

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 26, 2019

3 SENATE BILL NO. 996

By: David

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7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 11-103.6, as last amended by Section 1,
9 Chapter 241, O.S.L. 2018 (70 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section
10 11-103.6), which relates to subject matter standards;
11 including certain block course to the units or sets
12 of competencies for mathematics and laboratory
13 science; updating statutory reference; providing an
14 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 11-103.6, as
17 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 241, O.S.L. 2018 (70 O.S. Supp.
18 2018, Section 11-103.6), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 11-103.6. A. 1. The State Board of Education shall
20 adopt subject matter standards for instruction of students in the
21 public schools of this state that are necessary to ensure there is
22 attainment of desired levels of competencies in a variety of areas
23 to include language, mathematics, science, social studies and
24 communication.

1 2. School districts shall develop and implement curriculum,
2 courses and instruction in order to ensure that students meet the
3 skills and competencies as set forth in this section and in the
4 subject matter standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

5 3. All students shall gain literacy at the elementary and
6 secondary levels. Students shall develop skills in reading,
7 writing, speaking, computing and critical thinking. For purposes of
8 this section, critical thinking means a manner of analytical
9 thinking which is logical and uses linear factual analysis to reach
10 a conclusion. They also shall learn about cultures and environments
11 - their own and those of others with whom they share the earth.
12 Students, therefore, shall study social studies, literature,
13 languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall
14 provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in
15 cooperation with technology center schools.

16 4. The subject matter standards shall be designed to teach the
17 competencies for which students shall be tested as provided in
18 Section 1210.508 of this title, and shall be designed to prepare all
19 students for active citizenship, employment and/or successful
20 completion of postsecondary education without the need for remedial
21 coursework at the postsecondary level.

22 5. The subject matter standards shall be designed with rigor as
23 defined in paragraph 3 of subsection F of this section.

1 6. The subject matter standards for English Language Arts shall
2 give Classic Literature and nonfiction literature equal
3 consideration to other literature. In addition, emphasis shall be
4 given to the study of complete works of literature.

5 7. At a minimum, the subject matter standards for mathematics
6 shall require mastery of the standard algorithms in mathematics,
7 which is the most logical, efficient way of solving a problem that
8 consistently works, and for students to attain fluency in Euclidian
9 geometry.

10 B. Subject to the provisions of subsection C of this section,
11 in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the
12 State Board of Education with a standard diploma, students shall
13 complete the following college preparatory/work ready curriculum
14 units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

15 1. Four units or sets of competencies of English to include
16 Grammar, Composition, Literature, or any English course approved for
17 college admission requirements;

18 2. Three units or sets of competencies of mathematics, limited
19 to:

20 a. Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math

21 Analysis, Calculus, Advanced Placement Statistics, ~~or~~

22 b. any mathematics course with content and/or rigor above
23 Algebra I and approved for college admission
24 requirements, or

1 c. a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)
2 block course meeting the requirements for course
3 competencies listed in this paragraph, whether taught
4 at a:

5 (1) comprehensive high school, or

6 (2) technology center school when taken in the
7 tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by
8 a certified teacher, and approved by the
9 State Board of Education and the independent
10 district board of education;

11 3. Three units or sets of competencies of laboratory science
12 approved for college admission requirements, including:

13 a. one unit or set of competencies of life science,
14 meeting the standards for Biology I~~+~~,

15 b. one unit or set of competencies of physical science,
16 meeting the standards for Physical Science, Chemistry
17 or Physics~~;~~ and,

18 c. one unit or set of competencies from the domains of
19 physical science, life science or earth and space
20 science such that the content and rigor is above
21 Biology I or Physical Science, or

22 d. a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)
23 block course meeting the requirements for course
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competencies listed in this paragraph, whether taught
at a:

(1) comprehensive high school, or

(2) technology center school when taken in the tenth,
eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified
teacher, and approved by the State Board of
Education and the independent district board of
education;

4. Three units or sets of competencies of history and
citizenship skills, including one unit of American History, 1/2 unit
of Oklahoma History, 1/2 unit of United States Government and one
unit from the subjects of History, Government, Geography, Economics,
Civics, or non-Western culture and approved for college admission
requirements;

5. Two units or sets of competencies of the same foreign or
non-English language or two units of computer technology approved
for college admission requirements, whether taught at a high school
or a technology center school, including computer programming,
hardware, and business computer applications, such as word
processing, databases, spreadsheets, and graphics, excluding
keyboarding or typing courses;

6. One additional unit or set of competencies selected from
paragraphs 1 through 5 of this subsection or career and technology
education courses, concurrently enrolled courses, Advanced Placement

1 courses or International Baccalaureate courses approved for college
2 admission requirements; and

3 7. One unit or set of competencies of fine arts, such as music,
4 art, or drama, or one unit or set of competencies of speech.

5 C. In lieu of the requirements of subsection B of this section
6 which requires a college preparatory/work ready curriculum, a
7 student may enroll in the core curriculum as provided in subsection
8 D of this section upon written approval of the parent or legal
9 guardian of the student. For students under the age of eighteen
10 (18) school districts shall require a parent or legal guardian of
11 the student to meet with a designee of the school prior to
12 enrollment in the core curriculum. The State Department of
13 Education shall develop and distribute to school districts a form
14 suitable for this purpose, which shall include information on the
15 benefits to students of completing the college preparatory/work
16 ready curriculum as provided for in subsection B of this section.

17 D. For those students subject to the requirements of subsection
18 C of this section, in order to graduate from a public high school
19 accredited by the State Board of Education with a standard diploma,
20 students shall complete the following core curriculum units or sets
21 of competencies at the secondary level:

22 1. Language Arts - 4 units or sets of competencies, to consist
23 of 1 unit or set of competencies of grammar and composition, and 3
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units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- a. American Literature,
- b. English Literature,
- c. World Literature,
- d. Advanced English Courses, or
- e. other English courses with content and/or rigor equal to or above grammar and composition;

2. Mathematics - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1 unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- a. Algebra II,
- b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual methodology,
- c. Trigonometry,
- d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,
- e. Calculus,
- f. Statistics and/or Probability,
- g. Computer Science or acceptance and successful completion of one (1) year of a full-time, three-hour career and technology program leading to an industry credential/certificate or college credit. The State Board of Career and Technology Education shall

1 promulgate rules to define the provisions of this ~~act~~
2 section related to the accepted industry-valued
3 credentials which are industry-endorsed or industry-
4 aligned. The list of accepted industry-valued
5 credentials shall be reviewed annually and updated at
6 least every three (3) years by the Board,

7 h. (1) contextual mathematics courses which enhance
8 technology preparation, or

9 (2) a science, technology, engineering and math
10 (STEM) block course meeting the requirements for
11 course competencies listed in paragraph 2 of
12 subsection B of this section, whether taught at
13 a:

14 (a) comprehensive high school, or

15 (b) technology center school when taken in the
16 tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by
17 a certified teacher, and approved by the
18 State Board of Education and the independent
19 district board of education,

20 i. mathematics courses taught at a technology center
21 school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject
22 area when taken in the tenth, eleventh or twelfth
23 grade upon approval of the State Board of Education
24 and the independent district board of education, or

j. any other mathematics course with content and/or rigor equal to or above Algebra I;

3. Science - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1 unit or set of competencies of Biology I or Biology I taught in a contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies in the areas of life, physical, or earth science or technology which may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- a. Chemistry I,
- b. Physics,
- c. Biology II,
- d. Chemistry II,
- e. Physical Science,
- f. Earth Science,
- g. Botany,
- h. Zoology,
- i. Physiology,
- j. Astronomy,
- k. Applied Biology/Chemistry,
- l. Applied Physics,
- m. Principles of Technology,
- n. qualified agricultural education courses,
- o. (1) contextual science courses which enhance technology preparation, or

1 (2) a science, technology, engineering and math
2 (STEM) block course meeting the requirements for
3 course competencies listed in paragraph 3 of
4 subsection B of this section, whether taught at
5 a:

6 (a) comprehensive high school, or

7 (b) technology center school when taken in the
8 tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by
9 a certified teacher, and approved by the
10 State Board of Education and the independent
11 district board of education,

12 p. science courses taught at a technology center school
13 by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area
14 when taken in the tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade
15 upon approval of the State Board of Education and the
16 independent district board of education, or

17 q. other science courses with content and/or rigor equal
18 to or above Biology I;

19 4. Social Studies - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist
20 of 1 unit or set of competencies of United States History, 1/2 to 1
21 unit or set of competencies of United States Government, 1/2 unit or
22 set of competencies of Oklahoma History, and 1/2 to 1 unit or set of
23 competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the
24 following courses:

- a. World History,
- b. Geography,
- c. Economics,
- d. Anthropology, or
- e. other social studies courses with content and/or rigor equal to or above United States History, United States Government, and Oklahoma History;

5. Arts - 1 unit or set of competencies which may include, but is not limited to, courses in Visual Arts and General Music; and

6. Computer Education or World Language - 1 unit or set of competencies of computer technology, whether taught at a high school or a technology center school, including computer programming, hardware and business computer applications, such as word processing, databases, spreadsheets and graphics, excluding keyboarding or typing courses, or 1 unit or set of competencies of foreign or non-English language.

E. 1. In addition to the curriculum requirements of either subsection B or D of this section, in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the State Board of Education students shall complete the requirements for a personal financial literacy passport as set forth in the Passport to Financial Literacy Act and any additional course requirements or recommended elective courses as may be established by the State Board of Education and the district school board. School districts shall strongly

1 encourage students to complete two units or sets of competencies of
2 foreign languages and two units or sets of competencies of physical
3 and health education.

4 2. No student shall receive credit for high school graduation
5 more than once for completion of the same unit or set of
6 competencies to satisfy the curriculum requirements of this section.

7 3. A school district shall not be required to offer every
8 course listed in subsections B and D of this section, but shall
9 offer sufficient courses to allow a student to meet the graduation
10 requirements during the secondary grade years of the student.

11 F. For purposes of this section:

12 1. "Contextual methodology" means academic content and skills
13 taught by utilizing real-world problems and projects in a way that
14 helps students understand the application of that knowledge;

15 2. "Qualified agricultural education courses" means courses
16 that have been determined by the State Board of Education to offer
17 the sets of competencies for one or more science content areas and
18 which correspond to academic science courses. Qualified
19 agricultural education courses shall include, but are not limited
20 to, Horticulture, Plant and Soil Science, Natural Resources and
21 Environmental Science, and Animal Science. The courses shall be
22 taught by teachers certified in agricultural education and comply
23 with all rules of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology
24 Education;

1 3. "Rigor" means a level of difficulty that is thorough,
2 exhaustive and accurate and is appropriate for the grade level;

3 4. "Sets of competencies" means instruction in those skills and
4 competencies that are specified in the subject matter standards
5 adopted by the State Board of Education and other skills and
6 competencies adopted by the Board, without regard to specified
7 instructional time; and

8 5. "Unit" means a Carnegie Unit as defined by the North Central
9 Association's Commission on Schools.

10 G. 1. The State Board of Education shall adopt a plan to
11 ensure that rigor is maintained in the content, teaching
12 methodology, level of expectations for student achievement, and
13 application of learning in all the courses taught to meet the
14 graduation requirements as specified in this section.

15 2. The State Board of Education shall allow as much flexibility
16 at the district level as is possible without diminishing the rigor
17 or undermining the intent of providing these courses. To accomplish
18 this purpose, the State Department of Education shall work with
19 school districts in reviewing and approving courses taught by
20 districts that are not specifically listed in subsections B and D of
21 this section. Options may include, but shall not be limited to,
22 courses taken by concurrent enrollment, advanced placement, or
23 correspondence, or courses bearing different titles.

1 3. The State Board of Education shall approve an advanced
2 placement computer science course to meet the requirements of course
3 competencies listed in paragraph 2 of subsection B of this section
4 if the course is taken in a student's senior year and the student is
5 concurrently enrolled in or has successfully completed Algebra II.

6 4. Technology center school districts may offer programs
7 designed in cooperation with institutions of higher education which
8 have an emphasis on a focused field of career study upon approval of
9 the State Board of Education and the independent district board of
10 education. Students in the tenth grade may be allowed to attend
11 these programs for up to one-half (1/2) of a school day and credit
12 for the units or sets of competencies required in paragraphs 2, 3
13 and 6 of subsection B or D of this section shall be given if the
14 courses are taught by a teacher certified in the secondary subject
15 area; provided, credit for units or sets of competencies pursuant to
16 subsection B of this section shall be approved for college admission
17 requirements.

18 5. If a student enrolls in a concurrent course, the school
19 district shall not be responsible for any costs incurred for that
20 course, unless the school district does not offer enough course
21 selection during the student's secondary grade years to allow the
22 student to receive the courses needed to meet the graduation
23 requirements of this section. If the school district does not offer
24 the necessary course selection during the student's secondary grade

1 years, it shall be responsible for the cost of resident tuition at
2 an institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,
3 fees, and books for the concurrent enrollment course, and providing
4 for transportation to and from the institution to the school site.

5 It is the intent of the Legislature that for students enrolled
6 in a concurrent enrollment course which is paid for by the school
7 district pursuant to this paragraph, the institution charge only the
8 supplementary and special service fees that are directly related to
9 the concurrent enrollment course and enrollment procedures for that
10 student. It is further the intent of the Legislature that fees for
11 student activities and student service facilities, including the
12 student health care and cultural and recreational service fees, not
13 be charged to such students.

14 6. Credit for the units or sets of competencies required in
15 subsection B or D of this section shall be given when such units or
16 sets of competencies are taken prior to ninth grade if the teachers
17 are certified or authorized to teach the subjects for high school
18 credit and the required rigor is maintained.

19 7. The three units or sets of competencies in mathematics
20 required in subsection B or D of this section shall be completed in
21 the ninth through twelfth grades. If a student completes any
22 required courses or sets of competencies in mathematics prior to
23 ninth grade, the student may take any other mathematics courses or
24 sets of competencies to fulfill the requirement to complete three

1 units or sets of competencies in grades nine through twelve after
2 the student has satisfied the requirements of subsection B or D of
3 this section.

4 8. All units or sets of competencies required for graduation
5 may be taken in any sequence recommended by the school district.

6 H. As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State
7 Board of Education, all students in grades nine through twelve shall
8 enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block
9 scheduling or other scheduling structure that allows for instruction
10 in sets of competencies, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous
11 vocational courses each day, which may include arts, vocal and
12 instrumental music, speech classes, and physical education classes.

13 I. 1. Academic and vocational-technical courses designed to
14 offer sets of competencies integrated or embedded within the course
15 that provide for the teaching and learning of the appropriate skills
16 and knowledge in the subject matter standards, as adopted by the
17 State Board of Education, may upon approval of the Board, in
18 consultation with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology
19 Education if the courses are offered at a technology center school
20 district, be counted for academic credit and toward meeting the
21 graduation requirements of this section.

22 2. Internet-based courses offered by a technology center school
23 that are taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching
24 and learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the subject

1 matter standards may, upon approval of the State Board of Education
2 and the independent district board of education, be counted for
3 academic credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of
4 this section.

5 3. Internet-based courses or vocational-technical courses
6 utilizing integrated or embedded skills for which no subject matter
7 standards have been adopted by the State Board of Education may be
8 approved by the Board, in consultation with the Oklahoma Department
9 of Career and Technology Education if the courses are offered at a
10 technology center school district, if such courses incorporate
11 standards of nationally recognized professional organizations and
12 are taught by certified teachers.

13 4. Courses offered by a supplemental education organization
14 that is accredited by a national accrediting body and that are
15 taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching and
16 learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the subject
17 matter standards may, upon approval of the State Board of Education
18 and the school district board of education, be counted for academic
19 credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of this
20 section.

21 J. The State Board of Education shall provide an option for
22 high school graduation based upon attainment of the desired levels
23 of competencies as required in tests pursuant to the provisions of
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1 Section 1210.508 of this title. Such option shall be in lieu of the
2 amount of course credits earned.

3 K. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and
4 approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of
5 specified levels of competencies in each area of the core
6 curriculum.

7 L. Children who have individualized education programs pursuant
8 to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and who
9 satisfy the graduation requirements through the individualized
10 education program for that student shall be awarded a standard
11 diploma.

12 M. Students who enter the ninth grade in or prior to the 2007-
13 08 school year who are enrolled in an alternative education program
14 and meet the requirements of their plans leading to high school
15 graduation developed pursuant to Section 1210.568 of this title
16 shall be awarded a standard diploma.

17 N. Any student who completes the curriculum requirements of the
18 International Baccalaureate Diploma Program shall be awarded a
19 standard diploma.

20 O. Any student who successfully completes an advanced
21 mathematics or science course offered pursuant to Section 1210.404
22 of this title shall be granted academic credit toward meeting the
23 graduation requirements pursuant to paragraph 2 or 3, as
24 appropriate, of subsection B or D of this section.

1 P. For purposes of this section, the courses approved for
2 college admission requirements shall be courses which are approved
3 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for admission to
4 an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

5 Q. Students who have been denied a standard diploma by the
6 school district in which the student is or was enrolled for failing
7 to meet the requirements of this section may re-enroll in the school
8 district that denied the student a standard diploma following the
9 denial of a standard diploma. The student shall be provided
10 remediation or intervention and the opportunity to complete the
11 curriculum units or sets of competencies required by this section to
12 obtain a standard diploma. Students who re-enroll in the school
13 district to meet the graduation requirements of this section shall
14 be exempt from the hourly instructional requirements of Section 1-
15 111 of this title and the six-period enrollment requirements of this
16 section.

17 R. The State Department of Education shall collect and report
18 data by school site and district on the number of students who
19 enroll in the core curriculum as provided in subsection D of this
20 section.

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

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

3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
4 February 26, 2019 - DO PASS
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