

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL NO. 593

By: Stanislawski

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; providing definitions;
8 requiring public schools and public charter schools
9 to offer certain computer science courses, content or
10 instruction by certain school year; requiring
11 computer science courses or instruction to meet
12 certain requirements; providing for certain funds to
13 be made available on a competitive grant basis to
14 provide certain high-quality professional learning
15 programs, contingent upon funding; establishing
16 eligibility to receive funds; providing for use of
17 funds; requiring grant applications for funds to be
18 submitted to the State Department of Education;
19 providing for contents of applications; directing the
20 State Department of Education to give preference to
21 certain applications; providing for carrying forward
22 of certain funds; requiring entities that receive
23 funds to submit certain report by certain date every
24 year; providing for contents of report; providing for
promulgation of rules; providing for codification;
providing an effective date; and declaring an
emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-103.6m of Title 70, unless
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1 1. "Computer science" means the study of computers and
2 algorithmic processes, including their principles, their hardware
3 and software designs, their implementation and their impact on
4 society. Content shall focus on teaching students how to create new
5 technologies not simply use technology and align to the Oklahoma
6 Academic Standards for Computer Science approved by the State Board
7 of Education in 2018;

8 2. "Computer science courses and content" means courses that
9 teach computer science either as stand-alone implementations or, for
10 elementary and middle school grades, embedded in other subjects;

11 3. "High-quality professional learning" means professional
12 development activities that:

- 13 a. clarify the conceptual foundations of computer
14 science,
- 15 b. teach research-based practices, including hands-on and
16 inquiry-based learning, and
- 17 c. are intended for existing teachers with or without
18 prior exposure to computer science; and

19 4. "High-quality professional learning providers" means
20 institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations or
21 private entities that have successfully designed, implemented and
22 scaled high-quality computer science professional learning for
23 teachers as defined in paragraph 3 of this subsection and approved
24 or recommended by the State Board of Education.

1 B. Beginning in the 2022-2023 school year:

2 1. Each public high school and public charter school that
3 includes high school grades in this state shall offer at least one
4 computer science course, which shall be offered in an in-person
5 setting or as an online course if the traditional in-person setting
6 is not feasible;

7 2. Each public middle school and public charter school that
8 includes middle school grades in this state shall offer instruction
9 in exploratory computer science; and

10 3. Each public elementary school and public charter school that
11 includes elementary school grades in this state shall offer
12 instruction in the basics of computer science and computational
13 thinking.

14 C. A computer science course or instruction in computer science
15 offered by a public school or public charter school shall:

16 1. Be of high quality, as defined by the State Board of
17 Education; and

18 2. Meet or exceed the subject matter standards and curriculum
19 requirements established by the State Board of Education pursuant to
20 Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

21 D. Contingent upon the availability of funds, One Million
22 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) shall be made available annually on a
23 competitive grant basis to eligible entities to develop and
24 implement high-quality professional learning programs for the

1 computer science courses and content required by subsection B of
2 this section. For the purposes of this section, "eligible entities"
3 includes:

4 1. A local education agency or a consortium of local education
5 agencies in this state, including public charter school
6 organizations; and

7 2. High-quality computer science professional learning
8 providers, including institutions of higher education in this state,
9 non-profit organizations or private entities working in partnership
10 with local education agencies.

11 E. The funds made available by subsection D of this section
12 shall be used for the following:

13 1. High-quality professional learning in computer science
14 content for teachers in grades kindergarten through twelve,
15 including travel reimbursement to attend workshops;

16 2. Credentialing for computer science teachers in grades
17 kindergarten through twelve, including career and technology
18 education and academic supplemental endorsements;

19 3. Supports for computer science professional learning in
20 grades kindergarten through twelve, including mentoring and
21 coaching;

22 4. Creation of resources to support implementation; and

23 5. Student recruitment.
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1 F. As a condition of receiving the funds provided for in
2 subsection D of this section, eligible entities shall submit a grant
3 application to the State Department of Education. The application
4 shall, at a minimum, address how the entity will:

5 1. Reach new and existing teachers with little to no computer
6 science background;

7 2. Use research- or evidence-based practices for high-quality
8 professional development;

9 3. Focus the professional learning on the conceptual
10 foundations of computer science;

11 4. Reach and support historically underrepresented students in
12 computer science;

13 5. Provide teachers with concrete experience with hands-on,
14 inquiry-based practices;

15 6. Accommodate the teacher's and student's needs in each
16 district and school; and

17 7. Ensure that participating districts begin offering the
18 courses or content area within same or next school year after the
19 teacher receives the professional learning.

20 G. The State Department of Education shall give preference to
21 grant applications for funding that:

22 1. Are submitted by local education agencies that are working
23 in partnership with providers of high-quality professional learning
24 for kindergarten through twelfth grade computer science;

1 2. Describe strategies to enroll female students,
2 underrepresented minority students, students who qualify for free or
3 reduced-price lunch, students with disabilities and English language
4 learners; and

5 3. Are submitted from rural or urban areas with a low
6 penetration of kindergarten through twelfth grade computer science
7 offerings, including local education agencies that partner to form
8 clusters of implementation.

9 H. Any funds available after allocations are made pursuant to
10 subsection D of this section shall carry forward to be made
11 available to eligible entities the following fiscal year.

12 I. Entities allocated funds pursuant to subsection D of this
13 section shall submit a report to the State Department of Education
14 on June 30 of each year. The report shall be posted on the State
15 Department of Education's website and shall include at a minimum:

- 16 1. The number of teachers prepared;
- 17 2. The number of students reached;
- 18 3. The gender, race and socioeconomic status of students
19 reached;
- 20 4. The number, gender, race and socioeconomic status of
21 students passing an advanced placement assessment; and
- 22 5. The number of teachers that started implementing computer
23 science course in middle school and high school grades, as well as
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1 the number of prepared teachers that attended high-quality
2 professional learning.

3 J. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules
4 necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

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

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

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