

SHORT TITLE: Schools; amending Education Leadership Oklahoma Act.
Effective date. Emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE BILL NO. 780

By: Roberts

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 3, Chapter 181, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 6-204.2), which relates to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act; modifying entity authorized to establish certain program; clarifying statutory references; specifying membership of certain applicant review committee; increasing number of scholarship recipients; specifying scholarship amount; mandating amount of certain pay bonus; creating Education Leadership Oklahoma Scholarship Revolving Fund; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 181, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 6-204.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-204.2 A. Subject to the availability of funds, the ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation and the~~ State Board of Education ~~are~~ is hereby authorized to establish the Education Leadership Oklahoma ~~Program~~ program.

B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma ~~Program~~ program are:

1. Provide teachers throughout the state information about the Education Leadership Oklahoma ~~scholarship~~ program scholarships and services;

2. Provide information and assistance to teachers seeking National Board certification;

3. Provide scholarships and assistance, pursuant to ~~this act~~ Section 6-204 et seq. of this title, for teachers seeking National Board certification; and

4. Select recipients and alternates for Education Leadership Oklahoma program scholarships.

C. To fulfill the ~~provisions~~ objectives of this act, the ~~Education Leadership Oklahoma Program~~ State Department of Education shall:

1. Inform teachers of the ~~existence of the~~ Education Leadership Oklahoma ~~Program~~ program and the scholarships and services it provides to teachers seeking National Board certification;

2. Collect and review applications to the scholarship program from interested teachers;

3. ~~Create~~ Establish an applicant review committee for the purpose of identifying ~~one hundred~~ scholarship recipients pursuant to this act for the Education Leadership Oklahoma ~~scholarship~~ program;

~~4. Select an appropriate number of alternates in the event that any scholarship recipient is unable to complete the certification process;~~ and

~~5.~~ 4. Ensure that all scholarship recipients and alternates receive adequate information regarding the level of commitment required to acquire National Board certification.

D. The applicant review committee shall:

1. Consist of five members selected by the State Board of Education, five members selected by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation, and three members selected by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The chair shall be designated by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction;

2. Select up to two hundred teachers for the 1998-99 class, up to four hundred teachers beginning with the 1999-2000 class, and the appropriate number of alternates; and

3. ~~The applicant review committee shall select~~ Select from the pool of applicants, teachers within the state who:

- 1- a. have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in teaching~~;~~
- 2- b. meet all eligibility requirements for potential certification as established by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards~~;~~
- 3- c. are employed in an Oklahoma public school~~;~~ and
- 4- d. meet other requirements of the ~~Commission~~ State Board of Education.

E. Subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the Legislature for the purposes of this subsection, the application fee for National Board certification shall be paid for scholarship recipients ~~shall have their application fee paid by the Commission~~ State Board of Education and scholarship recipients shall be provided a ~~five-hundred-dollar~~ scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to cover other expenses associated with obtaining National Board certification.

F. It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Education work with Southeastern Oklahoma State University to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma program training in higher education teacher preparation programs in the state to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain National Board certification.

G. All teachers seeking National Board certification shall be eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma ~~training programs that would~~ program training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National Board certification process, free of charge.

~~G. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Commission work with Oklahoma colleges and universities to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma training programs in higher education teacher preparation programs in the state, to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain National Board certification.~~

H. Subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the Legislature specifically for the purpose of this subsection, the State Board of Education shall provide ~~those~~ all teachers who attain National Board certification a ~~salary~~ bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) annually for as long as they maintain their National Board certification and teach in an Oklahoma public school. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of ~~salary~~ bonuses pursuant to ~~any provision of this act~~ this section.

I. The ~~salary~~ bonus shall not be included for the purposes of determining the minimum salary and fringe benefits of a National Board certified teacher.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-204.2a of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the State Board of Education to be designated the "Education Leadership Oklahoma Scholarship Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies appropriated or transferred to the fund by the Legislature. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the State Board of Education to provide assistance and scholarships for

candidates seeking National Board certification. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of State Finance for approval and payment.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 1998.

SECTION 4. 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.

46-2-1832

PHB