

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 HOUSE BILL 1576

By: Caldwell

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 6-186, as amended by Section 12, Chapter 124,
9 O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-186),
10 which relates to criteria for approval and
11 accreditation of teacher education programs;
12 requiring Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation
13 to adopt rules relating to digital technologies for
14 program accreditation by certain date; amending 70
15 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as amended by Section 18,
16 Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section
17 6-192), which relates to professional development
18 procedures for teachers; requiring procedures to
19 include digital teaching and learning standards;
20 providing an effective date; and declaring an
21 emergency.

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

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-186, as
24 amended by Section 12, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016,
Section 6-186), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-186. A. Criteria for the approval and accreditation
of teacher education programs in Oklahoma institutions of higher
education shall include, but not be limited to, substantial evidence
that persons who enter teacher education programs demonstrate:

1 1. Competency in the oral and written use of the English
2 language;

3 2. A minimum grade point average as established by the Oklahoma
4 Commission for Teacher Preparation; and

5 3. The ability to meet criteria established pursuant to the
6 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act at the completion of the teacher
7 education program and provide evidence of having worked with
8 children or youth in a variety of situations.

9 Criteria shall also include a greater emphasis upon field work
10 in accredited schools by prospective teachers under the supervision
11 of higher education faculty.

12 B. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall work
13 with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the various
14 institutions of higher education in developing guidelines for a paid
15 teacher internship program which may be offered at each institution
16 for prospective teachers. The purpose of each program shall be to
17 provide mentorship and support for prospective teachers. Students
18 enrolled in a teacher education program shall be eligible to
19 participate in the program. Only students who have completed the
20 minimum nonsalaried teacher internship requirement as established by
21 the institution shall be eligible to participate in the paid teacher
22 internship program.

23 C. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Legislature
24 that the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation work with the

1 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the various
2 institutions of higher education in establishing a procedure whereby
3 full-time teacher education faculty continue their professional
4 development during their tenure at an institution of higher
5 education to ensure that the future teachers of this state are
6 taught by professional educators fully trained in their area of
7 expertise. Each approved or accredited program of teacher education
8 shall have a system for documenting and reporting the annual
9 professional development activities of all teacher education faculty
10 members. Faculty professional development reports shall be reviewed
11 by the Commission along with professional development activities as
12 a normal part of the accreditation process.

13 It is further declared to be the intent of the Legislature that
14 such professional development plans provide alternative means of
15 education including, but not limited to:

- 16 1. Professional development programs;
- 17 2. Higher education courses;
- 18 3. Exchange programs with public school classroom teachers,
19 administrators, and other school personnel; and
- 20 4. Programs whereby all full-time teacher education faculty
21 members directly involved in the teacher education process,
22 including all administrators of the teacher education program, are
23 required to serve in a state accredited public school for at least
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1 ten (10) clock hours per school year in responsibilities related to
2 their respective teacher education teaching fields.

3 All public school systems shall participate in the programs
4 provided for in this subsection when needed.

5 D. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall adopt
6 rules requiring specific improvements to strengthen the screening of
7 student applicants and field activity and placement as set out in
8 subsection A of this section. Such rules shall be reviewed and
9 amended or readopted by the Commission at least once every five (5)
10 years.

11 E. To assist the Commission in setting specific requirements as
12 set out in subsections A and D of this section, the Commission shall
13 annually prepare a statistical report showing the percentage of
14 students from each of the Oklahoma institutions of higher education
15 who have successfully completed or who have failed the competency
16 examination for certification. The annual report shall show the
17 percentages for each institution of higher education and each
18 assessment area separately by student degree status and shall be
19 distributed annually to each member of the Oklahoma Commission for
20 Teacher Preparation, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
21 Education, the governing board of each institution which has an
22 approved or state accredited teacher education program, the State
23 Board of Education, the State Board of Career and Technology
24 Education and the Legislature.

1 F. By November 1, 2017, the Commission shall adopt rules
2 requiring coursework or training in the use of digital and other
3 instructional technologies as a requisite for program accreditation.

4 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-192, as
5 amended by Section 18, Chapter 124, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016,
6 Section 6-192), is amended to read as follows:

7 Section 6-192. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the
8 Legislature to establish a professional development procedure
9 whereby all teachers in the state continue their education beyond
10 initial certification by the state to ensure that the children of
11 the state are taught by professional educators, fully prepared in
12 their areas of expertise. Furthermore, such professional
13 development procedure shall provide alternative means of education,
14 including one or more of the following: In-service programs, higher
15 education courses, or other alternative means of education designed
16 to help teachers enrich their professional abilities.

17 B. The professional development procedure shall include digital
18 teaching and learning standards to enhance content delivery to
19 students and improve student achievement.

20 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2017.

21 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
22 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
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1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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