The average Oklahoma teacher will earn an estimated $54,256 in pay and benefits in the 2020-2021 school year.

That's a 20% increase over five years ago when average teacher compensation was $45,292.

While the legislature approved an average pay raise of $7,300 during the 2017 and 2018 sessions, the nearly $9,000 increase over the last five years means districts also directed other resources into teacher pay.
Surrounding states are also increasing public education investment, causing Oklahoma’s teacher compensation to drop just below the $54,943 average of surrounding states.

**Colorado**, which already led the region in teacher pay, saw an increase of nearly $3,000 since last year and became the first of surrounding states to top $60,000 in average teacher pay.

**Kansas** increased its average teacher pay by more than $2,600 and now ranks just behind Oklahoma with average pay of $53,932.

Missouri and Arkansas have the lowest teacher pay in the region, although the **Arkansas** legislature is currently considering a $2,000 pay increase.

Source: National Education Association, Annual Rankings & Estimates Report