

1 ~~of funds specifically appropriated by the Legislature to the State~~
2 ~~Board of Education for that purpose;~~

3 2. "Certification" means National Board certification;

4 3. "Commission" means the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
5 Preparation;

6 4. "National Board" means the National Board for Professional
7 Teaching Standards;

8 5. "National Board certification" means National Board
9 certification as provided by the National Board for Professional
10 Teaching Standards; and

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

13 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.2, is
14 amended to read as follows:

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

19 B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
20 are:

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

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1 2. Provide technical assistance and National Board certified
2 mentors to all teachers seeking National Board certification upon
3 request;

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

7 4. Provide a bonus to teachers who achieve National Board
8 certification pursuant to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act and
9 State Board of Education rules;

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

15 6. Provide recognition to National Board certified teachers.

16 C. Except as otherwise provided for in subsection P of this
17 section, to fulfill the objectives of the Education Leadership
18 Oklahoma Act, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

19 1. Inform teachers of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
20 and the scholarships and services it provides to teachers seeking
21 National Board certification, emphasizing recruiting efforts toward
22 teachers at high-poverty schools, low-achieving schools and in
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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. Except as otherwise provided for in subsection P of this
7 section, select up to four hundred teachers each year, of whom a
8 minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) teach at schools on the school
9 improvement list as determined by the State Board of Education
10 pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act or schools with more than
11 fifty percent (50%) of students who qualify for the free and reduced
12 price lunch program, and the appropriate number of alternates, who:

- 13 a. have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in
14 teaching,
15 b. meet all eligibility requirements for potential
16 certification as established by the National Board for
17 Professional Teaching Standards,
18 c. are employed in an Oklahoma public school, and
19 d. meet other requirements of the Commission.

20 ~~E. Subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the~~
21 ~~Legislature for the purposes of this subsection and except~~ Except as
22 otherwise provided for in subsection P of this section, the
23 application fee for National Board certification shall be paid for

1 scholarship recipients by the Commission, and scholarship recipients
2 shall be provided a scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred
3 Dollars (\$500.00) to cover other expenses associated with obtaining
4 National Board certification.

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

11 G. Except as otherwise provided for in subsection P of this
12 section, all teachers seeking National Board certification shall be
13 eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma program
14 training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National
15 Board certification process, free of charge.

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

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

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

13 K. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the
14 teacher's salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory
15 minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma
16 Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

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

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

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

5 N. Upon implementation of this subsection as provided for in
6 subsection O of this section, the State Board of Education shall
7 provide all teachers who attain National Board certification a bonus
8 in the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) annually no
9 later than January 31 for as long as they maintain their National
10 Board certification and are full-time teachers in an Oklahoma public
11 school. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of
12 bonuses pursuant to this section. Upon implementation, the bonus
13 provided for in this subsection shall replace the bonus provided for
14 in subsection J of this section.

15 O. Implementation of subsection N of this section shall be
16 contingent upon the appropriation by the Legislature of state funds
17 for the specific purpose of implementing subsection N of this
18 section. Nothing in this section shall prevent the State Board of
19 Education or a school district board of education from utilizing
20 private, local, or federal funds to implement subsection N of this
21 section.

22 P. 1. Except as otherwise provided, the Oklahoma Commission
23 for Teacher Preparation shall not accept any applications for the
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1 Education Leadership Oklahoma program, award scholarships pursuant
2 to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act or pay the National Board
3 certification application fee for scholarship recipients after June
4 30, 2010, through June 30, ~~2012~~ 2014. The Commission may pay any
5 scholarship amounts or pay the National Board certification
6 application fees incurred after June 30, 2010, for any teacher
7 selected for the Education Leadership Oklahoma program before June
8 30, 2010.

9 2. Except as otherwise provided, the State Board of Education
10 shall not provide a bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars
11 (\$5,000.00) as authorized in subsection J of this section beginning
12 June 30, 2010, through June 30, ~~2012~~ 2014, to any teacher who
13 attains National Board certification after June 30, 2010, through
14 June 30, ~~2012~~ 2014. The Board shall provide a bonus to any teacher
15 who attains National Board certification after June 30, 2010, if the
16 teacher was selected for the Education Leadership Oklahoma program
17 before June 30, 2010, or the teacher has submitted an application
18 for National Board certification to the National Board for
19 Professional Teaching Standards before June 30, 2010.

20 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2012.

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

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4 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
5 02/23/2012 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.

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