

STEM@RSU

CAMPAIGN FOR THE CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



ROGERS STATE
UNIVERSITY

A TRANSFORMATIVE MOMENT FOR **RSU**

Few moments in the history of a university can truly be labeled as transformational.

In the nearly 25-year history of Rogers State University, one such moment came in August of 2000, when the school received accreditation as a four-year regional university. It signaled a new beginning and set the stage for RSU to grow into one of Oklahoma's leaders in higher education.

A quarter century later, RSU is on the cusp of another transformational moment, one that will have a profound effect on the future of Northeast Oklahoma and the state as a whole.

The new Center for Science and Technology (CST) will transform RSU into a leader in STEM education and serve as a regional catalyst for workforce and economic development. The 52,000 square foot, \$30 million facility will serve as home to some of RSU's fastest growing and in-demand programs, such as chemical engineering, cybersecurity, environmental conservation, and pre-medicine programs. The CST also will support courses in nursing and allied health.

The CST will allow RSU to compete for the best and brightest students and faculty. Students will have the opportunity to study in a state-of-the-art facility and engage in research and internship opportunities. Most importantly, students will now have the ability to study here, work here and live here.

Understanding the importance of the CST to the region and state, the State of Oklahoma is committing \$10 million to the project, while RSU also will make a major investment of funds.

The RSU Foundation has committed to raise \$8 million in private funds to complete the project. The Cherokee Nation has supported its belief in this initiative by providing a lead gift of \$4 million. We now embark on the **STEM@RSU Campaign** to raise the final \$4 million in private support needed to construct and equip the facility.

You can be a part of this transformational project by committing to support the **STEM@RSU Campaign**. A tax-deductible gift to the campaign through the Rogers State University Foundation will help move the CST from dream to reality.

Are you ready to play a part of history? Learn more at www.rsu.edu/STEM.



This gift of \$4 million toward construction of a state-of-the-art STEM education facility will create new pathways for students to pursue careers in health and allied health fields and bring new opportunities for all students, including Cherokee citizens.

Chuck Hoskin, Jr.
Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation

The CST Will Fulfill a Critical Need for **RSU'S FUTURE**

The Center for Science and Technology (CST) has been a critical need of Rogers State University for many years. The Campus Master Plan developed in 2014 identified the need for a new building to house science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses.

The current home for RSU's science and technology programs is Loshbaugh Hall, which was constructed in 1955 when the school was a two-year institution with a small enrollment. The building is no longer capable of meeting the demand of today's more advanced STEM courses, new academic programs, and the university's growing enrollment. The facility also has significant maintenance issues and renovation is not a cost-effective option.

Today, more than 1,000 of RSU's students are majoring in STEM related programs and the number is growing. STEM courses currently are being taught in numerous buildings across campus because of a lack of space. Even space in the library must be utilized because of a lack of classrooms and offices.

The Center for Science and Technology will become the home for many of the university's STEM programs, including chemical engineering, medical molecular biology (pre-medicine), cybersecurity and information assurance, unmanned aerial systems, applied technology, and environmental conservation. The CST also will be utilized to fulfill STEM courses that support the general education curriculum and other rapidly growing programs such as nursing and allied health.

RSU has established a project budget of \$30,000,000 for construction, required equipment and furnishings. Construction is expected to begin in the second half of 2025.



It's important that you give to this project because it's the future. It's the future of the workforce for Oklahoma, particularly northeast Oklahoma. We have to have this new STEM building if we are going to prepare men and women for those critical occupations we already have plus those the future will demand.

Dr. Larry Rice

STEM@RSU Campaign
Chairman and President
Emeritus

The CST Will be an Economic Driver for **OKLAHOMA**

Economic development in Oklahoma, particularly in STEM industries, is hampered by the lack of a highly educated workforce. The CST will provide RSU with a facility that will allow it to produce more graduates to fill these jobs.

RSU already plays an important role in providing an educated and skilled workforce for Tulsa, and its graduates also impact industries located at the nearby MidAmerica Industrial Park in Pryor, and the Tulsa Ports of Catoosa and Inola. RSU is the only public residential regional university that has its main campus located in the Tulsa metropolitan area.

Economic growth requires regional ownership and partnership amongst business, industry, state agencies, and institutions of education. The Center for Science and Technology at RSU would provide current and planned future training for 27 of the top 100 critical occupations defined by Oklahoma Works.

An example of how RSU can impact workforce needs is in engineering. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Oklahoma needs a minimum of 3,000 new engineers annually over the next nine years to keep up with workforce demands. Currently, Oklahoma's accredited engineering programs graduate only 1,500 students per year, and half of those

graduates leave the state. Oklahoma ranks in the bottom 20 in engineers per capita.

In the fall of 2023, RSU welcomed the first class of students to its new bachelor's degree program in chemical engineering, the first engineering degree at RSU and the first chemical engineering degree offered at a regional university. In its first two years, enrollment in the program is double the projected number, and all of the students are from Oklahoma.

Northeast Oklahoma's healthcare industry also is dependent upon RSU for bachelor's degree prepared registered nurses. There are 7.5 nurses per 1,000 Oklahoma residents, ranking the state 46th in the nation for nurses per capita, according to data compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Science courses in chemistry and biology are required for students competing for acceptance into the program. In the spring of 2023, RSU and Saint Francis Health System launched a partnership to expand the nursing program to include a portion of its degree program in nursing at the Saint Francis Hospital medical campus in Tulsa. Since 2022, the number of students in RSU's nursing program has doubled to nearly 160.



Rogers State University geographically sits among Oklahoma's largest economic development corridor. A contribution toward the construction of the Center for Science and Technology is an investment in our future. This allows us to better recruit and retain high technology companies which would then bring world-class job opportunities.

Meggie Froman-Knight
Executive Director of Claremore Economic Development

The Plan for CST

The Center for Science and Technology brings STEM students, faculty, staff, and regional business partners together for 21st century learning and research. The facility will include:



INSTRUCTIONAL LABS

Multi-functional labs with flexible furniture and fixtures to provide an enhanced environment for teaching and learning with opportunities for future growth



RESEARCH LABS

Modern labs for focused research by faculty and students



ACTIVE-LEARNING SPACES

Integrated technology for high-tech, collaborative learning



COLLABORATION SPACES

Spaces for learning, studying and team building to foster cross-disciplinary engagement



MAKER-SPACES

Hands-on spaces to make, create and innovate projects and technologies of all types



If someone is considering making a gift towards the Center for Science and Technology, I would highly encourage them to think not only about the students and how they're going to enable them to better learn and to create a better learning environment, but also how they're going to equip the professors to handle these growing programs here at RSU.

Dakotah Eaton
RSU Chemical Engineering Student

PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATES FOR THE CST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Building of 52,000 square feet:	\$26,000,000
Lab furniture, fixtures and equipment:	\$1,500,000
Technology:	\$700,000
Design and consulting fees:	\$1,820,000
Total estimated cost:	\$30,000,000

Recognizing the need for the CST, the State of Oklahoma committed \$10,000,000 in public funds for the project. In addition, RSU has received approval to issue up to \$12,000,000 of bonded indebtedness.

Additional private funds of \$8 million are required to fully fund the project.

The **STEM@RSU** Campaign

The Rogers State University Foundation has accepted the responsibility of raising the \$8 million in private funds for the CST. In May of 2024, the Cherokee Nation provided a leadership gift of \$4 million.

To secure the remaining \$4 million, the Foundation has begun the STEM@RSU Campaign. In addition to raising needed funds, the campaign will raise awareness of STEM programs at RSU and the need for private funds to sustain their growth.

We ask you to make a gift to the STEM@RSU Campaign that will support the facility as a crucial investment in transforming STEM education and enriching student education at RSU for years to come. Naming opportunities are available.

Gifts to the campaign made through the Foundation are tax-deductible and can be made through a variety of options.

CASH GIFTS

Gifts of cash are accepted and can be made to the Foundation in person, through the mail or online at **www.rsu.edu/give**. Cash gifts may be structured to be payable over time through a pledge to the Foundation. Monthly gifts via credit card or bank debit are also available.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Gifts of marketable stocks or mutual fund shares provide significant opportunities to support the campaign. Foundation staff can assist you in transferring appreciated securities, which can provide significant tax advantages.

GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE AND OTHER ASSETS

The Foundation will consider accepting gifts of real estate and other marketable assets, such as precious metals. Please contact Foundation staff to discuss a gift of this nature.

GIFTS FROM DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Donor-advised funds are becoming an increasingly popular way to make a charitable gift. DAFs can provide you with immediate tax benefits while making your charitable giving easier. To help you make a gift to the RSU Foundation from your DAF, use our legal name and federal tax ID.

Legal Name:

Rogers State University Foundation, Inc.

Address:

1701 W. Will Rogers Blvd., Claremore, OK 74017

Federal Tax ID Number:

73-0957262

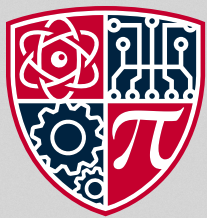
MAKE YOUR GIFT TO THE STEM@RSU CAMPAIGN

Your gift to the STEM@RSU Campaign presents a transformational opportunity to make an investment in Rogers State University, its students and faculty, and in the economic growth of Oklahoma. To discuss your gift, please contact:

Dr. Larry Rice, President Emeritus and Campaign Chair – 918.978.1953 or lrice@rsu.edu

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CAMPAIGN FOR THE CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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