



NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE of the PRESIDENT

December 13, 2024

Dr. Brandon Tatum, Executive Director
Regional University System of Oklahoma
305 N.W. 5th #407
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Dear Executive Director Tatum:

Following RUSO policy to inform member institutions, Northeastern State University will submit a Letter of Intent to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) indicating NSU's intent to seek approval to offer a new bachelor's degree.

Institution: Northeastern State University

Official Degree Designation & Program Title: Bachelor of Science in Military Science

Location: Tahlequah and Broken Arrow

Delivery Method: Online and face-to-face delivery

Contact Information: Dr. Carla Swearingen, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Short Description of the proposed program

The Bachelor of Science in Military Science program is designed to equip students with a comprehensive understanding of military theory, practice, and operations. This interdisciplinary program integrates studies in leadership, strategy, project management, communications, security studies, and military history, providing a robust foundation for those aspiring to excel in military or defense-related careers. Emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking, decision-making skills, and ethical leadership qualities necessary for effective service and command.

A Summary of the Employment Demand

The degree will provide an interdisciplinary foundation in collaboration, teamwork, communication, resilience, management, and leadership skills. National data shows that individuals with degrees in Military Science average more than \$100,000 per year, with the most likely employer being one of the branches of the US Military or companies in defense

industries. The degree builds useful skills in project management, operations and planning, data interpretation, and analysis. The most common occupations for graduates of a program in military science are at the executive level in various fields, such as law enforcement, education, human resources, business, management, and information technology. More than half of individuals who complete a degree in Military Science will continue their education to complete a graduate degree.

How the Program Addresses an Unmet Need in the State

The degree inventory maintained by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education does not show any other Bachelor of Science in Military Science programs. According to the 2019 American Community Survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, Oklahoma ranks eleventh among states with a veteran population of **8.8%**. The state has a strong military presence, including many veterans and active service members. Furthermore, about 25.1% of Oklahoma residents have some college experience but lack a degree. This unique degree program offers a valuable opportunity for active-duty personnel, reserves/guard, and veterans to leverage their military training and previous college credits towards obtaining a degree aligned with their occupational goals.

Sincerely,



Rodney S. Hanley, Ph.D.
President

cc: Dr. Carla Swearingen, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Cari Keller, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Audell Shelburne, Dean, College of Liberal Arts