

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 SENATE BILL 661

By: Dahm

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to students; requiring students to
8 take and pass the United States Citizenship Test in
9 order to graduate beginning in certain year;
10 requiring school districts to administer the test to
11 students in certain grades; establishing minimum
12 score for passage; providing for retake opportunities
13 for certain students; providing for certain
14 statements for students who have individualized
15 education programs; providing for certain
16 accommodations; requiring certain documentation;
17 providing for assessment of students identified as
18 English language learners; providing for promulgation
19 of rules; providing for codification; providing an
20 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

22 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.517 of Title 70, unless
24 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

25 A. Except as otherwise provided for in this section, beginning
26 with the 2022-2023 school year, in order to graduate from a public
27 high school accredited by the State Board of Education with a
28 standard diploma, students shall take and receive a passing grade on

1 the United States Citizenship Test, administered by the United
2 States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

3 B. Each school district shall administer the test to eleventh-
4 grade and twelfth-grade students enrolled in the school district.
5 In order to successfully pass the test, a student shall attain a
6 minimum score of not less than sixty percent (60%) correct answers
7 on the one-hundred-question test. Students who do not successfully
8 pass the United States Citizenship Test shall be given the
9 opportunity to retake the test as many times as necessary for
10 passage.

11 C. 1. Students who have individualized education programs
12 pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
13 shall have an appropriate statement on the student's individualized
14 education program requiring administration of the United States
15 Citizenship Test with or without accommodations or an alternate
16 test. Any accommodations normally employed for assessments shall be
17 approved by the State Board of Education and be provided for in the
18 individualized education program. All documentation for each
19 student shall be on file in the school prior to administration of
20 the test.

21 2. Students identified as English language learners shall be
22 assessed in a valid and reliable manner with acceptable
23 accommodations as necessary or, to the extent practicable, with an
24 alternate assessment aligned to the United States Citizenship Test

1 provided by the school district in the language and form most likely
2 to yield accurate data of the student's knowledge of civics.

3 D. The State Board of Education may promulgate rules to
4 implement the provisions of this section.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

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

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