

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 SENATE BILL 1127

By: Standridge

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to teachers; providing short title;
8 amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.1, as amended by
9 Section 1, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp.
10 2019, Section 6-204.1), which relates to definitions
11 under the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act; updating
12 references; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.2,
13 as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 394, O.S.L.
14 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 6-204.2), which
15 relates to National Board certification; updating
16 references; directing the State Board of Education to
17 provide an annual bonus to teachers who meet certain
18 criteria beginning with certain school year;
19 establishing the amount of bonus to be provided
20 during certain school year; directing the State Board
21 of Education to determine the amount of annual bonus
22 to be provided during certain school years if certain
23 criteria are met; prohibiting a school or school
24 district from being liable for certain payments;
25 prohibiting the amount of certain bonus from being
26 included in certain calculation; allowing certain
27 teachers to receive certain bonus in addition to
28 certain salary increment; directing the State Board
29 of Education to promulgate certain rules; providing
30 for noncodification; providing an effective date; and
31 declaring an emergency.

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

33 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
34 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:
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1 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Teacher
2 Retention Act of 2020".

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.1, as
4 amended by Section 1, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019,
5 Section 6-204.1), is amended to read as follows:

6 Section 6-204.1. For purposes of the Education Leadership
7 Oklahoma Act:

8 1. "Salary bonus" means additional monies granted to eligible
9 teachers as provided for in subsection I of Section 6-204.2 of this
10 title maintaining National Board certification;

11 2. "Salary increment" means the National Board certification
12 salary category as set forth in Section ~~3 of this act~~ 18-114.14 of
13 this title which is granted to eligible teachers as provided for in
14 subsection I of Section 6-204.2 of this title maintaining National
15 Board certification;

16 3. "Certification" means National Board certification;

17 4. "Commission" means the ~~Oklahoma~~ Commission for ~~Teacher~~
18 ~~Preparation~~ Educational Quality and Accountability;

19 5. "National Board" means the National Board for Professional
20 Teaching Standards;

21 6. "National Board certification" means National Board
22 certification as provided by the National Board for Professional
23 Teaching Standards; and
24

1 7. "Teacher" means a classroom teacher, counselor, or librarian
2 employed by a public school district on a full-time basis.

3 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.2, as
4 last amended by Section 2, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp.
5 2019, Section 6-204.2), is amended to read as follows:

6 Section 6-204.2. A. The ~~Oklahoma~~ Commission for ~~Teacher~~
7 ~~Preparation~~ Educational Quality and Accountability and the State
8 Board of Education are authorized to establish the Education
9 Leadership Oklahoma program.

10 B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
11 are to:

12 1. Provide teachers throughout the state information about
13 National Board certification and the Education Leadership Oklahoma
14 program services;

15 2. Provide technical assistance and National-Board-certified
16 mentors to all teachers seeking National Board certification upon
17 request;

18 3. Reward teachers who are seeking National Board certification
19 by awarding them a portion of the application processing charge and
20 assessment fee and scholarship as provided in subsection D of this
21 section; and

22 4. Provide recognition to National-Board-certified teachers.
23
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1 C. To fulfill the objectives of the Education Leadership
2 Oklahoma Act, the ~~Oklahoma~~ Commission for ~~Teacher Preparation~~
3 Educational Quality and Accountability shall:

4 1. Inform teachers of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
5 and services it provides to teachers seeking National Board
6 certification, emphasizing recruiting efforts toward teachers at
7 high-poverty schools, schools identified as in need of improvement
8 and in counties with the lowest percentage of teachers who have
9 achieved National Board certification; and

10 2. Ensure that all teachers seeking National Board
11 certification receive adequate information regarding the level of
12 commitment required to acquire National Board certification.

13 D. The Commission shall select not more than one hundred
14 applicants to participate in the program each fiscal year for whom
15 the Commission shall pay one-half (1/2) of the application
16 processing charge and assessment fee for National Board
17 certification. The total amount paid by the Commission shall not
18 exceed One Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$1,300.00). In addition
19 the Commission shall also provide to the selected applicants a
20 scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to cover
21 other expenses associated with obtaining National Board
22 certification.

23 E. The Commission shall promulgate rules establishing a process
24 for accepting applications for the Education Leadership Oklahoma

1 program and for providing to applicants selected for the program up-
2 front payment of the application processing charge and assessment
3 fee and scholarship. If a selected applicant who receives the up-
4 front payment does not complete National Board certification within
5 three (3) years, the applicant shall repay the Commission the full
6 amount paid by the Commission pursuant to subsection D of this
7 section. All selected applicants who do not receive an up-front
8 payment and successfully complete National Board certification shall
9 be reimbursed by the Commission for the application processing
10 charge and assessment fee. The total amount of reimbursement paid
11 by the Commission shall not exceed One Thousand Three Hundred
12 Dollars (\$1,300.00).

13 F. It is the intent of the Legislature that the ~~Oklahoma~~
14 ~~Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ contract with Southeastern
15 Oklahoma State University to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma
16 program training in higher education teacher preparation programs in
17 the state to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain
18 National Board certification.

19 G. All teachers seeking National Board certification shall be
20 eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma program
21 training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National
22 Board certification process, free of charge.

23 H. Subject to district board of education policy or collective
24 bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be

1 granted to teachers seeking National Board certification for
2 National Board certification portfolio development. During the two
3 (2) days of the additional professional days granted to teachers for
4 National Board certification portfolio development, a substitute
5 teacher shall be provided by the school district at no cost to the
6 teacher.

7 I. 1. The State Board of Education shall provide to teachers
8 who attained National Board certification prior to June 30, 2013, a
9 bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) annually
10 over a ten-year period, to be paid no later than January 31 each
11 year. The Board shall provide a bonus to any teacher who attains
12 National Board certification after June 30, 2013, if the teacher was
13 selected for the Education Leadership Oklahoma program before June
14 30, 2013, or the teacher has submitted an application for National
15 Board certification to the National Board for Professional Teaching
16 Standards before June 30, 2013.

17 2. The teachers eligible to receive the annual bonus as
18 provided for in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall receive the
19 annual bonus for the ten-year duration of their National Board
20 certification and so long as they are teaching in the classroom
21 full-time in an Oklahoma public school. No school or school
22 district shall be liable for payment of bonuses pursuant to this
23 section.

1 3. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the
2 teacher's salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory
3 minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma
4 Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

5 4. Teachers eligible to receive the annual bonus as provided
6 for in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not be eligible to
7 receive the additional salary increment for National Board
8 certification as set forth in the minimum salary schedule in Section
9 ~~3 of this act~~ 18-114.14 of this title.

10 5. Teachers who attain National Board certification after June
11 30, 2013, shall be eligible to receive the additional salary
12 increments for National Board certification as set forth in the
13 minimum salary schedule in Section ~~3 of this act~~ 18-114.14 of this
14 title.

15 J. 1. Beginning July 1, 2020, the State Board of Education
16 shall provide an annual bonus to a teacher who:

- 17 a. has National Board certification and is teaching in
18 the classroom full-time in an Oklahoma public school,
19 b. received a district evaluation rating of "superior"
20 under the Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness
21 Evaluation System established pursuant to Section 6-
22 101.16 of this title during the previous school year,
23 c. has been appointed as a mentor teacher, as defined by
24 Section 6-182 of this title, and

1 d. has been recommended for a bonus by the school
2 principal and the school district superintendent and
3 the recommendation has been approved by the school
4 district board of education.

5 2. a. The amount of the bonus to be provided during the
6 2020-2021 school year shall be One Thousand Five
7 Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00),

8 b. The amount of the bonus to be provided during the
9 2021-2022 school year shall be increased by an amount
10 to be determined by the State Board of Education if
11 the amount appropriated for the financial support of
12 public schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
13 2021, is at least one-half of one percent (0.005%)
14 greater than the amount appropriated for the financial
15 support of public schools for the fiscal year ending
16 June 30, 2021. Provided, however, that the amount of
17 the bonus shall not be less than One Thousand Five
18 Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00),

19 c. The amount of the bonus to be provided during the
20 2022-2023 school year shall be increased by an amount
21 to be determined by the State Board of Education if
22 the amount appropriated for the financial support of
23 public schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
24 2022, is at least one percent (1%) greater than the

1 amount appropriated for the financial support of
2 public schools for the fiscal year ending June 30,
3 2022. Provided, however, that the amount of the bonus
4 shall not be less than One Thousand Five Hundred
5 Dollars (\$1,500.00), and

6 d. The amount of the bonus to be provided during any
7 subsequent school year shall be such that the sum of
8 the bonus provided pursuant to this section and the
9 additional salary increment for National Board
10 certification as set forth in the minimum salary
11 schedule in Section 18-114.14 of this title is no more
12 than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

13 3. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of
14 bonuses pursuant to this subsection.

15 4. The bonus provided pursuant to this subsection shall not be
16 included in the calculation of the teacher's salary for purposes of
17 meeting the district or statutory minimum salary schedule or for
18 purposes of compensating Oklahoma Teachers' Retirement System
19 contributions or benefits.

20 5. Teachers eligible to receive the annual bonus as provided
21 for in this subsection shall be eligible to receive the additional
22 salary increment for National Board certification as set forth in
23 the minimum salary schedule in Section 18-114.14 of this title but
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1 shall not be eligible to receive the bonus as provided for in
2 subsection I of this section.

3 ~~6.~~ K. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for a
4 process by which a National-Board-certified teacher will verify
5 that:

6 ~~a.~~ the

7 1. The National Board certification has not lapsed;

8 ~~b.~~ the

9 2. The teacher is still a full-time teacher; ~~and;~~

10 ~~c.~~ for

11 3. For teachers eligible for the bonus as provided for in
12 subsection I of this section, the teacher has not exceeded the limit
13 of annual bonus payments as provided for in paragraph 1 of ~~this~~
14 subsection I of this section; and

15 4. For teachers eligible for the bonus as provided for in
16 subsection J of this section, the teacher has met the requirements
17 set forth in paragraph 1 of subsection J of this section.

18 ~~J.~~ L. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma
19 State Regents for Higher Education incorporate the National Board
20 certification portfolio development into all programs in education
21 leading to a master's level degree.

22 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2020.

23 SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
24 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

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.

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