

August 27, 2024
Select Oklahoma Conference

State Certified Incubators



Panelists

- ▶ **Cara Evans**
AXIS at Francis Tuttle Incubator
Edmond, Okla.
- ▶ **Kristin Garcia**
The VERGE Entrepreneurship Hub
Oklahoma City, Okla.
- ▶ **Brad Rickelman**
Meridian Technology Center Business Incubator
Stillwater, Okla. and Guthrie, Okla.
- ▶ **Cathy Curtis**
Oklahoma Department of Commerce
State Certified Incubator Program

Characteristics of Model Business Incubation Programs

Commit

to business incubation's two core principles

Obtain

consensus on a mission that defines the incubator's role in the community, then develop a strategic plan containing quantifiable objectives to achieve that mission

Structure

the program for financial sustainability by developing and implementing a realistic business plan

Recruit

and appropriately compensate management capable of achieving the incubator's mission and helping companies grow

Build

an effective board of directors committed to the incubator's mission and to maximizing management's role in developing successful companies

Prioritize

management time to place the greatest emphasis on client assistance, including proactive advising and guidance that results in company success and wealth creation

Develop

an incubator facility, resources, methods and tools that contribute to the effective delivery of business assistance to client firms, as well as address each company's developmental needs

Develop

stakeholder support, including a resource network, that helps the incubation program's client companies and supports the incubator's mission and operations

Maintain

a management information system and collect statistics and other information necessary for ongoing program evaluation, thus improving effectiveness and allowing the program to evolve with clients' needs

The Best Incubators Provide:

- **Flexible space and leases**
- **Office services and equipment**
- **An on-side incubator manager as a resource for business advice**
- **Exposure to a network of outside business and technical consultants, often providing accounting, marketing, engineering and legal advice**
- **Assistance with marketing**
- **Assistance with financing**

Oklahoma Certified Incubators Map

Number of incubators
in the area



State Certified Incubator Locations List

Bartlesville

Tri-County Tech

Cushing

Central Oklahoma Business &
Job Development Corp

Duncan

Duncan Center for Business Development

Drumright (2)

Central Oklahoma Business &
Job Development Corp

Edmond

AXIS at Francis Tuttle

Enid

Strate Center for Business Development

Guthrie

Meridian Technology Center –
The Peak

Guymon

Artist Incubation, Inc.

Lawton

Great Plains Technology Center

Midwest City

Rose State College Aerospace
and Cybersecurity Incubator

Norman

Startup 405

Oklahoma City (5)

Acorn Growth Companies

Project 3810

The Verge

LX Studio Business Incubator

Sailor & The Dock

Pawhuska

Pawhuska Business Development Center

Ponca City

Pioneer Technology Center Business
Incubator

Sand Springs

The LINK

Seminole

Seminole Business Development Center

Stillwater (2)

Meridian Technology Center for Business
Development

Riata Startup Experience (OSU)

Tonkawa

Tonkawa Business Incubator

Tulsa (3)

Hemphill Create

The Forge

36 Degrees North

Oklahoma Incubator Program Growth 2023 Report



405

full time jobs, 107 part time jobs and 25 interns are provided by incubator tenants



25

certified incubators are operating in Oklahoma



147

small businesses are currently leasing space in Oklahoma's certified incubators



\$27,890,810

Incubator managers reported the total payroll for 2023 tenants at \$27,890,810 with additional payments of \$11,115,266 to subcontractors.



1,000+

More than 1,000 small businesses have located in small business incubators



300+

More than 300 small businesses have graduated from the program



1,080

people currently employed by 246 of the graduated businesses in the state

Thank You!

For more information, visit:
OKcommerce.gov/incubators



Contact:
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