

EHB 1333

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THE STATE SENATE  
Wednesday, April 1, 2009

ENGROSSED

House Bill No. 1333

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1333 - By: Denney and Coody of the House and Coates of the Senate.

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-122.3, which relates to alternative placement teaching certificate; clarifying statutory language; requiring certain minimum grade point average; deleting authorization for reduction of certain education component; directing the State Board of Education to establish certain core minimum education component; increasing certain minimum professional education component; deleting certain definitions; updating statutory language; updating certain entity responsible for certain duties; modifying eligibility requirements for an alternative placement program; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-187, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 236, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 6-187), which relates to competency examinations; requiring completion of certain programs for certification in certain areas; and providing an effective date.

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

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 Replacement~~ alternative placement teaching certificate to a person who makes application to the State Board and meets all of the following criteria:

- 1. Holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for

1 Higher Education and has attained a cumulative grade point average  
2 of not less than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale;

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

6 3. Declares the intention to earn ~~Standard Certification~~  
7 standard certification by means of ~~the Alternative Placement Program~~  
8 an alternative placement program in not more than three (3) years.  
9 ~~For the purposes of the Alternative Placement Program only, the~~ The  
10 State Board of Education shall determine the subject matter of the  
11 professional education component ~~pursuant to this section, and the~~  
12 ~~requirements~~ of an alternative placement program. The number of  
13 clock or semester hours required for the ~~Professional Education~~  
14 professional education component ~~required~~ of an alternative  
15 placement program needed to qualify for ~~Standard Certification~~  
16 standard certification shall be as follows:

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

1	<del>Degree or Experience</del>	<del>Hour Reduction</del>
2	<del>Master's Degree</del>	<del>6 semester hours or</del>
3		<del>90 clock hours</del>
4	<del>Doctorate Degree</del>	<del>6 semester hours or</del>
5		<del>90 clock hours</del>
6	<del>1 year teaching or subject</del>	
7	<del>matter work experience</del>	<del>3 semester hours or</del>
8		<del>45 clock hours</del>
9	<del>2 years teaching or subject</del>	
10	<del>matter work experience</del>	<del>6 semester hours or</del>
11		<del>90 clock hours</del>
12	<del>3 years teaching or subject</del>	
13	<del>matter work experience</del>	<del>9 semester hours or</del>
14		<del>135 clock hours</del>
15	<del>4 years teaching or subject</del>	
16	<del>matter work experience</del>	<u>twelve (12)</u>
17		semester hours
18		or <u>one hundred eighty (180)</u> clock hours <sub>7</sub> .

19 c. the State Board of Education shall establish a core  
20 minimum of six (6) semester hours or ninety (90) clock  
21 hours for the professional education component. Under  
22 ~~no circumstance shall the number of hours be reduced~~

1                   ~~to less than six (6) semester hours or ninety (90)~~  
2                   ~~clock hours.~~

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

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

21           5. Either presents a document from an accredited public school  
22 district in this state offering employment in the area of  
23 specialization for which certification is sought on condition that

1 the person enroll in an ~~Alternative Placement Program~~ alternative  
2 placement program approved by the State Board of Education or  
3 declares the intention to seek employment as a teacher at an  
4 accredited public school district in this state. The certificate  
5 granted pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a "valid  
6 certificate of qualification" for the purposes of Sections 6-107 and  
7 6-108 of this title, and the holder of ~~such~~ the certificate shall be  
8 considered a resident teacher for the purposes of Section 6-195 of  
9 this title.

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

17 C. Persons enrolled in an ~~Alternative Placement Program~~  
18 alternative placement program shall:

19 1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education  
20 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,  
21 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the  
22 Oklahoma ~~State Board of Education~~ Commission for Teacher Preparation  
23 to offer teacher education programs, nor have enrolled in and

1 subsequently failed courses necessary to successfully meet the  
2 minimum requirements of ~~such~~ the program, except those persons who  
3 hold a certificate;

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

7 3. Participate in the ~~Entry-year Assistance~~ Residency Program,  
8 ~~Section 6-152 et seq. of this title~~ established in Section 6-195 of  
9 this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as other  
10 ~~Entry-year Assistance Program participants~~ resident teachers, except  
11 those persons who hold a certificate; and

12 4. ~~Document~~ Except for persons participating in the federal  
13 Troops To Teachers Program, document at least ~~two (2)~~ three (3)  
14 years of work experience after completion of the baccalaureate  
15 degree which is related to the subject area of specialization if the  
16 person has only a baccalaureate degree with no postbaccalaureate  
17 work in a related area.

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

1 E. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience  
2 shall not be required of ~~Alternative Placement Program~~ alternative  
3 placement program participants for ~~Standard Certification~~ standard  
4 certification.

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

11 G. Each teacher education institution shall provide the Office  
12 of Accountability an annual report of information specified by the  
13 Office of Accountability regarding participation in the ~~Alternative~~  
14 ~~Placement Program~~ alternative placement programs offered by the  
15 Institution.

16 H. The ~~State Board of Education~~ Oklahoma Commission for Teacher  
17 Preparation shall not accredit, renew the accreditation of, or  
18 otherwise approve any teacher education program of any institution  
19 of higher education in this state that has not ~~made a commitment to,~~  
20 ~~and begun implementation of, Alternative Placement Programs~~  
21 implemented alternative placement programs in at least four areas of  
22 specialization, including mathematics, science and a foreign

1 language, ~~whereby~~. Each institution shall allow individuals who  
2 meet the criteria of subsections A and C of this section are to be:

3 1. Admitted to an alternative placement program without further  
4 qualification; and

5 2. Offered the opportunity to complete the ~~Standard~~  
6 ~~Certification course~~ requirements for standard certification set  
7 forth in subsection A of this section during the summer preceding  
8 and the summer following the first year of teaching ~~under the~~  
9 ~~Alternative Placement Program~~ with an alternative placement teaching  
10 certificate. ~~Provided, however, any~~ Any person seeking ~~Alternative~~  
11 ~~Placement~~ standard certification through an alternative placement  
12 program shall be permitted to take necessary courses during regular  
13 semesters if offered.

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

17 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-187, as  
18 amended by Section 2, Chapter 236, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008,  
19 Section 6-187), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 6-187. A. A competency examination shall be adopted by  
21 the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation for the general  
22 education, professional education and various subject areas and  
23 grade levels for purposes of ensuring academic achievement and

1 competency of each teacher candidate or teacher in the subject area  
2 the person is seeking licensure or certification to teach which  
3 shall also include licensure or certification as an administrator,  
4 as prescribed by the State Board of Education.

5 The Commission, consistent with the purposes of this section,  
6 shall promulgate rules and procedures to guarantee the  
7 confidentiality of examinations.

8 B. No teacher candidate shall be eligible for licensing until  
9 successfully completing the competency examination except those  
10 candidates who make application to the State Board and meet the  
11 criteria for the Alternative Placement Program pursuant to Section  
12 6-122.3 of this title. Certification shall be limited to areas of  
13 approval in which the licensed or certified teacher has successfully  
14 completed the examination. ~~Testing~~ Subject to the provisions of  
15 subsection C of this section, testing for certification for subjects  
16 in which a teacher candidate or teacher is seeking a minor teaching  
17 assignment or an endorsement to teach shall be limited to the  
18 specific subject area test.

19 A teacher candidate or teacher may take the general education,  
20 professional education or subject area portions of the examination  
21 subject to any limit imposed by the Commission.

22 C. ~~A~~ Except as herein provided, a teacher may be certified in  
23 as many areas as the teacher meets the necessary requirements

1 provided by law and has successfully completed the subject area  
2 portion of the examination. Certification in early childhood,  
3 elementary, or special education shall require completion of an  
4 appropriate teacher education program approved by the Oklahoma  
5 Commission for Teacher Preparation.

6 D. The Commission shall offer the competency examination at  
7 least four times per calendar year on dates to be established by the  
8 Commission.

9 E. Nothing in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act shall  
10 restrict the right of the State Board of Education to issue an  
11 emergency or provisional certificate, as needed. Provided, however,  
12 prior to the issuance of an emergency certificate, the ~~local~~  
13 district shall document substantial efforts to employ a teacher who  
14 holds a provisional or standard certificate or who is licensed in  
15 the teaching profession. In the event a district is unable to hire  
16 an individual meeting this criteria, the district shall document  
17 efforts to employ an individual with a provisional or standard  
18 certificate or with a license in another curricular area with  
19 academic preparation in the field of need. Only after these  
20 alternatives have been exhausted shall the district be allowed to  
21 employ an individual meeting minimum standards as established by the  
22 State Board of Education for the issuance of emergency certificates.

23 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2009.

1 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 3-30-09 - DO  
2 PASS.