

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 HOUSE BILL 1364

By: Cooksey

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
8 Sections 6-204.1, as amended by Section 22, Chapter
9 434, O.S.L. 2003 and 6-204.2, as last amended by
10 Section 1, Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp.
11 2008, Sections 6-204.1 and 6-204.2), which relate to
12 the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act; modifying
13 certain definitions relating to school counselors;
14 deleting certain classroom requirement; modifying
15 requirement for bonus; providing an effective date;
16 and declaring an emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-204.1, as
19 amended by Section 22, Chapter 434, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008,
20 Section 6-204.1), is amended to read as follows:

21 Section 6-204.1 For purposes of the Education Leadership
22 Oklahoma Act:

23 1. "Salary bonus" means additional monies granted to teachers
24 maintaining National Board certification subject to the availability
of funds specifically appropriated by the Legislature to the State
Board of Education for that purpose;

1 2. "Certification" means National Board certification;

2 3. "Commission" means the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
3 Preparation;

4 4. "National Board" means the National Board for Professional
5 Teaching Standards or, with respect to a school counselor, the
6 National Board for Certified Counselors;

7 5. "National Board certification" means National Board
8 certification as provided by the National Board for Professional
9 Teaching Standards or, with respect to a school counselor, National
10 Certified School Counselor credential as provided by the National
11 Board for Certified Counselors; and

12 6. "Teacher" means a classroom teacher, counselor, or librarian
13 employed by a public school district on a full-time basis.

14 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-204.2, as
15 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp.
16 2008, Section 6-204.2), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 6-204.2 A. Subject to the availability of funds, the
18 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation and the State Board of
19 Education are authorized to establish the Education Leadership
20 Oklahoma program.

21 B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
22 are:

1 1. Provide teachers throughout the state information about
2 National Board certification and the Education Leadership Oklahoma
3 program scholarships and services;

4 2. Provide technical assistance and National Board certified
5 mentors to all teachers seeking National Board certification upon
6 request;

7 3. Provide scholarships, pursuant to the Education Leadership
8 Oklahoma Act and Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation rules,
9 for teachers seeking National Board certification;

10 4. Provide a bonus to teachers who achieve National Board
11 certification pursuant to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act and
12 State Board of Education rules;

13 5. Reward teachers who achieve National Board certification
14 without the financial support of the Education Leadership Oklahoma
15 program by awarding them the application fee and the amount of the
16 scholarship given to Education Leadership Oklahoma participants
17 pursuant to this section and commission rules; and

18 6. Provide recognition to National Board certified teachers.

19 C. To fulfill the objectives of the Education Leadership
20 Oklahoma Act, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

21 1. Inform teachers of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
22 and the scholarships and services it provides to teachers seeking
23 National Board certification, emphasizing recruiting efforts toward
24 teachers at high-poverty schools, low-achieving schools and in

1 counties with the lowest percentage of teachers who have achieved
2 National Board certification;

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

5 3. Establish an applicant review committee for the purpose of
6 identifying scholarship recipients pursuant to the Education
7 Leadership Oklahoma Act for the Education Leadership Oklahoma
8 program; and

9 4. Ensure that all scholarship recipients, alternates, and
10 teachers seeking National Board certification independently receive
11 adequate information regarding the level of commitment required to
12 acquire National Board certification.

13 D. The applicant review committee shall:

14 1. Consist of:

15 a. five ~~classroom~~ teachers appointed by the State Board
16 of Education, at least one of whom shall be a National
17 Board certified teacher, if available,

18 b. five ~~classroom~~ teachers appointed by the Oklahoma
19 Commission for Teacher Preparation, at least one of
20 whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if
21 available,

22 c. three ~~classroom~~ teachers appointed by the Oklahoma
23 State Regents for Higher Education, at least one of
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1 whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if
2 available, and

3 d. a chair to be designated by the Executive Director of
4 the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation from
5 among the appointed members; and

6 2. Select up to four hundred teachers each year, of whom a
7 minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) teach at schools on the school
8 improvement list as determined by the State Board of Education
9 pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act or schools with more than
10 fifty percent (50%) of students who qualify for the free and reduced
11 price lunch program, and the appropriate number of alternates, who:

12 a. have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in
13 teaching,

14 b. meet all eligibility requirements for potential
15 certification as established by the National Board for
16 Professional Teaching Standards,

17 c. are employed in an Oklahoma public school, and

18 d. meet other requirements of the Commission.

19 E. Subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the
20 Legislature for the purposes of this subsection, the application fee
21 for National Board certification shall be paid for scholarship
22 recipients by the Commission, and scholarship recipients shall be
23 provided a scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars

1 (\$500.00) to cover other expenses associated with obtaining National
2 Board certification.

3 F. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma
4 Commission for Teacher Preparation contract with Southeastern
5 Oklahoma State University to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma
6 program training in higher education teacher preparation programs in
7 the state to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain
8 National Board certification.

9 G. All teachers seeking National Board certification shall be
10 eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma program
11 training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National
12 Board certification process, free of charge.

13 H. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall
14 promulgate rules for the selection of scholarship recipients, the
15 selection and utilization of alternates, the payment and
16 reimbursement of application fees, and the issuance of scholarships.

17 I. Subject to district board of education policy or collective
18 bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be
19 granted to teachers seeking National Board certification for
20 National Board certification portfolio development. During the two
21 (2) days of the additional professional days granted to teachers for
22 National Board certification portfolio development, a substitute
23 teacher shall be provided by the school district at no cost to the
24 teacher.

1 J. The State Board of Education shall provide all teachers who
2 attain National Board certification a bonus in the amount of Five
3 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) annually no later than January 31 for
4 as long as they maintain their National Board certification and are
5 ~~teaching in the classroom~~ full-time teachers in an Oklahoma public
6 school. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of
7 bonuses pursuant to this section.

8 K. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the
9 teacher's salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory
10 minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma
11 Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

12 L. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the
13 provision of the bonus pursuant to this section to include, but not
14 be limited to, a process by which a National Board certified teacher
15 will verify that:

- 16 1. The National Board certification has not lapsed; and
- 17 2. The teacher is still a full-time teacher.

18 M. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma State
19 Regents for Higher Education incorporate the National Board
20 certification portfolio development into all programs in education
21 leading to a master's level degree.

22 N. Upon implementation of this subsection as provided for in
23 subsection O of this section, the State Board of Education shall
24 provide all teachers who attain National Board certification a bonus

1 in the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) annually no
2 later than January 31 for as long as they maintain their National
3 Board certification and are full-time teachers in an Oklahoma public
4 school. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of
5 bonuses pursuant to this section. Upon implementation, the bonus
6 provided for in this subsection shall replace the bonus provided for
7 in subsection J of this section.

8 O. Implementation of subsection N of this section shall be
9 contingent upon the appropriation by the Legislature of state funds
10 for the specific purpose of implementing subsection N of this
11 section. Nothing in this section shall prevent the State Board of
12 Education or a school district board of education from utilizing
13 private, local, or federal funds to implement subsection N of this
14 section.

15 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

16 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
17 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
18 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
19 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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21 52-1-6139 KB 01/06/09

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