

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 217

6 By: Thompson

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 [teacher certification - pilot program - ~~effective~~
9 ~~date -~~ emergency]

10
11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-133 of Title 70, unless there
14 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15 A. As used in this section:

16 1. "Provider" means an eligible entity that seeks or has
17 obtained approval of an alternative teacher preparation program
18 consistent with this section; and

19 2. "Program" means content provided by a provider that leads
20 toward licensure in a specific content area.

21 B. The State Board of Education shall identify providers to
22 implement new and innovative pathways toward teacher certification
23 on a pilot program basis. Providers seeking to participate in the
24

1 pilot program shall submit applications to the State Board of
2 Education.

3 C. A provider chosen by the State Board of Education to
4 participate in the pilot program shall offer a program that:

5 1. Provides evidence and history of fiscal solvency, capacity,
6 operation and program effectiveness;

7 2. Provides evidence of necessary infrastructure to provide
8 accurate, timely and secure data for the purpose of admission,
9 teacher candidate monitoring, testing and certification
10 recommendations;

11 3. Has policies and procedures in place ensuring the security
12 of teacher candidate records under applicable laws and regulations;

13 4. Has the instructional capacity or ability to obtain the
14 instructional capacity to provide adequate instruction in accordance
15 with this subsection;

16 5. Offers an instructional phase that provides intensive
17 preparation before the teacher candidates assume classroom
18 responsibilities;

19 6. Offers a research-based and results-oriented approach
20 focused on best teaching practices to increase student achievement
21 and growth measured against state academic standards;

22 7. Provides assessment, supervision and evaluation of teacher
23 candidates to determine their specific needs throughout the program
24 and to support efforts to successfully complete the program;

1 8. Provides intensive and ongoing professional development
2 opportunities that accelerate a teacher candidate's professional
3 growth, support student learning and provide a workplace
4 orientation, professional staff development and mentoring;

5 9. Offers peer review focused on standards of professional
6 practice and continuous professional growth; and

7 10. Provides a process to review a teacher candidate's final
8 competency of required certification content standards that leads to
9 a potential candidate being recommended for teacher certification in
10 accordance with subsection F of this section.

11 D. The State Board of Education shall ensure that providers
12 approved to participate in the pilot program allow teacher
13 candidates to demonstrate pedagogy and content standard proficiency
14 in school-based programs and through other nontraditional means.
15 Nontraditional means may include but not be limited to previous work
16 experience, teacher experience, educator evaluations, industry-
17 recognized certifications and other essentially equivalent
18 demonstrations.

19 E. If the State Board of Education determines that a provider
20 fails to meet or is deficient in any of the requirements of this
21 section, it may suspend or revoke the approval of the provider after
22 providing notification of the deficiencies and an opportunity to
23 remedy the deficiencies.

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1 F. A teacher candidate that completes a program offered by an
2 approved provider shall be eligible for certification, provided he
3 or she meets the certification requirements set forth in Section 6-
4 187 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes in the area of
5 specialization for which certification is sought and is recommended
6 for certification by the approved provider.

7 G. The State Board of Education shall issue a certificate to
8 teach to any person who meets the requirements set forth in this
9 section and who has on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
10 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
11 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
12 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
13 The person applying for the certificate shall be responsible for the
14 cost of the criminal history records.

15 H. A provider shall submit a report to the State Department of
16 Education after one year of operation showing the percentage of
17 teacher candidates who have completed the program and who have
18 successfully completed or who have failed the competency
19 examinations for certification and the provider's efforts to help
20 candidates successfully pass the examinations. A provider shall
21 annually submit evidence to the State Department of Education after
22 the pilot year with evidence of the success of the program.

23 I. The State Board of Education may promulgate rules to
24 implement the provisions of this section.

1 ~~SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2019.~~

2 ~~SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation~~
3 ~~of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby~~
4 ~~declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and~~
5 ~~be in full force from and after its passage and approval.~~

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