

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 51

By: Stanley

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-189, which relates to certification for superintendent of schools and principal; making certain requirements for certification of principals applicable to certification of superintendents of schools; removing and modifying certain requirements; removing language establishing certification requirements for superintendents of schools; updating statutory language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-189, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-189. A. The certification system required by the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act as part of the new teacher preparation system shall be competency-based. The competencies for certification shall be integrated with competencies specified in Section 6-185 of this title. By July 1, 1996, the State Board of Education shall adopt general competencies for certification, and by January 1, 1997, the Board shall have adopted full competencies and

1 implemented the certification system as required ~~in this act~~ by the
2 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act. No higher education courses or
3 credit hours may be specified by the State Board of Education in
4 rules for certification. Nothing in the certification rules adopted
5 by the Board shall prohibit the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
6 Education from adopting policies and procedures it deems appropriate
7 for coursework, grade point average, or credit hours for teacher
8 preparation at institutions in The Oklahoma State System of Higher
9 Education.

10 B. The ~~certification~~ requirements for a certificate for
11 superintendent of schools or school principal not alternatively
12 certified ~~under~~ pursuant to subsection ~~D~~ C of this section shall
13 include not less than:

14 1. Completion of a standard master's degree;

15 2. ~~Completion of a program in education administration approved~~
16 ~~by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation with an emphasis~~
17 ~~on curriculum, instruction and building-level leadership skills.~~

18 ~~The requirement in this paragraph shall not apply to any person who~~
19 ~~has completed a master's degree program in education that included~~
20 ~~competencies that are substantially equal to those listed in this~~
21 ~~paragraph and if the degree was completed prior to July 1, 2005;~~

22 3. ~~Any other professional education and requirements as may be~~
23 ~~fixed by the State Board of Education;~~

1 ~~4.~~ A passing score on the subject area competency examination
2 required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

3 ~~5.~~ 3. A minimum of two (2) years of successful teaching,
4 supervisory, or administrative experience in public ~~or private~~
5 schools ~~accredited by the State Board of Education or by the proper~~
6 ~~accrediting authority of another state of the United States.~~

7 C. ~~The certification requirements for a superintendent of~~
8 ~~schools not alternatively certified under subsection D of this~~
9 ~~section shall include not less than:~~

10 ~~1.~~ ~~Certification as a school principal or completion of the~~
11 ~~certification requirements for a school principal as set forth in~~
12 ~~subsection B of this section;~~

13 ~~2.~~ ~~Completion of a program in education administration approved~~
14 ~~by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation with an emphasis~~
15 ~~on district-level leadership skills, and which shall include the~~
16 ~~following competencies:~~

17 ~~a.~~ ~~instructional leadership,~~

18 ~~b.~~ ~~organizational leadership, including education~~
19 ~~finance, education law, and risk management,~~

20 ~~c.~~ ~~collaborative and community leadership, and~~

21 ~~d.~~ ~~ethical leadership.~~

22 ~~The requirement in this paragraph shall not apply to any person~~
23 ~~who has completed an Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~
24 ~~approved Master's Degree in Education Administration or has~~

1 ~~completed a program in education that included competencies that are~~
2 ~~substantially equal to those listed in this paragraph, and if the~~
3 ~~degree or program was completed between the effective date of this~~
4 ~~act and July 1, 2005;~~

5 ~~3. Any other professional education and requirements as may be~~
6 ~~fixed by the State Board of Education;~~

7 ~~4. A passing score on the subject area competency examination~~
8 ~~required in Section 6-187 of this title; and~~

9 ~~5. A minimum of two (2) years of administrative experience in~~
10 ~~public or private schools accredited by the State Board of Education~~
11 ~~or by the proper accrediting authority of another state of the~~
12 ~~United States.~~

13 ~~D.~~ 1. The standards for alternative certification for
14 superintendents of schools and principals shall include:

- 15 a. the completion of a standard master's degree,
- 16 b. two (2) years of relevant work experience in a
- 17 supervisory or administrative capacity,
- 18 c. a passing score on the subject area competency
- 19 examination required in Section 6-187 of this title,
- 20 and
- 21 d. filing with the director of teacher education at an
- 22 Oklahoma accredited institution of higher education a
- 23 plan for completing an alternative administrative
- 24 preparation program within three (3) years. Relevant

1 work experience and coursework may be considered and
2 applied to complete the plan.

3 2. An alternative certificate for superintendent of schools and
4 principals shall not exceed three (3) years and shall not be
5 renewable.

6 3. Upon successful completion of an alternative administrative
7 preparation program by a participant, the State Board of Education
8 shall issue a standard certificate for superintendent or principal,
9 as applicable, to the applicant.

10 4. Any person participating in an alternative certification
11 program for superintendent of schools and principals on ~~the~~
12 ~~effective date of this act~~ August 26, 2005, shall be subject to the
13 program requirements in effect prior to ~~the effective date of this~~
14 ~~act~~ August 26, 2005.

15 ~~E.~~ D. The certification requirements for a superintendent of a
16 technology center school district shall include not less than a
17 standard master's degree, any other professional education
18 requirements as may be fixed by the State Board of Education, and a
19 minimum of four (4) years of teaching, supervisory, or
20 administrative experience, which may include teaching of full-time
21 adult students, in a technology center school district. A person
22 meeting the requirements set forth in subsection C of this section
23 shall be eligible for a certificate for superintendent of a
24 technology center school district.

1 ~~F.~~ E. The State Board of Education and the State Board of
2 Career and Technology Education shall promulgate rules for a
3 certification system option specifically for teachers and
4 instructors in the technology center school districts. The teacher
5 preparation system shall be competency-based. The competencies for
6 certification shall be integrated with competencies of this title,
7 as well as reflect industry-based skills, standards, and
8 certifications.

9 ~~G.~~ F. Certificates issued by the State Board of Education may
10 be revoked by the State Board of Education for willful violation of
11 any rule of the Board or of any federal or state law or other proper
12 cause but only after sufficient hearing has been given before the
13 Board.

14 ~~H.~~ G. Teaching in a Head Start program or programs shall be
15 used for renewal of a standard teaching certificate.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

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

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