

Basketball attendance rules for spring semester

Starting Feb. 1, NOC is allowing fans on a very limited basis to basketball games. NOC policy states that all participants will adhere to Northern Oklahoma College Pandemic Policies. Facemasks will be required at all times while in the fieldhouse. Those in attendance need to maintain social distance of at minimum 6 feet and use hand sanitizers.

To comply with NJCAA Region 2 Guidelines, the gymnasium will be limited to 25% of maximum seating capacity. Due to distances required around the team benches, cheer squad, and pep band, the maximum number of fans allowed in the gym for each game will be 165 people in Tonkawa and 180 people in Enid. There will be no general admission or season tickets issued.

Each student athlete including cheerleaders will receive two complimentary (free) passes for each contest. NOC coaches must provide the office of athletics the completed pass list by 9 a. m. on gameday or the Friday before weekend games. NOC coaches and athletic administration will be allowed two tickets per game to share with recruiters or others. Advance requests for a press pass for sportswriters and photographers will be honored. NOC will provide the required 20 tickets per team for visiting opponents. These visitors will sit in a designated area.

There will be 20 free tickets available through a lottery system each game for NOC students and NOC employees to be placed on the pass list. There will also be a lottery of 20 free tickets for alumni, community members and friends of the College. Those wishing to be in the ticket pass drawing should complete the lottery form online https://www.noc.edu/athletics/basketball-pass-lottery/.

Those selected will be notified by 9 a.m. on gameday or the Friday before weekend games. Each guest will submit to non-contact temperature screening of less than 100.4 to be allowed entrance to venue. Guests must present an ID to match the name listed on the pass list to receive a complimentary bracelet to be allowed admission. The bracelet must be worn and visible throughout the contest. The bracelet only allows admission to games on a specific date.

Concessions will not be available this season and there will be no food or drink allowed in the gym. Guests will enter the main doors and exit the designated exit following contest. Tonkawa; Guests will exit Southeast doors. Enid Guests will exit Northwest doors. A separate set of guidelines is in place for athletes, coaches, officials, and the scorers' table per NJCAA Region 2 rules. These guidelines are shared with these respective groups. To ensure the safety of our students, staff, and visiting teams Northern Oklahoma College respectfully requests guests attending the games to fully cooperate with the protocols described above.

Most home games and electronic programs should be streamed for online viewing for those unable to attend in person. https://www.noc.edu/athletics/streaming/ Plan is subject to change and updated as needed. For more information, please contact student affairs at leeanna.bowling@noc.edu, 580.628.6240 (Enid/Tonkawa) or athletic director at alan.foster@noc. edu, 580.628.6345 (Tonkawa), or 580.548.2345 (Enid).





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Tammy Davis chosen as the NOC Division Chair for Language Arts

NOC Stillwater Language Arts instructor Tammy Davis has been selected as the NOC Division Chair for Language Arts.

Davis earned her Bachelor's Degree at Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas and Master's Degree at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. Davis has taught at Northern Oklahoma College since 2003 when the NOC Gateway Program opened its doors. She is a co-sponsor for President's Leadership Council on the Stillwater campus. Prior to her employment with NOC, she taught at Pratt Community College in Pratt, Kansas for 11 years and through EDUKAN, an online Kansas consortium, for five years. Davis is excited about her new role fellow NOC and her instructors at "I am excited to continue working alongside fantastic instructors in the Language Arts Division," Davis said.

"Tammy Davis has 15 years of experience at Northern so is well familiar with processes, but she has also demonstrated innovation in developing community partnerships and a strong commitment to student service at all levels in academic advising and instruction," said Dr. Pam Stinson, Vice President for Academic Affairs. Davis replaces Dr.



Cathy Moore who retired from NOC in December.

Scholarship applications for Fall 2021

Oklahoma College Northern is continuing to accept scholarship applications for Fall 2021. Applicants applying for the Presidential Leadership Scholarship, the NOC/OSU Gateway Ambassadors Scholarship or the State Regents Academic Scholarship must apply by Feb. 20. Priority deadline for all other scholarships is Feb. 20 with scholarships awarded to qualified applicants on a first come, first serve basis until Aug. 25. To apply, simply apply for admission to NOC, apply for financial aid and then fill out the scholarship form at <u>www.noc.edu/scholarships</u>. https://www.noc.edu/assets/uploads/ sites/740/2020/12/NOC-Scholarship-Application-12-11-2020.pdf

For the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget, the college allocated over \$2.7 million in waivers and scholarships support, which is 11.6% of our operational budget. These waivers and scholarships continue to assist our students with academic accomplishments and participation in college activities. Additionally, through the NOC Foundation during the 2019-2020 academic year, the Foundation awarded over \$245,000 in scholarships to 392 recipients from the Tonkawa, Enid and Stillwater campuses. So far, this 2020-2021 academic year, NOC has awarded over \$94,000 in scholarships to students. According to Sheri Snyder, Vice President for Development and Community Relations, "PLC and State Regents scholarships will be awarded based on the upcoming February 20 deadline. However, priority deadline for all other scholarships, which will begin February 20, is ongoing with scholarships awarded to qualified applicants on a first come, first serve basis until August 25."

To be considered for scholarships, applicants are required to complete the Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa. ed.gov (Northern's Title IV Institutional Code is 003162) within 30 days of accepting a scholarship award.

For a complete listing of all scholarships available, please visit our website at <u>www.noc.edu/scholar-</u> <u>ships</u>. For more information contact the NOC Scholarship Office at 580-628-6760 or <u>scholarships@noc.edu</u>.

OSU partners with NOC to boost completion rates for underrepresented students

STILLWATER, Oklahoma-- Oklahoma State University has partnered with Northern Oklahoma College and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) in an initiative aimed at increasing transfer rates for minority, first-generation and adult students.

Funded by ECMC Foundation and Ascendium Education Group, the Equity Transfer Initiative (ETI) will award up to \$27,500 to partnerships between community colleges and four-year institutions to advance and align transfer pathways to increase transfer and completion rates for underrepresented student populations.

The initiative, led by the AACC, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), includes 16 partnerships from 13 states involving 17 community colleges and 19 universities.

Cheryl Kleeman, director of the OSU Transfer and Student Veteran Success office, said the initiative presented two important opportunities for OSU: The ability to serve a largely marginalized population of students and the opportunity to strengthen its partnership with NOC.

"We had already been working on ways to better support transfer students between our two institutions, and the ETI was a natural progression," Kleeman said. "The ETI also aligns with one of OSU's highest priorities to promote a more diverse and inclusive environment. The ETI gives us the ability to build seamless pathways into OSU for underrepresented transfer students, which will lead them to high-demand careers."

"NOC values its partnership with OSU and is thankful for the opportunity through the Equity in Partnership grant to strengthen that relationship even further in assisting more students with smooth transfers," said Dr. Pamela Stinson, NOC vice president for academic affairs. "The application deadline for the grant required a quick turnaround, but the institutional research offices and other leads on both campuses worked hard and quickly to provide the necessary data and narrative to support how readily our institutions could build on the existing partnership."

The ETI aims to serve 6,000 students over the two-year project period. Each team must place at least 100 students on one of five identified transfer pathways by the end of the first year and a total of 300 or more by the end of the second year.

AACC President and CEO Walter G. Bumphus said he is delighted to see the project come to fruition. "As a part of AACC's Unfinished Business initiative, it is vitally important for community colleges to close the equity and achievement gaps," he said. "The Equity Transfer Initiative is designed to focus on new and evidence-based equity strategies that will ensure the successful completion of degrees that lead to family-sustaining wages."

Participants will receive transfer coaching support to advance work plans that include: An assessment of the current and/or newly proposed relationship between two-year and four-year institutions to identify obstacles and develop response strategies that lead to a strong transfer relationship. A review of current and/or new transfer pathways through an equity lens, specifically identifying evidence-based equity strategies or new innovative equity strategies that allow students to matriculate without losing credits or increasing the time to earn a degree. Partnerships/consortia will also have access to technical assistance provided by subject matter experts, participate in convenings to teach and learn from each other, and inform the development of train-the-trainer tools that colleges can use to strengthen their transfer pathways. Additionally, participants will focus on strengthening student support services and ensuring that culturally competent counseling and other interventions are considered viable ways to serve these students.

"As an African-American and first-generation college student, equity in transfer is personal for me," said Angel M. Royal, AACC's chief of staff. "It is not lost on me that I could have easily been a part of statistics that show the increasing equity gaps in transfer rates for underrepresented students. In order to address these barriers to success, we must face it head on and implement strategies like the ETI that allow colleges to reframe their transfer strategies and truly move the needle in the right direction."

For more information, visit http://okla.st/eti.

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HAVE A KNACK FOR WRITING?



NOC needs student contributors for *The Maverick* and *Red & Silver Review* online student newspapers.

For details, please contact Scott Cloud at scott.cloud@noc.edu or 680.628.6444



