

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 POLICY COMMITTEE  
4 RECOMMENDATION

5 FOR

6 HOUSE BILL NO. 2854

By: Hasenbeck

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8 POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

9 An Act relating to higher education; declaring a  
10 moratorium on certain higher education course and  
11 program restrictions; providing for functional  
12 exceptions; defining term; providing for  
13 codification; providing an effective date; and  
14 declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4675 of Title 70, unless there  
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. Beginning on the effective date of this act and ending five  
20 (5) academic years thereafter, there is hereby declared a moratorium  
21 on the following higher education course and program restrictions:

22 1. Northern Oklahoma College's exclusive authority to offer all  
23 lower division courses and programs at the University Center at  
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1 Ponca City as provided by subsection B of Section 3213.1 of this  
2 title;

3 2. Connors State College's restriction to lower division  
4 classes and programs as provided by subsection B of Section 3405.1  
5 of this title;

6 3. Northeastern State University Muskogee branch's restriction  
7 to upper division classes and programs and graduate classes at  
8 masters level as provided by subsection B of Section 3405.1 of this  
9 title;

10 4. Oklahoma State University-Tulsa's restriction to upper  
11 division undergraduate courses and degree programs as provided by  
12 Section 4662 of this title;

13 5. Oklahoma State University's prohibition from duplicating  
14 undergraduate courses offered by Tulsa Community College as provided  
15 by Section 4665 of this title;

16 6. Oklahoma State University's prohibition from duplicating  
17 undergraduate degree programs offered by Langston University Branch  
18 in Tulsa as provided by Section 4667 of this title;

19 7. Langston University Branch in Tulsa's restriction to upper  
20 division undergraduate and graduate courses as provided by Section  
21 4667 of this title;

22 8. Northeastern State University in Tulsa's restriction to  
23 upper division undergraduate and graduate courses as provided by  
24 Section 4668 of this title;

1 9. Oklahoma State University-Tulsa's prohibition from  
2 duplicating undergraduate degree programs offered by Northeastern  
3 State University in Tulsa as provided by Section 4668 of this title;

4 10. Any restrictions imposed by law preventing two-year  
5 community colleges and junior colleges from offering upper division  
6 undergraduate courses and undergraduate degree programs; and

7 11. Any other geographical restrictions imposed by law  
8 restricting the offering of undergraduate courses or undergraduate  
9 degree programs at institutions of higher education with The State  
10 System of Higher Education.

11 B. The State Regents for Higher Education may approve  
12 functional exceptions. As used in this section, "functional  
13 exception" means an expansion or exception to assigned institutional  
14 function or mission to permit an institution of higher education  
15 within The State System of Higher Education to offer courses or  
16 degree programs outside the institution's assigned function or  
17 mission to meet unmet workforce needs.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

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

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