



Weather. It's in the Air in Oklahoma!

- The Weather Sphere is a university, federal, state and private industry partnership growing to become the international leader in weather-and-related education and training, research and development, and operations and services.
- The Weather Sphere is a one-stop shop for world-class, end-to-end weather and climate information solutions.
- Weather Sphere programs are leaders in observing systems, data assimilation, numerical modeling, forecast products and information, and societal applications.
- The Weather Sphere also includes non-technical entities called “Friends” who support weather and climate-related education, research and operations. Examples are the Norman Chamber of Commerce and the Norman Economic Development Coalition.
- The National Weather Center is the anchor facility of the Weather Sphere. Adjacent to the NWC are Partners Place buildings housing private industry and university research units.
- Collaborative Weather Sphere Examples: Radar (SMART-R, ARRC and RIL, MPAR, etc.); Focused research activities (Spring Prediction Experiment, VORTEX II); Professional development (access to the best students via Career Fairs, continuing education opportunities with the best practitioners, researchers, and teachers, Weather Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol); and Outreach (school group tours, symposia, town hall meetings, etc.)
- The Weather Sphere brand was created by the University of Oklahoma in conjunction with the Norman Economic Development Coalition, funded by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, and supported by the leadership of Weather Sphere participants.
- ***ABOUT PARTICIPATION*** -- The Weather Sphere helps bring together collaborative partners in weather-related fields including university, federal, private industry, state and friends. We are excited to talk to you about the opportunities that exist here for cooperation in research and development,

education and training, and operations and services. Please contact us with any questions you have. We look forward to hearing from you! For information about participating in the Weather Sphere, please contact John T. Snow at (405) 325-3095 or jsnow@ou.edu .

- ***WEATHER SPHERE: Private Industry Partners*** meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - Have a signed Strategic Alliance Agreement (SAA) with the University of Oklahoma.
 - Have a Sponsored Research Agreement (SRA) or other contractual relationship with OU in the area of weather- and/or climate-related research and development.
 - Have a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) or other contractual relationship with an Oklahoma-based federal or state agency in the area of weather- and/or climate-related research and development.
 - Provide regular formal internships or similar opportunities to students enrolled in weather- and/or climate-related programs of the College of Engineering and/or the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences.

- ***WEATHER SPHERE: Private Industry Subsets*** exist based upon location. At this time, two classifications are in place.
 - **Weather Sphere: Oklahoma Alliance** -- Weather-related companies with a physical presence in Oklahoma.
 - **Weather Sphere: Norman Campus Neighbors** -- Weather-related companies having a physical presence on the University of Oklahoma Research Campus.

- ***ABOUT NOAA'S INVOLVEMENT*** -- NOAA is supportive of collaboration throughout the environmental information enterprise, as described in the NOAA Policy on Partnerships in the Provision of Environmental Information, and in this context, NOAA is supportive of the collaborative framework established in the National Weather Center facility and across the University Research Campus in Norman, Oklahoma. However, NOAA supports collaborative relationships with all members of the nation's environmental information enterprise – NOAA's collocation with the University of Oklahoma Weather and Climate programs and other participants in "The Weather Sphere" should not be taken as implying a special relationship with these participants.