

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 1360

By: Hasenbeck

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Sections 6-204.2, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 2013 and 6-204.3, as amended by Section 600, Chapter 304, O.S.L. 2012 (70 O.S. Supp. 2018, Sections 6-204.2 and 6-204.3), which relate to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act; modifying purpose of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program; providing certain award for teachers renewing their National Board certification; limiting applicants for renewal program; setting maximum award for each applicant; modifying expenditures from the Education Leadership Oklahoma Revolving Fund; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.2, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 6-204.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-204.2 A. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation and the State Board of Education are authorized to establish the Education Leadership Oklahoma program.

1 B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program  
2 are to:

3 1. Provide teachers throughout the state information about  
4 National Board certification and the Education Leadership Oklahoma  
5 program services;

6 2. Provide technical assistance and National-Board-certified  
7 mentors to all teachers seeking National Board certification upon  
8 request;

9 3. Reward teachers who are seeking National Board certification  
10 by awarding them a portion of the application processing charge and  
11 assessment fee and scholarship as provided in subsection D of this  
12 section; ~~and~~

13 4. Reward teachers who are renewing their National Board  
14 certification by awarding them a portion of the renewal application  
15 fee as provided in subsection E of this section; and

16 5. Provide recognition to National-Board-certified teachers.

17 C. To fulfill the objectives of the Education Leadership  
18 Oklahoma Act, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

19 1. Inform teachers of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program  
20 and services it provides to teachers seeking National Board  
21 certification, emphasizing recruiting efforts toward teachers at  
22 high-poverty schools, schools identified as in need of improvement  
23 and in counties with the lowest percentage of teachers who have  
24 achieved National Board certification; and

1        2. Ensure that all teachers seeking National Board  
2 certification receive adequate information regarding the level of  
3 commitment required to acquire National Board certification.

4        D. The Commission shall select not more than one hundred  
5 applicants to participate in the program each fiscal year for whom  
6 the Commission shall pay one-half (1/2) of the application  
7 processing charge and assessment fee for National Board  
8 certification. The total amount paid by the Commission shall not  
9 exceed One Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$1,300.00). In addition  
10 the Commission shall also provide to the selected applicants a  
11 scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to cover  
12 other expenses associated with obtaining National Board  
13 certification.

14        E. The Commission shall select not more than three hundred  
15 applicants to participate in the renewal program each fiscal year  
16 for whom the Commission shall pay a portion of the fee for National  
17 Board certification renewal. The total amount paid by the  
18 Commission shall not exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per  
19 applicant.

20        F. The Commission shall promulgate rules establishing a process  
21 for accepting applications for the Education Leadership Oklahoma  
22 program and for providing to applicants selected for the program up-  
23 front payment of the application processing charge and assessment  
24 fee and scholarship. If a selected applicant who receives the up-

front payment does not complete National Board certification within three (3) years, the applicant shall repay the Commission the full amount paid by the Commission pursuant to subsection D of this section. All selected applicants who do not receive an up-front payment and successfully complete National Board certification shall be reimbursed by the Commission for the application processing charge and assessment fee. The total amount of reimbursement paid by the Commission shall not exceed One Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$1,300.00).

~~F.~~ G. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation contract with Southeastern Oklahoma State University to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma program training in higher education teacher preparation programs in the state to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain National Board certification.

~~G.~~ H. All teachers seeking National Board certification shall be eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma program training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National Board certification process, free of charge.

~~H.~~ I. Subject to district board of education policy or collective bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be granted to teachers seeking National Board certification for National Board certification portfolio development. During the two (2) days of the additional professional days granted to teachers for

1 National Board certification portfolio development, a substitute  
2 teacher shall be provided by the school district at no cost to the  
3 teacher.

4 ~~I.~~ J. 1. The State Board of Education shall provide to  
5 teachers who attained National Board certification prior to June 30,  
6 2013, a bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)  
7 annually over a ten-year period, to be paid no later than January 31  
8 each year. The Board shall provide a bonus to any teacher who  
9 attains National Board certification after June 30, 2013, if the  
10 teacher was selected for the Education Leadership Oklahoma program  
11 before June 30, 2013, or the teacher has submitted an application  
12 for National Board certification to the National Board for  
13 Professional Teaching Standards before June 30, 2013.

14 2. The teachers eligible to receive the annual bonus as  
15 provided for in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall receive the  
16 annual bonus for the ten-year duration of their National Board  
17 certification and so long as they are teaching in the classroom  
18 full-time in an Oklahoma public school. No school or school  
19 district shall be liable for payment of bonuses pursuant to this  
20 section.

21 3. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the  
22 teacher's salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory  
23 minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma  
24 Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

1        4. Teachers eligible to receive the annual bonus as provided  
2 for in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not be eligible to  
3 receive the additional salary increment for National Board  
4 certification as set forth in the minimum salary schedule in Section  
5 ~~3~~ 18-114.14 of this ~~act~~ title.

6        5. Teachers who attain National Board certification after June  
7 30, 2013, shall be eligible to receive the additional salary  
8 increments for National Board certification as set forth in the  
9 minimum salary schedule in Section ~~3~~ 18-114.14 of this ~~act~~ title.

10       6. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for a  
11 process by which a National-Board-certified teacher will verify  
12 that:

- 13           a. the National Board certification has not lapsed,
- 14           b. the teacher is still a full-time teacher, and
- 15           c. for teachers eligible for the bonus, the teacher has  
16               not exceeded the limit of annual bonus payments as  
17               provided for in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

18       ~~J.~~ K. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma  
19 State Regents for Higher Education incorporate the National Board  
20 certification portfolio development into all programs in education  
21 leading to a master's level degree.

22       SECTION 2.        AMENDATORY        70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.3, as  
23 amended by Section 600, Chapter 304, O.S.L. 2012 (70 O.S. Supp.  
24 2018, Section 6-204.3), is amended to read as follows:

1       Section 6-204.3 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a  
2 revolving fund for the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation  
3 to be designated the "Education Leadership Oklahoma Revolving Fund".  
4 The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year  
5 limitations, and shall consist of all monies appropriated or  
6 transferred to the fund by the Legislature. All monies accruing to  
7 the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted  
8 and expended by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to  
9 provide assistance and scholarships for candidates seeking National  
10 Board certification and renewal. Expenditures from the fund shall  
11 be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims  
12 filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of  
13 Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

14       SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.  
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