

1                                   **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   April 13, 2022

3                                   **AS AMENDED**

4   ENGROSSED HOUSE

5   BILL NO. 4362

By: Hill, Baker, McDugle,  
Phillips and Dollens of the  
House

and

Garvin and Kidd of the  
Senate

[ economic development - Oklahoma Center for the  
Advancement of Science and Technology Intern  
Partnership STEM Workforce Pipeline Program -  
competitive internship funding for applicant  
organizations - codification - effective date -  
emergency ]

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

SECTION 1.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5060.44 of Title 74, unless  
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "Applicant organization" means an Oklahoma-based entity that  
is a nonprofit research foundation or private enterprise of special  
importance to the Oklahoma economy; and

2. "Eligible student" means an individual currently enrolled in  
an undergraduate or graduate program at an institution of higher  
education who is majoring in a science, technology, engineering, and

1 mathematics (STEM) based discipline including, but not limited to,  
2 natural sciences, computer science, materials science, engineering,  
3 biomedical, biotechnical, data analytics, finance, mathematics, or a  
4 support area related to building successful Oklahoma high tech  
5 companies.

6 B. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Center for the  
7 Advancement of Science and Technology Intern Partnership for STEM  
8 Workforce Pipeline Program to be administered by the Oklahoma Center  
9 for the Advancement of Science and Technology under the governance  
10 of the Oklahoma Science and Technology Research and Development  
11 Board.

12 C. **The** Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and  
13 Technology may award competitive internship funds, through  
14 professional service contracts, to applicant organizations to hire  
15 qualified student interns to participate in innovative industry  
16 projects.

17 D. To qualify for Program internship funds, the applicant  
18 organization must provide:

19 1. Documentation verifying that not less than fifty percent  
20 (50%) of the total direct cost of the proposed project will be  
21 provided by sources other than the Oklahoma Center for the  
22 Advancement of Science and Technology and other state-appropriated  
23 money. Such sources may be in the form of salary, cash, nonstate  
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1 grant funds, and other sources of funding as defined by the Oklahoma  
2 Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology;

3 2. A description of the potential commercial application of and  
4 the industrial sectors that will likely benefit from the project and  
5 the potential to enhance employment opportunities in Oklahoma;

6 3. An itemized research budget, timeline, and research  
7 methodology; and

8 4. Any other information that may be required by the Board.

9 E. The Board shall award professional service contracts after  
10 it determines the applicant organization:

11 1. Provides a beneficial and meaningful intern experience which  
12 includes exposure to real-world application of technology and  
13 innovation activities;

14 2. Involves projects leading to innovation, new knowledge, or  
15 technology that will benefit the applicant organization;

16 3. Has a reasonable probability to enhance employment  
17 opportunities within Oklahoma;

18 4. Is technically sound, will produce a measurable result, and  
19 provide a positive impact to the applicant organization; and

20 5. Does not involve market surveys or research activities that  
21 create fundamental or basic information which lack the potential for  
22 reasonably short-term commercialization.

23 F. Based upon the information submitted by the applicant  
24 organization, external peer review, and such additional

1 investigation as the staff of the Center shall make, the Board may  
2 approve such professional service contracts after the Board finds  
3 that:

4 1. The proposed project is research that leads to innovation,  
5 new knowledge, or technology and is not training or technical  
6 assistance for business firms;

7 2. The project has a reasonable probability to enhance  
8 employment opportunities within the state; and

9 3. The project is technically sound and will produce a  
10 measurable result.

11 G. The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and  
12 Technology shall promulgate rules necessary to implement and  
13 administer the Program authorized in this section.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

15 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
16 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
20 April 13, 2022 - DO PASS AS AMENDED  
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