

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 2418

By: Fetgatter of the House

3 and

4 Frix of the Senate
5
6

7 An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 162,
9 Chapter 452, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section
10 6-122.3), which relates to adjunct teachers; updating
11 references; authorizing State Board of Career and
12 Technology Education to promulgate certain rules;
13 requiring the State Department of Education to work
14 with the Department of Career and Technology
15 Education to implement rules; providing an effective
16 date; and declaring an emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-122.3, as
19 last amended by Section 162, Chapter 452, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp.
20 2024, Section 6-122.3), is amended to read as follows:

21 Section 6-122.3. A. The State Board of Education shall grant
22 an alternative placement teaching certificate to a person who makes
23 application to the Board and meets the following criteria:

- 24 1. a. holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an
institution whose accreditation is recognized by the
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has

1 attained a retention grade point average of not less
2 than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale, or

3 b. has successfully completed a terminal degree, such as
4 a doctorate of philosophy, a doctorate in education,
5 professional doctorates, a master of fine arts degree
6 or a master of library science degree, from an
7 institution accredited by a national or regional
8 accrediting agency which is recognized by the
9 Secretary of the United States Department of
10 Education. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
11 Education shall be consulted to verify other terminal
12 degrees, or

13 c. holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an
14 institution whose accreditation is recognized by the
15 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has
16 qualified work experience in a field that corresponds
17 to an area of certification as determined by the State
18 Board of Education, and

19 d. in addition to the requirements of subparagraphs a, b
20 and c of this paragraph, has demonstrated competency
21 or completed a major in a field that corresponds to an
22 area of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary
23 Certificate or a Secondary Certificate as determined
24 by the State Board of Education or a vocational-

1 technical certificate as recommended by the Oklahoma
2 Department of Career and Technology Education;

3 2. Declares the intention to earn standard certification by
4 means of an alternative placement program in not more than three (3)
5 years. The State Board of Education shall determine the subject
6 matter and the number of clock or semester hours required for the
7 professional education component for each person making application
8 for an alternative placement teaching certificate based on the
9 criteria of paragraph 1 of this subsection.

10 The State Board of Education shall establish a core minimum of
11 six (6) semester hours or ninety (90) clock hours and a maximum of
12 eighteen (18) semester hours or two hundred seventy (270) clock
13 hours for the professional education component.

14 The requirements set forth in this subsection shall exclude all
15 student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of
16 subsection E of this section;

17 3. Has passed the subject area portion of the competency
18 examination required in Section 6-187 of this title in the area of
19 specialization for which certification is sought; and

20 4. Either presents a document from an accredited public school
21 district in this state offering employment in the area of
22 specialization for which certification is sought on condition that
23 the person enroll in an alternative placement program approved by
24 the State Board of Education or declares the intention to seek

1 employment as a teacher at an accredited public school district in
2 this state. The certificate granted pursuant to this subsection
3 shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the
4 purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this title, and the holder
5 of the certificate shall be considered an inductee for the purposes
6 of Section 6-195 of this title.

7 B. An alternative placement teaching certificate shall be
8 renewed for not more than a maximum of three (3) years upon
9 presentation of a document from an accredited public school district
10 in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of
11 specialization and a document from a teacher education institution
12 verifying satisfactory progress in an appropriate alternative
13 placement program.

14 C. Persons enrolled in an alternative placement program shall:

15 1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education
16 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,
17 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the
18 ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for
19 Educational Quality and Accountability to offer teacher education
20 programs, nor have enrolled in and subsequently failed courses
21 necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of the
22 program, except those persons who hold a certificate;

23

24

1 2. Have on file with the director of teacher education at an
2 Oklahoma institution of higher education a plan for meeting standard
3 certification requirements within three (3) years; and

4 3. Participate in an induction program as required in Section
5 6-195 of this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as
6 other inductees.

7 D. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the
8 requirements for certification and, upon demonstration by an
9 individual of specific competency in the subject area of
10 specialization, may grant a certificate to the individual. The
11 State Board may establish other requirements necessary to grant
12 exceptions.

13 E. The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
14 Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability, may grant an
15 exception to the requirement to complete a subject area examination
16 for initial certification in a field which does not require an
17 advanced degree pursuant to this section if the candidate has an
18 advanced degree in a subject that is substantially comparable to the
19 content assessed on a subject area examination. The degree shall be
20 from an institution accredited by a national or regional accrediting
21 agency which is recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department
22 of Education. The Commission shall provide the Board with the
23 necessary information to determine comparability.

1 F. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience
2 shall not be required of alternative placement program participants
3 for standard certification.

4 G. 1. The State Board of Education and the State Board of
5 Career and Technology Education shall promulgate rules authorizing
6 adjunct teachers who shall be persons with distinguished
7 qualifications in their field. Adjunct teachers shall not be
8 required to meet standard certification. A person employed as an
9 adjunct teacher pursuant to this subsection who does not hold a
10 valid certificate to teach shall not be considered a teacher as
11 defined by Section 1-116 of this title.

12 2. The State Department of Education shall work with the
13 Department of Career and Technology Education as necessary to
14 implement the rules promulgated by the State Board of Career and
15 Technology Education as authorized by paragraph 1 of this subsection
16 and applicable to adjunct teachers employed by the Department of
17 Career and Technology Education including, but not limited to,
18 issuing any necessary credentials.

19 H. Each teacher education institution shall provide the
20 ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission for
21 Educational Quality and Accountability an annual report of
22 information as specified by the Commission regarding participation
23 in the alternative placement programs offered by the institution.

1 I. ~~The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Commission
2 for Educational Quality and Accountability shall not accredit, renew
3 the accreditation of, or otherwise approve any teacher education
4 program of any institution of higher education in this state that
5 has not implemented alternative placement programs in at least four
6 areas of specialization including mathematics, science and a foreign
7 language. Each institution shall allow individuals who meet the
8 criteria of subsections A and C of this section to be:

9 1. Admitted to an alternative placement program without further
10 qualification; and

11 2. Offered the opportunity to complete the requirements for
12 standard certification set forth in subsection A of this section
13 during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year
14 of teaching with an alternative placement teaching certificate. Any
15 person seeking standard certification through an alternative
16 placement program shall be permitted to take necessary courses
17 during regular semesters if offered.

18 J. The criteria specified in subsection I of this section can
19 be met through a cooperative arrangement entered into by two or more
20 institutions of higher education.

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

22 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
23 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
24

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 Passed the House of Representatives the 25th day of March, 2025.

4

5

6

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

7

8

Passed the Senate the _____ day of _____, 2025.

9

10

Presiding Officer of the Senate

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24