

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 980

By: Griffin of the Senate

3 and

4 Baker of the House
5

6 An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
7 Section 6-190, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter
8 322, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2017, Section 6-190),
9 which relates to qualifications for teacher
10 employment and certification; modifying reference to
11 a certificate to teach; directing that certain
12 certificates be considered an initial teaching
13 certificate; directing the State Board of Education
14 to issue a career teaching certificate to individuals
15 who meet certain criteria; directing the Board to
16 issue a lead teaching certificate to individuals who
17 meet certain criteria; directing the Board to issue a
18 mentor teaching certificate to individuals who meet
19 certain criteria; updating references to certain
20 types of teaching certificates; requiring certain
21 persons with out-of-state certificates to have served
22 as a classroom teacher for certain number of years;
23 allowing the Board to establish certain other
24 requirements; requiring contracts for mentor and
leading teaching certificate candidates to include
certain items; directing those seeking certain
certificates to make application to certain board of
education; providing for review of applications;
requiring recommendation to be made within certain
time period; directing the Board to develop certain
application; 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.

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

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-190, as
3 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp.
4 2017, Section 6-190), is amended to read as follows:

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

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

13 ~~1. Has~~

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

18 ~~2. Has~~

19 b. has graduated from an accredited institution of higher
20 education that has approval or accreditation for
21 teacher education~~+~~,

22 ~~3. Has~~

23 c. has met all other requirements as may be established
24 by the Board~~+~~,

1 ~~4. Has~~

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

5 ~~5. Has~~

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

8 ~~6. Beginning~~

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

20 2. For the purposes of this section, an alternative placement
21 teaching certificate issued pursuant to Section 6-122.3 of this
22 title and an emergency teaching certificate issued pursuant to
23 Section 6-187 of this title shall be considered an initial teaching
24 certificate.

1 3. The Board shall issue a career teaching certificate to any
2 person who:

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

5 b. has been awarded career teacher status in accordance
6 with the requirements of Section 6-101.3 of this
7 title,

8 c. has demonstrated the competencies of a career teacher
9 as determined under the comprehensive evaluation of
10 the initial teacher pursuant to Section 6-101.16 of
11 this title,

12 d. holds a valid certificate to teach issued by the
13 Board, and

14 e. participates in a meaningful individualized program of
15 professional development, as provided for in Section
16 6-101.10 of this title, and demonstrates continuous
17 improvement in teaching.

18 4. The Board shall issue a mentor teaching certificate to any
19 person who:

20 a. has successfully completed the requirements listed
21 under paragraphs 1 and 3 of this subsection,

22 b. has a valid certificate to teach issued by the Board,

23 c. has a minimum of five (5) years of experience as a
24 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.

5. 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, 3 and 4 of this subsection,
- d. (1) has earned a "superior" rating pursuant to Section 6-101.16 of this title, or
(2) has earned a "highly effective" rating pursuant to Section 6-101.16 of this title and has a National

- 1 Board certification from the National Board for
2 Professional Teaching Standards, and
3 e. shall assume leadership roles that may include but are
4 not limited to:
- 5 (1) the planning and delivery of professional
6 development activities designed to improve
7 instructional strategies,
8 (2) the facilitation of an instructional leadership
9 team within the building, school district or
10 other school districts in which the lead teacher
11 is assigned, and
12 (3) the mentoring of other teachers and participation
13 in the evaluation of initial teachers,
- 14 f. (1) may have a teaching load of not more than fifty
15 percent (50%) student instruction to allow the
16 lead teacher to spend time on co-teaching,
17 (2) co-planning,
18 (3) peer reviews,
19 (4) observing career teachers, model teachers and
20 mentor teachers, and
21 (5) other duties mutually agreed upon by the
22 superintendent and the lead teacher, and
23
24

1 g. may satisfy the qualitative evaluation component for
2 teachers as required by Section 6-101.16 of this title
3 by performing the duties set forth in this paragraph.

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

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

8 2. Holds certification from the National Board for Professional
9 Teaching Standards;

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

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

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

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

6 F. 1. The Board shall issue a career teaching certificate ~~to~~
7 ~~teach~~ to a person who holds a valid out-of-state certificate or to a
8 person who holds a valid out-of-country certificate and ~~meets any~~
9 ~~requirements established by the Board~~ has served as a classroom
10 teacher for three (3) or more years. The Board may establish
11 additional requirements for the certificate as necessary. The
12 certificate to teach shall only be for those subject areas and grade
13 levels most closely aligned to the subject areas and grade levels
14 recognized on the out-of-state or out-of-country certificate.

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

20 3. A person who meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this
21 subsection shall have on file with the Board a current Oklahoma
22 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of
23 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as
24 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Upon

1 receipt of the Oklahoma criminal history record check, the Board may
2 issue a temporary certificate which shall be effective until receipt
3 of the national fingerprint-based criminal history record check.
4 The person applying for a certificate shall be responsible for the
5 cost of the criminal history record checks.

6 4. The Board shall promulgate rules establishing a process by
7 which out-of-country certificates will be reviewed and evaluated for
8 purposes of awarding a certificate to teach pursuant to this
9 subsection.

10 G. 1. The Board shall issue a career teaching certificate ~~to~~
11 ~~teach~~ to a person who has successfully completed a competency exam
12 used in a majority of the other states and has served as a classroom
13 teacher for three (3) or more years. The certificate to teach shall
14 only be for those subject areas and grade levels that correspond
15 with a certification area used in Oklahoma.

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

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

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

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

15 I. 1. Any person who is eligible for a mentor or lead teaching
16 certificate described in this section shall make application with
17 the employing school district board of education. The board of
18 education and school district superintendent shall review
19 applications to determine if the teaching certificate candidate
20 meets the criteria for the certificate level requested. In
21 reviewing an application, the board of education and the
22 superintendent shall consider the ability of the school district to
23 fulfill the additional requirements described in subsection H of
24

1 this section before making a recommendation to the State Board of
2 Education.

3 2. The employing board of education and the superintendent
4 shall provide a recommendation to the State Board of Education
5 within sixty (60) days of receipt of an application.

6 3. The State Board of Education shall develop an application to
7 implement the provisions of this subsection and make it available to
8 school districts.

9 J. The State Department of Education shall make teaching
10 certificates provided for in this section available to all eligible
11 certified teachers beginning in the 2021-2022 school year.

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

17 L. The Department shall seek funding necessary for
18 implementation of the salary supplements required by subsection H of
19 this section.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.
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1 Passed the Senate the 14th day of March, 2018.

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3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2018.

7
8 _____
9 Presiding Officer of the House
10 of Representatives