

Oklahoma struggles to keep experienced teachers in the classroom with compensation falling below all of its neighboring states and an average teacher pay ranked 3rd lowest in the nation in the 2015-16 school year.



A teacher in Oklahoma **NEEDS 34 YRS** of teaching experience to match the starting salary of a teacher in Texas.



**10%** of **OKLAHOMA'S MOST EXPERIENCED TEACHERS LEAVE** the state or profession **EVERY YEAR.**

- » The state Board of Education issued 1,063 emergency teaching certificates in 2015-16. That is an increase of over 3,200 percent compared to the 32 certificates issued in 2011-12.
- » The number of students completing teacher prep programs declined 24% between 2005-06 and 2013-14 and is expected to continue.
- » **The projected demand for teachers in Oklahoma will continue to out-pace the supply.** (Sources: OSSBA, State Department of Education. An Empirical Analysis of Teacher Salaries and Labor Market Outcomes in Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Regents for Higher Education).

## Make Education A Priority

Nationally, students with a high school diploma earn \$10,000 more a year (on average), they pay approximately \$2,500 more a year in taxes and are also less likely to engage in criminal behavior or require social services. Additionally, they enjoy better health and longer life expectancy.

### By making education a priority we can:

- » Increase high school graduation and postsecondary degree completion
- » Increase in companies relocating to our state
- » Job growth and higher-paying salaries
- » Innovation and prosperity
- » Decrease in crime and citizens requiring social services
- » Better health and longer life expectancy
- » More educated and skilled workforce to handle a more diverse economy

### A 13% increase in the high school graduation rate in Tulsa county would mean . . .

- » Earnings increase by \$34 million.
- » Spending increases by \$26 million.
- » Home sales increase by \$44 million.
- » Gross regional product increases by \$43 million.
- » Local/state tax revenue increases by \$2.6 million. (The Alliance for Excellent Education/ all4ed.org)

Contact your state senator  
[www.oksenate.gov/Senators](http://www.oksenate.gov/Senators)

Contact Your State Representative  
[www.okhouse.gov/Members](http://www.okhouse.gov/Members)