

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 SENATE BILL 2038

By: Garrison

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,  
8 Section 6-122.3, which relates to alternative  
9 placement teaching certificates; changing certain  
10 references from certificate to license; requiring  
11 certain grade point average; authorizing certain  
12 professional development to apply toward program  
13 requirements; requiring passage of professional  
14 education competency examination; prohibiting use of  
15 certain examination results for certain purpose;  
16 providing time limit to validity of license; limiting  
17 to one license renewal; increasing length of required  
18 work experience and specifying when it may be  
19 completed; applying certain requirements to persons  
20 participating in program prior to certain date;  
21 providing an effective date; and declaring an  
22 emergency.

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

24 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-122.3, is  
amended to read as follows:

Section 6-122.3 A. The State Board of Education shall grant an  
Alternative Placement teaching ~~certificate~~ license to a person who  
makes application to the State Board and meets all of the following  
criteria:

1 1. Holds at least a baccalaureate degree, with a cumulative  
2 grade point average of not less than 2.50, from an institution whose  
3 accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
4 Education;

5 2. Has completed a major in a field that corresponds to an area  
6 of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary Certificate, a  
7 Secondary Certificate or a vocational-technical certificate;

8 3. Declares the intention to earn Standard Certification by  
9 means of the Alternative Placement Program in not more than three  
10 (3) years. For the purposes of the Alternative Placement Program  
11 only, the State Board of Education shall determine the subject  
12 matter of professional education component pursuant to this section,  
13 and the requirements for the Professional Education component  
14 required for Standard Certification shall be as follows:

- 15 a. baccalaureate degree, and eighteen (18) semester hours  
16 or two hundred seventy (270) clock hours, or
- 17 b. postbaccalaureate degrees, teaching experience or  
18 subject matter work experience, or a combination of  
19 the three shall reduce the eighteen (18) semester  
20 hours or two hundred seventy (270) clock hours by the  
21 following:

22	Degree or Experience	Hour Reduction
23	Master's Degree	6 semester hours or
24		90 clock hours



1           applied toward completion of the program required in  
2           this paragraph.

3           e. for purposes of this section:

4           (1) "teaching experience" shall mean full-time  
5           employment as a teacher in a public school,  
6           private school licensed or accredited by the  
7           State Board of Education, or institution of  
8           higher education,

9           (2) "subject matter work experience" shall mean work  
10          experience in a field that corresponds to the  
11          area of specialization for Elementary-Secondary  
12          Certificate, Secondary Certificate or vocational-  
13          technical certificate.

14          Such requirements shall exclude all student teaching  
15          requirements pursuant to the provisions of subsection E of this  
16          section;

17          4. Has passed the general education ~~and~~, subject area, and  
18          professional education portions of the competency examination  
19          required in Section 6-187 of this title in the area of  
20          specialization for which certification is sought. Subject area  
21          examination results in an area that does not correspond to the  
22          content area evidenced by an individual's transcript or work  
23          experience shall not be valid for purposes of adding additional  
24          subjects to a certificate; and

1           5. Either presents a document from an accredited public school  
2 district in this state offering employment in the area of  
3 specialization for which certification is sought on condition that  
4 the person enroll in an Alternative Placement Program approved by  
5 the State Board of Education or declares the intention to seek  
6 employment as a teacher at an accredited public school district in  
7 this state. The ~~certificate~~ license granted pursuant to this  
8 subsection shall be considered a "valid certificate of  
9 qualification" for the purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this  
10 title, and the holder of such ~~certificate~~ license shall be  
11 considered a resident teacher for the purposes of Section 6-195 of  
12 this title.

13           B. ~~Said certificate shall~~ A license issued pursuant to this  
14 section shall not be valid for more than three (3) years and may be  
15 renewed once for not more than a maximum of three (3) years upon  
16 presentation of a document from an accredited public school district  
17 in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of  
18 specialization and a document from a teacher education institution  
19 verifying satisfactory progress in the appropriate Alternative  
20 Placement Program.

21           C. Persons enrolled in an Alternative Placement Program shall:

22           1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education  
23 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,  
24 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the

1 Oklahoma State Board of Education to offer teacher education  
2 programs, nor have enrolled in and subsequently failed courses  
3 necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of such  
4 program, except those persons who hold a certificate;

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

8 3. Participate in the Entry-year Assistance Program, Section 6-  
9 152 et seq. of this title and have the same duties and  
10 responsibilities as other Entry-year Assistance Program  
11 participants, except those persons who hold a certificate; and

12 4. Document at least ~~two (2)~~ three (3) years of work experience  
13 which is related to the subject area of specialization if the person  
14 has only a baccalaureate degree with no postbaccalaureate work in a  
15 related area and completed after attainment of the baccalaureate  
16 degree.

17 D. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the  
18 requirements for licensure and certification and, upon demonstration  
19 by an individual of specific competency in the subject area of  
20 specialization, may grant a license or certificate to the  
21 individual. The State Board may establish other requirements  
22 necessary to grant such exceptions.

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1 E. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience  
2 shall not be required of Alternative Placement Program participants  
3 for Standard Certification.

4 F. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules  
5 authorizing adjunct teachers who shall be persons with distinguished  
6 qualifications in their field. Adjunct teachers shall not be  
7 required to meet standard certification. Any such adjunct teachers  
8 shall be limited to ninety (90) clock hours per semester.

9 G. Each teacher education institution shall provide the Office  
10 of Accountability an annual report of information specified by the  
11 Office of Accountability regarding participation in the Alternative  
12 Placement Program.

13 H. The State Board of Education shall not accredit, renew the  
14 accreditation of, or otherwise approve any teacher education program  
15 of any institution of higher education in this state that has not  
16 made a commitment to, and begun implementation of, Alternative  
17 Placement Programs in at least four areas of specialization,  
18 including mathematics, science and a foreign language, whereby  
19 individuals who meet the criteria of subsections A and C of this  
20 section are:

- 21 1. Admitted without further qualification; and
- 22 2. Offered the opportunity to complete the Standard  
23 Certification course requirements set forth in subsection A of this  
24 section during the summer preceding and the summer following the

1 first year of teaching under the Alternative Placement Program.  
2 Provided, however, any person seeking Alternative Placement shall be  
3 permitted to take necessary courses during regular semesters if  
4 offered.

5 I. The criteria specified in subsection H of this section can  
6 be met through a cooperative arrangement entered into by two or more  
7 institutions of higher education.

8 J. Any person participating in an alternative certification  
9 program as authorized pursuant to this section on the effective date  
10 of this act shall be subject to the program requirements in effect  
11 prior to the effective date of this act.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

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

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