



OKLAHOMA CITY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# RESOURCE

HR EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

## November 2024

### Updates & News

### Holiday Schedule

**The OCCC Campus will be closed:**

**Nov. 11 in observance of Veteran's Day**

**Nov. 25-29 for the Thanksgiving Holiday**

## Years of Service

### 25 Years

Michael Reeves

### 5 Years

Connor Traynor

### 1 Year

Daraja Stewart

Kesley Gittens

David Haywood

Terry Mendez

Laura Watts

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## A Warm Welcome to OCCC's Newest Team Members

**Miranda Hughes**

Student Success Advisor I

**Dr. Melissa Brevetti**

Director of Grants

**Eiran Rodriguez**

Equity and Compliance Coordinator

**Camille McGinnis**

Director of Talent Management

**Shenoa Largo**

Administrative Assistant -  
Veterans Services

**Noah Wolf**

Director of Institutional Effectiveness

**Matthew Switzer**

Staff Attorney

**Taylor Masterson**

Campus Police Officer

**Chloe Morgan**

Sales Associate P/T

**Jessica Stuart**

Sales Associate P/T

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## Benefits & Wellness

### Wellness Week

Wellness Week was a hit! We had full participation in the biometric screenings, flu shots AND hearing tests. Thank you to everyone who came out and participated or volunteered.

And congrats to all the Wellness Fair basket winners!



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## Introducing Pet Insurance

We are excited to share that, starting Jan. 1, 2025, we will offer pet insurance through Nationwide as a valuable benefit for our employees. We have listened to your requests, and we are proud to provide a way to protect your furry family members in an unpredictable world. Nationwide® Pet Insurance helps you care for your pets while also safeguarding your finances by reimbursing eligible veterinary bills for accidents, illnesses, preventive care, and more.

As an OCCC employee, you will enjoy exclusive pricing when you enroll, making this essential coverage even more accessible. Our plans cover dogs, cats, birds, and exotic pets, and you have the freedom to choose any veterinarian, including specialists and emergency care providers.

Nationwide is the oldest and largest pet health insurance provider in the nation and is the top choice for pet insurance in America. Here is what you can expect:

- **Exclusive employee pricing**
- **Visit any veterinarian, anywhere**
- **Flexible reimbursement options (70% or 50%)**
- **Affordable \$250 annual deductible**
- **Savings on pet prescriptions with Nationwide® PetRxExpress**
- **Simple online claim submissions**
- **Unlimited 24/7 pet health advice from experts at Vethelpline®**

## Join Us for Informational Webinars

We invite you to learn more about this exciting benefit by attending one of our upcoming webinars. You can sign up using the links below:

**Tuesday, Nov. 19, 10 a.m**

**Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2 p.m.**

### **Ready to Enroll?**

To enroll in pet insurance starting in 2025, you have two easy options:

- Visit the dedicated OCCC Nationwide link [here](#).
- Call 877-738-7874 and mention you are an OCCC employee to access preferred pricing.

### **Important Enrollment Deadline**

Please remember that elections made before Dec. 15, 2024, will take effect on Jan. 1, 2025. Any initial enrollments after this date will be effective on Feb. 1, 2025.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your Benefits Team at ext. 7808 or 7569.

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## **Election Day Voting Leave**

OCCC supports civic engagement by granting Eligible Employees paid time off for voting in local, state, and national elections, per Oklahoma law. Employees may receive up to two hours of paid voting leave if their schedules don't allow a three-hour window outside of work hours to vote. To qualify, employees should inform their supervisors by the day before the election and provide proof of voting. Supervisors will designate specific voting hours to ensure minimal disruption. Alternatively, OCCC may adjust work schedules on election days to provide a three-hour window outside of working hours.

For additional information, please refer to the Employee Handbook or contact [hrbenefits@occc.edu](mailto:hrbenefits@occc.edu).

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## **Retirement Inquiries**

Paul Mariconda, 403b Corebridge Financial Advisor, has added some dates to his meeting schedule for any employee who may need to meet with him concerning their 403b/Roth 403b retirement account. This would also be an excellent opportunity for new employees to meet with Paul to learn more about the 403b and Roth 403b benefits offered by OCCC. Paul will be available for both virtual and in-person meetings, or employees may arrange to schedule meetings on additional dates by contacting him at [paul.mariconda@corebridgefinancial.com](mailto:paul.mariconda@corebridgefinancial.com).

To schedule please click the links below or send Paul an email to schedule a different date.

[Click here for in-person appointments](#)

[Click here for phone/virtual appointments](#)

Please feel free to contact your Benefits Team at ext. 7569 if you need further information or assistance with your 403b.

Thank you,

Your OCCC Benefits Team

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## Lung Cancer Awareness Month



BlueResource<sup>SM</sup> - Healthy Lifestyle - Protecting Your Lungs

**Stop Smoking, Start Healing** 

The minute you stop smoking is the minute your lungs start to heal. When you quit, you begin to breathe easier. You also reduce your risk for lung cancer and other lung diseases.



Sources: Benefits of Quitting, American Lung Association, 2020.  
Benefits of Quitting Smoking, American Cancer Society, 2018.  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation,  
a Mutual Legal Reserve Company, an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association      Enter Group Name Here  
9100-300-0620

## Danger Swirls in Secondhand Smoke

Looking for another good reason to quit smoking? Keeping your family and friends safe from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke is a good one! Secondhand smoke may cause complex health issues that could lead to death. Keep this in mind before you light up:

- Secondhand smoke contains hundreds of toxic chemicals.
- Even brief contact with secondhand smoke can trigger a heart attack.
- Secondhand smoke can cause ear infections and asthma in children.
- In infants, secondhand smoke can cause death.

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## Vaping Makes It Harder to Stop Smoking

Switching from cigarettes to vaping actually makes it harder to quit as it is just as addictive. About 28% of smokers who use vaping are less likely to quit. Here's what you need to know about vaping:

Many e-cigs, vaping pens and other vape devices may contain nicotine.

Nicotine is considered as addictive as cocaine and heroine.

One vaping dose can contain as much nicotine as 20 regular cigarettes.

E-cig vapor may contain harmful chemicals and metals.

Vaping has been linked to cases of serious lung injury.

## Employee Assistance Program

Six free, confidential face-to-face sessions or unlimited phone counseling - for you and your family!

OCCC EAP provider: SupportLinc

[Supportlinc@curalinc.com](mailto:Supportlinc@curalinc.com)

[www.supportlinc.com](http://www.supportlinc.com)

**Access Code:** occc

1-888-881-5462

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