

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 980

By: Griffin

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2017, Section 6-190), which relates to qualifications for teacher employment and certification; modifying reference to a certificate to teach; directing the State Board of Education to issue a career teaching certificate to individuals who meet certain criteria; directing the Board to issue a lead teaching certificate to individuals who meet certain criteria; directing the Board to issue a mentor teaching certificate to individuals who meet certain criteria; updating references to certain types of teaching certificates; requiring contracts for mentor and leading teaching certificate candidates to include certain items; directing the State Department of Education to make certain teaching certificates available beginning in certain school year; directing the Department to identify certain school districts to implement certain teaching certificates on a pilot program basis during certain school years; directing the Department to seek funding for implementation of certain salary supplements; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2017, Section 6-190), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-190. A. The board of education of each school district shall employ and contract in writing, as required in Section 6-101 of this title, only with persons certified to teach by the State Board of Education in accordance with the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, except as otherwise provided for by Section 6-101 of this title and by other law.

B. 1. The Board shall issue ~~a~~ an initial teaching certificate ~~to teach~~ to any person who:

~~1. Has~~

a. has successfully completed the teacher education program required by the ~~Oklahoma~~ Commission for ~~Teacher Preparation;~~ Educational Quality and Accountability,

~~2. Has~~

b. has graduated from an accredited institution of higher education that has approval or accreditation for teacher education~~;~~ ;

~~3. Has~~

c. has met all other requirements as may be established by the Board~~;~~ ;

~~4. Has~~

1 d. has made the necessary application and paid the
2 competency examination fee in an amount and as
3 prescribed by the Commission~~7~~,1

4 ~~5.~~ ~~Has~~

5 e. has successfully completed the competency examination
6 required in Section 6-187 of this title~~7~~,1 and

7 ~~6.~~ ~~Beginning~~

8 f. beginning November 1, 2001, has on file with the Board
9 a current Oklahoma criminal history record from the
10 Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation as well as a
11 national criminal history record check as defined in
12 Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
13 Upon receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record,
14 the Board may issue a temporary certificate which
15 shall be effective until receipt of the national
16 fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person
17 applying for a certificate shall be responsible for
18 the cost of the criminal history records.

19 2. The Board shall issue a career teaching certificate to any
20 person who:

21 a. has successfully completed the program as prescribed
22 in Section 6-195 of this title,

- b. has been awarded career teacher status in accordance with the requirements of Section 6-101.3 of this title,
- c. has demonstrated the competencies of a career teacher as determined under the comprehensive evaluation of the initial teacher pursuant to Section 6-101.16 of this title,
- d. holds a valid certificate to teach issued by the Board, and
- e. participates in a meaningful individualized program of professional development, as provided for in Section 6-101.10 of this title, and demonstrates continuous improvement in teaching.

3. The Board shall issue a mentor teaching certificate to any person who:

- a. has successfully completed the requirements listed under paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection,
- b. has a valid certificate to teach issued by the Board,
- c. has a minimum of five (5) years of experience as a classroom teacher,
- d. participates in a meaningful individualized program of professional development, as provided for in Section 6-101.10 of this title,

- e. demonstrates continuous improvement in teaching and possesses the skills and qualifications to assume leadership roles,
- f. has earned a "highly effective" or "superior" rating pursuant to Section 6-101.16 of this title, and
- g. may have a teaching load of not more than seventy-five percent (75%) student instruction to allow the teacher to mentor other teachers.

4. The Board shall issue a lead teaching certificate to any person who:

- a. holds a valid certificate to teach issued by the Board,
- b. has a minimum of seven (7) years of experience as a classroom teacher,
- c. has met requirements listed under paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this subsection,
- d. has earned a "superior" rating pursuant to Section 6-101.16 of this title or has earned a "highly effective" rating pursuant to Section 6-101.16 of this title and holds an active National Board certification,
- e. shall assume leadership roles that may include but are not limited to:

- (1) the planning and delivery of professional development activities designed to improve instructional strategies,
 - (2) the facilitation of an instructional leadership team within the building, school district or other school districts in which the lead teacher is assigned, and
 - (3) the mentoring of other teachers and participation in the evaluation of student teachers,
- f. (1) may have a teaching load of not more than fifty percent (50%) student instruction to allow the lead teacher to spend time on co-teaching,
- (2) co-planning,
 - (3) peer reviews,
 - (4) observing career teachers, model teachers and mentor teachers, and
 - (5) other duties mutually agreed upon by the superintendent and the lead teacher, and
- g. may satisfy the qualitative evaluation component for teachers as required by Section 6-101.16 of this title by performing the duties set forth in this paragraph.

C. The Board shall issue a career teaching certificate ~~to teach~~ to any person who:

1 1. Holds an out-of-state certificate and meets the requirements
2 set forth in subsection F of this section;

3 2. Holds certification from the National Board for Professional
4 Teaching Standards;

5 3. Holds an out-of-country certificate and meets the
6 requirements set forth in subsection F of this section; or

7 4. Has successfully completed a competency examination used in
8 the majority of other states or comparable customized exam and meets
9 the requirements set forth in subsection G of this section.

10 D. Beginning July 1, 2004, any person applying for ~~initial~~ any
11 Oklahoma certification shall have on file with the Board a current
12 Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
13 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
14 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon
15 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record, the Board may issue
16 a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt of
17 the national fingerprint-based criminal history record. The person
18 applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the cost of the
19 criminal history records.

20 E. Any person holding a valid certificate, issued prior to
21 January 1, 1997, shall be a certified teacher for purposes of the
22 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act, subject to any professional
23 development requirements prescribed by the Oklahoma Teacher
24 Preparation Act or by the State Board of Education.

1 F. 1. The Board shall issue a career teaching certificate ~~to~~
2 ~~teach~~ to a person who holds a valid out-of-state certificate or to a
3 person who holds a valid out-of-country certificate and meets any
4 requirements established by the Board. The certificate to teach
5 shall only be for those subject areas and grade levels most closely
6 aligned to the subject areas and grade levels recognized on the out-
7 of-state or out-of-country certificate.

8 2. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
9 subsection shall not be required to take any competency examinations
10 in those subject areas and grade levels most closely aligned to the
11 subject areas and grade levels recognized on the out-of-state or
12 out-of-country certificate.

13 3. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
14 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
15 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
16 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
17 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon
18 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may
19 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt
20 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.
21 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the
22 cost of the criminal history record checks.

23 4. The Board shall promulgate rules establishing a process by
24 which out-of-country certificates will be reviewed and evaluated for

1 purposes of awarding a certificate to teach pursuant to this
2 subsection.

3 G. 1. The Board shall issue a career teaching certificate ~~to~~
4 ~~teach~~ to a person who has successfully completed a competency exam
5 used in a majority of the other states. The certificate to teach
6 shall only be for those subject areas and grade levels that
7 correspond with a certification area used in Oklahoma.

8 2. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
9 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
10 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
11 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
12 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon
13 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may
14 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt
15 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.
16 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the
17 cost of the criminal history record checks.

18 H. The terms of the contracts issued to mentor and lead
19 teaching certificate candidates shall include the following:

20 1. Mentor: an additional ten (10) days to be used to strengthen
21 instructional leadership. A mentor teacher shall receive an annual
22 salary supplement of at least Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) in
23 addition to the salary for which the teacher qualifies pursuant to
24 Section 18-114.14 of this title.

1 2. Lead: an additional fifteen (15) days to be used to
2 strengthen leadership. A lead teacher shall receive an annual
3 salary supplement of at least Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in
4 addition to the salary for which the teacher qualifies pursuant to
5 Section 18-114.14 of this title.

6 I. The State Department of Education shall make teaching
7 certificates provided for in this section available to all eligible
8 certified teachers beginning in the 2021-2022 school year.

9 J. For the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years, the Department
10 shall identify school districts to implement the teacher
11 certificates provided for in this section on a pilot program basis
12 with the assistance of public-private partnerships, funding from
13 philanthropic organizations or federal grants.

14 K. The Department shall seek funding necessary for
15 implementation of the salary supplements required by subsection H of
16 this section.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.

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