

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

HOUSE BILL 3379

By: Miller

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 165, O.S.L. 2018 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 6-122.3), which relates to alternative teaching certificates; modifying professional education requirements; 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 2, Chapter 165, O.S.L. 2018 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 6-122.3), is amended to read as follows:

Section 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 the following criteria:

1. a. 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, or

1 b. has successfully completed a terminal degree, such as
2 a doctorate of philosophy, a doctorate in education,
3 professional doctorates, a master of fine arts degree
4 or a master of library science degree, from an
5 institution accredited by a national or regional
6 accrediting agency which is recognized by the
7 Secretary of the United States Department of
8 Education. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
9 Education shall be consulted to verify other terminal
10 degrees, or

11 c. holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an
12 institution whose accreditation is recognized by the
13 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has
14 qualified work experience in a field that corresponds
15 to an area of certification as determined by the State
16 Board of Education, and

17 d. in addition to the requirements of subparagraphs a, b
18 and c of this paragraph, has demonstrated competency
19 or completed a major in a field that corresponds to an
20 area of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary
21 Certificate or a Secondary Certificate as determined
22 by the State Board of Education or a vocational-
23 technical certificate as recommended by the Oklahoma
24 Department of Career and Technology Education;

1 2. Declares the intention to earn standard certification by
2 means of an alternative placement program in not more than three (3)
3 years. The State Board of Education shall determine the subject
4 matter and the number of ~~clock or~~ semester hours required for the
5 professional education component for each person making application
6 for an alternative placement teaching certificate based on the
7 criteria of paragraph 1 of this subsection.

8 ~~The~~ For the professional education component, the State Board of
9 Education shall establish a core minimum of six (6) semester hours
10 ~~or ninety (90) clock hours~~ and a maximum of eighteen (18) semester
11 ~~hours or two hundred seventy (270) clock hours for the professional~~
12 ~~education component~~ of professional education coursework from an
13 institution of higher education program whose accreditation is
14 recognized by the Commission for Educational Quality and
15 Accountability. The professional education coursework shall include
16 at least one (1) college credit course addressing pedagogical
17 principles and at least one (1) college credit course addressing
18 classroom management.

19 The requirements set forth in this subsection shall exclude all
20 student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of
21 subsection E of this section;

22 3. Has passed the general education and subject area portions
23 of the competency examination required in Section 6-187 of this
24

1 title in the area of specialization for which certification is
2 sought; and

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

14 B. An alternative placement teaching certificate shall be
15 renewed for not more than a maximum of three (3) years upon
16 presentation of a document from an accredited public school district
17 in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of
18 specialization and a document from a teacher education institution
19 verifying satisfactory progress in an appropriate alternative
20 placement program.

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

22 1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education
23 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,
24 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the

1 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to offer teacher
2 education programs, nor have enrolled in and subsequently failed
3 courses necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of
4 the program, except those persons who hold a certificate;

5 2. Have on file with the director of teacher education at an
6 Oklahoma institution of higher education a plan for meeting standard
7 certification requirements within three (3) years; and

8 3. Participate in an induction program as required in Section
9 6-195 of this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as
10 other inductees.

11 D. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the
12 requirements for certification and, upon demonstration by an
13 individual of specific competency in the subject area of
14 specialization, may grant a certificate to the individual. The
15 State Board may establish other requirements necessary to grant
16 exceptions.

17 E. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience
18 shall not be required of alternative placement program participants
19 for standard certification.

20 F. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules
21 authorizing adjunct teachers who shall be persons with distinguished
22 qualifications in their field. Adjunct teachers shall not be
23 required to meet standard certification. Adjunct teachers shall be
24

1 limited to two hundred seventy (270) clock hours of classroom
2 teaching per semester.

3 G. Each teacher education institution shall provide the
4 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation an annual report of
5 information as specified by the Commission regarding participation
6 in the alternative placement programs offered by the institution.

7 H. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall not
8 accredit, renew the accreditation of, or otherwise approve any
9 teacher education program of any institution of higher education in
10 this state that has not implemented alternative placement programs
11 in at least four areas of specialization, including mathematics,
12 science and a foreign language. Each institution shall allow
13 individuals who meet the criteria of subsections A and C of this
14 section to be:

15 1. Admitted to an alternative placement program without further
16 qualification; and

17 2. Offered the opportunity to complete the requirements for
18 standard certification set forth in subsection A of this section
19 during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year
20 of teaching with an alternative placement teaching certificate. Any
21 person seeking standard certification through an alternative
22 placement program shall be permitted to take necessary courses
23 during regular semesters if offered.

1 I. The criteria specified in subsection H of this section can
2 be met through a cooperative arrangement entered into by two or more
3 institutions of higher education.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

5
6 57-2-10158 AB 01/08/20
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24