ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 788

By: Fisher, Capps, Dunlap, Herbert, Rozell, Leftwich, Wilkerson, Price, Muegge and Crutchfield of the Senate

and

Kinnamon of the House

[schools - curriculum standards - eligibility for the Oklahoma Tuition Scholarship Program - effective date - emergency]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 11-103.6, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 11-103.6), is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-103.6 A. The State Board of Education shall adopt curricular standards for instruction of students in the public schools of this state that are necessary to ensure there is attainment of desired levels of competencies in a variety of areas to include language, mathematics, science, social studies and communication. All students shall gain literacy at the elementary and secondary levels through a core curriculum. Students must develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, computing and critical thinking. They also must learn about cultures and environments - their own and those of others with whom they share the earth. Students, therefore, must study social studies, literature, languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in cooperation with vocational-technical education schools. The core curriculum shall be designed to teach the competencies for which students shall be tested as provided in Section 1210.508 of this

title, and shall be designed to prepare all students for employment and/or post secondary education.

B. Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, in order to graduate with a standard diploma from a public high school accredited by the State Board of Education, students shall complete the following core curriculum units at the secondary level:

1. Language Arts - 4 units, to consist of 1 unit of grammar and composition, and 3 units from the following language arts electives - American Literature ~~or~~ , English Literature ~~(which are required to qualify for the diploma of honor as provided for in Section 11-103.2 of this title)~~, World Literature, Advanced English Courses, or Speech;

2. Mathematics - 3 units, to consist of 1 unit of Algebra I, and 2 units from the following mathematics electives - Algebra II ~~or~~ , Geometry ~~(which are required to qualify for the diploma of honor as provided for in Section 11-103.2 of this title)~~, Trigonometry, Math Analysis ~~or~~ , Precalculus, Calculus, Statistics and/or Probability, Mathematics of Finance, Applied Mathematics I and II, or Computer Science. Provided, credit may be granted for Applied Mathematics I and II and Computer Science whether taught at the comprehensive high school or at a vocational-technical school;

3. Science - 3 units, to consist of 1 unit of Biology I, and 2 units from the following science electives - Chemistry I ~~or~~ , Physics ~~(which are required to qualify for the diploma of honor as provided for in Section 11-103.2 of this title)~~, Biology II, Chemistry II, Physical Science, Earth Science, Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Astronomy, or Applied Science (Biology/Chemistry, Physics, and Technology) or the ~~4th~~ fourth year of agriculture education when taken in the twelfth grade. Provided, credit may be granted for the Applied Science (Biology/Chemistry, Physics, and Technology) whether taught at the comprehensive high school or at a vocational-technical school; and

4. Social Studies - 3 units, to consist of 1 unit of United States History, 1/2 to 1 unit of United States Government, 1/2 unit of Oklahoma History, and 1/2 to 1 unit from the following social studies electives - World History ~~(which is required to qualify for the diploma of honor as provided for in Section 11-103.2 of this title)~~, Geography, Economics, Anthropology, Psychology, or Sociology.

For purposes of this section, a "unit" means a Carnegie Unit as defined by the North Central Association's Commission on Schools.

C. The State Board of Education shall adopt a plan to ensure that rigor is maintained in the content, teaching methodology, level of expectations for student achievement, and application of learning in all the courses specified in subsection B of this section. The State Board of Education shall allow as much option at the local district level as is possible without diminishing the rigor or undermining the intent of providing these courses. Local options may include, but shall not be limited to, comparable courses taken by concurrent enrollment or advanced placement, and comparable courses bearing different titles. Credit for the courses required in subsection B of this section shall be given when such courses are taken in the seventh or eighth grades if the teachers are certified to teach the courses at the intermediate or secondary level and the required course rigor is maintained.

D. As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State Board of Education, all students in grades nine through twelve shall enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block scheduling, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous vocational courses each day, which may include arts, vocal and instrumental music, speech classes, and physical education classes.

E. The State Board of Education shall provide an option for high school graduation based upon attainment of the desired levels of competencies as required in tests pursuant to the provisions of

Section 1210.508 of this title. Such option shall be in lieu of the amount of course credits earned.

F. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of specified levels of competencies in each area of the core curriculum. Provided, however, that children who have individualized education plans pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), P.L. No. 101-476 may be exempted from the requirements of this subsection.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 39, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 2612), is amended to read as follows:

Section 2612. A. To be eligible to participate in the Oklahoma Tuition Scholarship Program and qualify for payment of general enrollment fees pursuant to Section ~~40~~ 2613 of this ~~act~~ title, a student shall:

1. Be a resident of this state for a minimum of two (2) calendar years immediately prior to high school graduation. Provided, a student who is a dependent of a member of the armed services stationed in Oklahoma shall be eligible as a resident of the state for purposes of this section as long as the member is stationed in the state in full-time military service and under military orders;

2. Have graduated from a high school accredited by the State Board of Education or the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics and have been awarded a standard diploma ~~of honor~~ as provided for in Section 11-103.2c of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

3. Have graduated with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on an unweighted 4.0 scale;

4. Have obtained a score of 22 or higher on the American College Test;

~~4.~~ 5. Have a total adjusted gross family income from taxable and nontaxable sources of not more than Seventy Thousand Dollars ($70,000.00);

~~5.~~ 6. Have satisfied admission standards as determined by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for first-time-entering students for the appropriate type of institution or, if attending a private institution of higher learning located within the state and accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title or a postsecondary vocational-technical program or course offered pursuant to a duly approved cooperative agreement between an area vocational-technical school and an institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, have satisfied the admission standards for that private institution or vocational-technical program;

~~6.~~ 7. Have secured admission to, and enrolled in, an institution which is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, a postsecondary vocational-technical program or course offered pursuant to a duly approved cooperative agreement between an area vocational-technical school and an institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, or a private institution of higher learning located within this state and accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title;

~~7.~~ 8. Have made application for state and federal tuition aid programs; and

~~8.~~ 9. Not have been adjudicated as a delinquent for an offense defined in Section 571 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes as an exception to a nonviolent offense or convicted as an adult of an offense defined in Section 571 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes as an exception to a nonviolent offense.

B. To retain eligibility while pursuing the program of higher learning in which enrolled, the student shall:

1. Maintain a minimum 2.75 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale;

2. Maintain good academic standing and satisfactory academic progress according to standards of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education; and

3. Comply with the standards related to maintenance of eligibility as promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

C. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall promulgate rules relating to maintenance of eligibility under the Oklahoma Tuition Scholarship Program by a student.

SECTION 3. REPEALER Section 1, Chapter 251, O.S.L. 1998, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999, and Section 2, Chapter 251, O.S.L. 1998, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 1999, Sections 11-103.2c and 11-103.2d), are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

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.

Passed the Senate the 1st day of March, 2000.

_____
President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 2000.

_____
Speaker of the House of Representatives