

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 HOUSE BILL 2822

By: Denney

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

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; making  
12 the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability  
13 responsible for accepting applications and  
14 determining eligibility criteria; changing  
15 responsibility for determining subject matter for  
16 certain component and the core minimum number of  
17 hours; requiring presentation of certain documents to  
18 the Office; updating references to the Commission for  
19 Teacher Preparation; providing an effective date; and  
20 declaring and emergency.

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

22 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-122.3, as  
23 last amended by Section 7, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp.  
24 2015, Section 6-122.3), is amended to read as follows:

25 Section 6-122.3 A. The State Board of Education shall grant an  
26 alternative placement teaching certificate to a person who ~~makes~~ has  
27 made application to the ~~Board~~ Office of Educational Quality and  
28 Accountability and for whom the Office has determined meets all of  
29 the following criteria:

1 1. Holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution  
2 whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for  
3 Higher Education and has attained a retention grade point average of  
4 not less than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale;

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

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

- 16 a. baccalaureate degree, eighteen (18) semester hours or  
17 two hundred seventy (270) clock hours, or  
18 b. postbaccalaureate degree, twelve (12) semester hours  
19 or one hundred eighty (180) clock hours.

20 ~~The State Board of Education~~ Office of Educational Quality and  
21 Accountability shall establish a core minimum of six (6) semester  
22 hours or ninety (90) clock hours for the professional education  
23 component.  
24

1 The requirements set forth in this subsection shall exclude all  
2 student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of  
3 subsection E of this section;

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

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

20 B. An alternative placement teaching certificate shall be  
21 renewed by the Board for not more than a maximum of three (3) years  
22 upon presentation ~~of~~ to the Office of Educational Quality and  
23 Accountability a document from an accredited public school district  
24 in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of

1 specialization and a document from a teacher education institution  
2 verifying satisfactory progress in an appropriate alternative  
3 placement program.

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

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

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

16 3. Participate in the Residency Program, established in Section  
17 6-195 of this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as  
18 other resident teachers, except those persons who hold a  
19 certificate; and

20 4. Except for persons participating in the federal Troops To  
21 Teachers Program, document at least two (2) years of work experience  
22 which is related to the subject area of specialization if the person  
23 has only a baccalaureate degree with no postbaccalaureate work in a  
24 related area.

1 D. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the  
2 requirements for certification and, upon demonstration by an  
3 individual of specific competency in the subject area of  
4 specialization, may grant a certificate to the individual. The  
5 State Board may establish other requirements necessary to grant  
6 exceptions.

7 E. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience  
8 shall not be required of alternative placement program participants  
9 for standard certification.

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

16 G. Each teacher education institution shall provide the  
17 ~~Oklahoma~~ Commission for ~~Teacher Preparation~~ Educational Quality and  
18 Accountability an annual report of information as specified by the  
19 Commission regarding participation in the alternative placement  
20 programs offered by the Institution.

21 H. The ~~Oklahoma~~ Commission for ~~Teacher Preparation~~ Educational  
22 Quality and Accountability shall not accredit, renew the  
23 accreditation of, or otherwise approve any teacher education program  
24 of any institution of higher education in this state that has not

1 implemented alternative placement programs in at least four areas of  
2 specialization, including mathematics, science and a foreign  
3 language. Each institution shall allow individuals who meet the  
4 criteria of subsections A and C of this section to be:

5 1. Admitted to an alternative placement program without further  
6 qualification; and

7 2. Offered the opportunity to complete the requirements for  
8 standard certification set forth in subsection A of this section  
9 during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year  
10 of teaching with an alternative placement teaching certificate. Any  
11 person seeking standard certification through an alternative  
12 placement program shall be permitted to take necessary courses  
13 during regular 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. This act shall become effective July 1, 2016.

18 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
19 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
20 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
21 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

22  
23 55-2-7950 KB 01/10/16  
24