

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2822

By: Denney of the House

and

Halligan of the Senate

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7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,  
8 Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 7,  
9 Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section  
10 6-122.3), which relates to eligibility for an  
11 alternative placement teaching certificate; changing  
12 the number of hours for the professional component;  
13 modifying certain criteria for granting an  
14 alternative placement teaching certificate; allowing  
15 certain rating to be considered; updating references  
16 to the Commission for Teacher Preparation; providing  
17 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-122.3, as  
last amended by Section 7, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp.  
2015, 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 to a person who makes  
application to the 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 retention grade point average of  
2 not less than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale;

3 2. Has demonstrated competency or completed a major in a field  
4 that corresponds to an area of specialization for an Elementary-  
5 Secondary Certificate, a Secondary Certificate or a vocational-  
6 technical certificate as determined by the State Board of Education;

7 3. Declares the intention to earn standard certification by  
8 means of an alternative placement program in not more than three (3)  
9 years. The State Board of Education shall determine the subject  
10 matter of the professional education component of an alternative  
11 placement program. The number of clock or semester hours required  
12 for the professional education component of an alternative placement  
13 program needed to qualify for standard certification shall be as  
14 follows:

- 15 a. baccalaureate degree, ~~eighteen (18)~~ twelve (12)  
16 semester hours or ~~two hundred seventy (270)~~ one  
17 hundred eighty (180) clock hours, or  
18 b. postbaccalaureate degree, ~~twelve (12)~~ nine (9)  
19 semester hours or ~~one hundred eighty (180)~~ one hundred  
20 thirty-five (135) clock hours.

21 The State Board of Education shall establish a core minimum of six  
22 (6) semester hours or ninety (90) clock hours for the professional  
23 education component.

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1        A person who has averaged a rating of "effective" or above as  
2 measured pursuant to the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation  
3 System (TLE) as set forth in Section 6-101.16 of this title for two  
4 (2) of the three (3) years in which the person holds an alternative  
5 certificate shall not be required to complete the number of clock or  
6 semester hours in order to qualify for standard certification.

7        The requirements set forth in this subsection shall exclude all  
8 student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of  
9 subsection E of this section;

10       4. Has passed the general education and subject area portions  
11 of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this  
12 title in the area of specialization for which certification is  
13 sought; and

14       5. Either presents a document from an accredited public school  
15 district in this state offering employment in the area of  
16 specialization for which certification is sought on condition that  
17 the person enroll in an alternative placement program approved by  
18 the State Board of Education or declares the intention to seek  
19 employment as a teacher at an accredited public school district in  
20 this state. The certificate granted pursuant to this subsection  
21 shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the  
22 purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this title, and the holder  
23 of the certificate shall be considered a resident teacher for the  
24 purposes of Section 6-195 of this title.

1 B. An alternative placement teaching certificate shall be  
2 renewed by the Board for not more than a maximum of three (3) years  
3 upon presentation of a document from an accredited public school  
4 district in this state offering renewed employment in the same area  
5 of specialization and a document from a teacher education  
6 institution verifying satisfactory progress in an appropriate  
7 alternative placement program.

8 C. Persons enrolled in an alternative placement program shall:

9 1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education  
10 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,  
11 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the  
12 ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Educational Quality and  
13 Accountability to offer teacher education programs, nor have  
14 enrolled in and subsequently failed courses necessary to  
15 successfully meet the minimum requirements of the program, except  
16 those persons who hold a certificate;

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

20 3. Participate in the Residency Program, established in Section  
21 6-195 of this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as  
22 other resident teachers, except those persons who hold a  
23 certificate; and  
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1 4. Except for persons participating in the federal Troops To  
2 Teachers Program, document at least two (2) years of work experience  
3 which is related to the subject area of specialization if the person  
4 has only a baccalaureate degree with no postbaccalaureate work in a  
5 related area.

6 D. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the  
7 requirements for certification and, upon demonstration by an  
8 individual of specific competency in the subject area of  
9 specialization, may grant a certificate to the individual. The  
10 State Board may establish other requirements necessary to grant  
11 exceptions.

12 E. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience  
13 shall not be required of alternative placement program participants  
14 for standard certification.

15 F. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules  
16 authorizing adjunct teachers who shall be persons with distinguished  
17 qualifications in their field. Adjunct teachers shall not be  
18 required to meet standard certification. Adjunct teachers shall be  
19 limited to ninety (90) clock hours of classroom teaching per  
20 semester.

21 G. Each teacher education institution shall provide the  
22 ~~Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~ Educational Quality and  
23 Accountability an annual report of information as specified by the  
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1 Commission regarding participation in the alternative placement  
2 programs offered by the ~~Institution~~ institution.

3 H. The ~~Oklahoma~~ Commission for ~~Teacher Preparation~~ Educational  
4 Quality and Accountability shall not accredit, renew the  
5 accreditation of, or otherwise approve any teacher education program  
6 of any institution of higher education in this state that has not  
7 implemented alternative placement programs in at least four areas of  
8 specialization, including mathematics, science and a foreign  
9 language. Each institution shall allow individuals who meet the  
10 criteria of subsections A and C of this section to be:

11 1. Admitted to an alternative placement program without further  
12 qualification; and

13 2. Offered the opportunity to complete the requirements for  
14 standard certification set forth in subsection A of this section  
15 during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year  
16 of teaching with an alternative placement teaching certificate. Any  
17 person seeking standard certification through an alternative  
18 placement program shall be permitted to take necessary courses  
19 during regular semesters if offered.

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

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

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