

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

HOUSE BILL 4195

By: Echols

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to higher education; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 628.13, which relates to concurrent enrollment in high school and college or university courses; creating a tuition waiver for freshman and sophomore high school students; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 628.13, is amended to read as follows:

Section 628.13 A. 1. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in cooperation with the State Board of Education, shall actively encourage the concurrent enrollment in college or university courses of eligible high school students on high school campuses, on college and university campuses and via online courses.

2. The State Regents and State Board shall establish concurrent enrollment requirements with an emphasis on determining course readiness and take all necessary actions to ensure the availability of concurrent enrollment opportunities to students in all Oklahoma high schools.

1       B. The State Board of Education in cooperation with the  
2 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall prepare  
3 promotional materials explaining the requirements, features and  
4 opportunities of concurrent enrollment and shall ensure that the  
5 independent school districts distribute the materials to each  
6 student prior to enrollment for each year of high school.

7       C. No institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher  
8 Education shall deny enrollment in any course to any otherwise  
9 eligible high school student, or student of at least thirteen (13)  
10 years of age who is receiving high-school-level instruction at home,  
11 who meets the requirements of concurrent enrollment, nor shall any  
12 independent school district prohibit any student who meets the  
13 requirements of concurrent enrollment from participating.

14       D. 1. Each high school senior who meets the eligibility  
15 requirements for concurrent enrollment shall be entitled to receive  
16 a tuition waiver equivalent to the amount of resident tuition for a  
17 maximum of eighteen (18) credit hours in their senior year.

18       2. Subject to the high school senior concurrent enrollment  
19 program being fully funded, each high school junior who meets the  
20 eligibility requirements for concurrent enrollment shall be entitled  
21 to receive a tuition waiver equivalent to the amount of resident  
22 tuition for a maximum of nine (9) credit hours in their junior year,  
23 subject to the availability of funds.

1       3. Subject to the high school senior concurrent enrollment  
2 program and the high school junior concurrent enrollment program  
3 being fully funded, each high school freshman and sophomore who  
4 meets the eligibility requirements for concurrent enrollment shall  
5 be entitled to receive a tuition waiver equivalent to the amount of  
6 resident tuition for a maximum of six (6) credit hours in their  
7 freshman year and a maximum of six (6) credit hours in their  
8 sophomore year, subject to the availability of funds.

9       4. Tuition waivers provided pursuant to this section shall be  
10 granted without any limitation on the number of waivers granted in  
11 any year other than the amount of funds available for the program  
12 and the number of eligible applicants.

13       E. When a student earns college credit through concurrent  
14 enrollment, school districts shall provide academic credit for any  
15 concurrently enrolled higher education courses that are correlated  
16 with the academic credit awarded by the institution of higher  
17 education. Academic credit shall only be transcribed as elective  
18 credit if there is no correlation between the concurrent enrollment  
19 higher education course and a course provided by the school  
20 district.

21       F. On or before December 1 of each year, the Oklahoma State  
22 Regents for Higher Education shall issue an annual report on the  
23 concurrent enrollment program implemented pursuant to this section.  
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1 The annual report shall include but not be limited to the following  
2 information:

3 1. The number of students participating in concurrent  
4 enrollment;

5 2. The number of students participating in concurrent  
6 enrollment who received tuition waivers pursuant to subsection D of  
7 this section;

8 3. The high school graduation rate of students described in  
9 paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection; and

10 4. The number of students described in paragraphs 1 and 2 of  
11 this subsection who earned an associate's degree or a bachelor's  
12 degree at an institution of higher education.

13 The annual report shall be posted on the websites of the  
14 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the State Department  
15 of Education.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

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