

SHORT TITLE: Schools; defining youth apprenticeship programs;  
codification; effective date; emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

SENATE BILL NO. 507

By: Leftwich

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; defining youth apprenticeship programs; creating the Oklahoma Youth Apprenticeship Committee; providing for membership, appointment, reimbursement, powers and duties, and chair of committee; stating purpose of committee; authorizing State Board of Education to award certain grants; providing criteria for award of certain grants; requiring 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 14-127 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Legislature, recognizing the need for improved methods of helping secondary students make a smooth transition from high school to the workplace, hereby establishes guidelines for youth apprenticeship programs.

B. Youth apprenticeship programs shall be defined as learning programs for young people enrolled in vocational, common, and higher education that combine on-the-job learning with classroom instruction, that offer a bridge between secondary and post high

school training and education, and that result in certification of mastery of work skills.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 14-128 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Youth Apprenticeship Committee to operate until June 30, 1994. The Committee shall consist of thirteen (13) members as follows:

1. The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education or designee who shall also serve as committee chair;

2. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or designee;

3. The Chancellor of Higher Education or designee;

4. One superintendent of an area vocational and technical school district appointed by the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education;

5. One superintendent of an independent school district to be appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction;

6. One president of a state community or junior college appointed by the Chancellor of Higher Education;

7. Two members who represent the interests of labor, including one who represents the Bureau of Apprenticeship Training of the United States Department of Labor appointed by the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education;

8. Two members who are currently employed in business or industry appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction;

9. Two members who are currently employed in business or industry appointed by the Director of the State Department of Vocational and Technical Education; and

10. One member who represents a city chamber of commerce appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

B. Seven members of the committee shall constitute a quorum. A quorum must be present to transact any business of the committee. The committee is advisory in nature and shall meet as necessary to provide recommendations to the State Board of Education related to the administration of and standards for youth apprenticeship programs. The members of the committee shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in performing official duties in accordance with the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 14-129 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Contingent upon the appropriation of funds designated for youth apprenticeship grants, the State Board of Education is authorized to award one or more youth apprenticeship grants to nonprofit organizations that meet the criteria set forth in this section for youth apprenticeship programs. The State Board of Education shall consult with the Oklahoma Youth Apprenticeship Committee in making the awards.

B. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules setting forth the criteria and procedures for the award of youth apprenticeship grants. The criteria shall include but not be limited to:

1. Organization eligibility requirements. To be eligible for a grant, an organization shall be a corporation or unincorporated association recognized under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3), as being organized and operated exclusively for educational, religious, charitable, or other eleemosynary purposes, consisting of a consortium of at least one public educational institution, such as an independent school district, area vocational and technical school district, community

college, or junior college, and at least one private business or industry;

2. Program requirements. The proposed program shall include:

- a. substantial private business or industry input in setting occupational skill standards and curriculum,
- b. paid work experiences for youth apprentices,
- c. certification of skills mastery that leads to a transferrable credential,
- d. an articulated system of learning with close linkages between school and work, academic and vocational education, and secondary and postsecondary experiences,
- e. exposure to all aspects of a broad industry cluster with emphasis on high performance work skills along with mastery of a specific set of occupational skills,
- f. a minimum program length of two years, with at least one high school year and one postsecondary year,
- g. a requirement that the youth apprenticeship program will constitute the core of the student's education while student is in the program,
- h. structured integration of the workplace and classroom during academic learning and vocational and technical training, and
- i. a mentoring system for participants.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective April 1, 1993.

SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

