

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 HOUSE BILL 2081

By: Nelson

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to higher education; stating intent
8 that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
9 establish a comprehensive transition and
10 postsecondary program for students with intellectual
11 disabilities; specifying criteria for the program;
12 directing the State Regents to establish certain
13 procedures and criteria; directing the State Regents
14 to seek funding for certain purpose; providing
15 definition; providing for codification; and providing
16 an effective date.

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

18 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3251 of Title 70, unless there
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. It is the intent of the Legislature, that the Oklahoma State
22 Regents for Higher Education establish a comprehensive transition
23 and postsecondary program for students with intellectual
24 disabilities which shall be offered by institutions within The
Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

1 B. The comprehensive transition and postsecondary program for
2 students with intellectual disabilities shall be a degree,
3 certificate, or nondegree program that:

4 1. Is offered by a public institution that is a member of The
5 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education;

6 2. Is designed to support students with intellectual
7 disabilities who are seeking to continue academic, career,
8 technical, and independent living instruction at an institution of
9 higher learning to prepare for gainful employment;

10 3. Includes an advising and curriculum structure; and

11 4. Requires students with intellectual disabilities to
12 participate in not less than a half-time basis, as determined by the
13 institution, with this participation focusing on academic components
14 and occurring through one or more of the following activities:

15 a. regular enrollment in credit-bearing courses with
16 nondisabled students offered by the institution,

17 b. auditing or participating in courses with nondisabled
18 students offered by the institution for which the
19 student does not receive academic credit,

20 c. enrollment in noncredit-bearing, nondegree courses
21 with nondisabled students, and

22 d. participation in internships or work-based training in
23 settings with nondisabled individuals.
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1 C. The State Regents shall establish procedures and criteria,
2 in accordance with the Federal Higher Education Opportunity Act of
3 2008, Public Law 110-315, for students with intellectual
4 disabilities participating in a comprehensive transition and
5 postsecondary program to:

6 1. Be eligible for, apply, and receive Pell Grants,
7 Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and Work Study jobs; and

8 2. Enroll in and attend an institution of higher education in
9 The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education without meeting
10 regular admission and attendance requirements.

11 D. The State Regents shall seek funding for grants to award to
12 institutions to assist in establishing a comprehensive transition
13 and postsecondary program for students with intellectual
14 disabilities at the institution.

15 E. For purposes of this section, a "student with an
16 intellectual disability" means a student:

17 1. With mental retardation or a cognitive impairment
18 characterized by significant limitations in:

19 a. intellectual and cognitive functioning, and

20 b. adaptive behavior as expressed in conceptual, social,
21 and practical adaptive skills; and

22 2. Who is currently, or was formerly, eligible for a free
23 appropriate public education under the Individuals with Disabilities
24 Education Act (IDEA).

1 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

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3 55-1-6308 KB 01/18/15
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