

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

HOUSE BILL 3025

By: Jordan

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 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), which relates to alternative placement teaching certificates; modifying certain criteria for eligibility of certificate; and providing an effective date.

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 70-6-122.3 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. a. ~~Holder~~ holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has attained a retention grade point average of not less than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale.

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2 ~~2.~~ b. ~~Has~~ has completed a major in a field that corresponds
3 to an area of specialization for an Elementary-
4 Secondary Certificate, a Secondary Certificate or a
5 vocational-technical certificate,

6 c. has successfully completed a terminal degree from an
7 institution whose accreditation is recognized by the
8 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, or

9 d. has qualified work experience in a field that
10 corresponds to an area of certification as determined
11 by the State Board of Education;

12 ~~3.~~ 2. Declares the intention to earn standard certification by
13 means of an alternative placement program in not more than three (3)
14 years. The State Board of Education shall determine the subject
15 matter of the professional education component of an alternative
16 placement program. The number of clock or semester hours required
17 for the professional education component of an alternative placement
18 program needed to qualify for standard certification shall be as
19 follows:

20 a. baccalaureate degree, eighteen (18) semester hours or
21 two hundred seventy (270) clock hours, or

22 b. postbaccalaureate degree, twelve (12) semester hours
23 or one hundred eighty (180) clock hours.
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1 The State Board of Education shall establish a core minimum of six
2 (6) semester hours or ninety (90) clock hours for the professional
3 education component.

4 The requirements set forth in this subsection shall exclude all
5 student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of
6 subsection E of this section;

7 ~~4.~~ 3. Has passed the general education and subject area
8 portions of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of
9 this title in the area of specialization for which certification is
10 sought; and

11 ~~5.~~ 4. Either presents a document from an accredited public
12 school district in this state offering employment in the area of
13 specialization for which certification is sought on condition that
14 the person enroll in an alternative placement program approved by
15 the State Board of Education or declares the intention to seek
16 employment as a teacher at an accredited public school district in
17 this state. The certificate granted pursuant to this subsection
18 shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the
19 purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this title, and the holder
20 of the certificate shall be considered a resident teacher for the
21 purposes of Section 6-195 of this title.

22 B. An alternative placement teaching certificate shall be
23 renewed for not more than a maximum of three (3) years upon
24 presentation of a document from an accredited public school district

1 in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of
2 specialization and a document from a teacher education institution
3 verifying satisfactory progress in an appropriate alternative
4 placement program.

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

6 1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education
7 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,
8 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the
9 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to offer teacher
10 education programs, nor have enrolled in and subsequently failed
11 courses necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of
12 the program, except 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 an annual report of
18 information as specified by the Commission regarding participation
19 in the alternative placement programs offered by the ~~Institution~~
20 institution.

21 H. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall not
22 accredit, renew the accreditation of, or otherwise approve any
23 teacher education program of any institution of higher education in
24 this state that has not implemented alternative placement programs

1 in at least four areas of specialization, including mathematics,
2 science and a foreign language. Each institution shall allow
3 individuals who meet the criteria of subsections A and C of this
4 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 November 1, 2016.

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