

Eastern Oklahoma State College  
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<http://www.eosc.edu>

## **Eastern and KTC recognized at Partnership Recognition Program**

(Press Release 05-07-10)

Eastern Oklahoma State College and Kiamichi Technology Centers along with 21 other business and higher education partnerships throughout the state were recognized for their innovative collaborations that further the education of Oklahoma's workforce.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Economic Development Grant for the Partnership Recognition Program is designed to highlight successful partnerships between higher education institutions and businesses and to further cultivate the higher learning environment through State Regents' Economic Development Grants.

"The relationship between Eastern and Kiamichi Technology Centers (KTC) is one that has grown to benefit students of all ages in southeastern Oklahoma," Eastern President Dr. Steve Smith said.

KTC and Eastern initiatives include: the College and Career Tour and the Cooperative Alliance program. The annual College and Career Tour brings in 1,000 eighth-grade students to the McAlester Expo Center to learn more about career options after high school.

The event exposes these young people to more than 80 business and industry companies, colleges and universities, non-profit groups, KTC programs along with various state agencies.

The Cooperative Alliance program allows secondary and adult students to earn up to 30 hours of college credit while they are enrolled in a KTC program.

KTC partners with Eastern to allow college classes to be offered at the KTC-Antlers campus as a way to support higher education opportunities in an area where no higher education opportunities were available.

"This "first-year" experience for students provides them an opportunity to get into the higher education pipeline and pursue a college degree. Without KTC, these opportunities would not be available to the people in this area," Smith said.

Institutions involved in these partnerships provide \$500 for tuition waivers to employees of the partnering businesses, internships for current students of the institutions to work at the partnering businesses, faculty externships with the partnering businesses, and/or enhancement of the partnership with additional equipment, materials or supplies. The State Regents provide a \$500 match to the waivers.

"To improve Oklahoma's future, we need higher education and businesses to develop successful partnerships and training programs. Through these partnerships, students receive hands-on, career-related experiences and better preparation for college," said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.

“With these partnerships in place, Oklahoma can better train future employees and strengthen its position in the global marketplace,” he said.

Other partnerships recognized for 2010 include: Cameron University and BancFirst –Connors State College and Arvest Bank –Langston University-Oklahoma City and Tinker Federal Credit Union –Murray State College and Scott Pet Foods –Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and Integris Baptist Regional Health Center and Foundation –Northeastern State University and Walmart –Northern Oklahoma College and Stillwater Medical Center –Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Arysta LifeScience North America and Brine Electric –Oklahoma City Community College and Oklahoma Natural Gas –Oklahoma Panhandle State University and Guymon Fire Department –Oklahoma State University and Triton Scientific LLC –Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City and Total Environment Inc. –Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology and MidAmerica Industrial Park –Redlands Community College and Oklahoma Tool & Machine –Rogers State University and the City of Claremore - Rose State College and Tinker Air Force Base –Seminole State College and BancFirst –Southeastern Oklahoma State University and the City of Durant –Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Dougherty Forestry Manufacturing –Tulsa Community College and Dick Conner Correctional Center –Western Oklahoma State College and Altus Air Force.



Caption info:

Eastern Oklahoma State College representatives and those from Kiamichi Technology Centers attending the Partnership Recognition Program awards reception last week included, from left: Eastern President Dr. Steve Smith, Eastern McAlester campus Director Nikki Heath, Eastern Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Karen Harrison, KTC Information Systems Coordinator Larry Cravens, KTC Superintendent Eddie Coleman, KTC Deputy Superintendent Shelly Free and KTC Human Resources Manager Jay Warren.