

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3244

By: Nichols

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; directing the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to establish an education partnership grant program; subjecting program to the availability of funds; describing program purpose; prescribing duties for program oversight to the State Regents; requiring alignment with existing programs; mandating grant recipient programming to address certain issues; providing for consultation with grant recipients to develop and measure indicators and outcomes of programs; establishing program requirements; directing biennial report on education partnership program to certain elected officials; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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 1210.559 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall establish a grant program, subject to the availability of funds, supporting a coalition of coordinated, aligned education partnerships, for a comprehensive network of evidence-based support

1 services designed to close opportunity gaps by improving educational  
2 and developmental outcomes of students and their families within  
3 communities experiencing poverty and impediments to economic  
4 viability.

5 B. The State Regents shall establish education partnership  
6 program requirements, an application process and timeline for  
7 grants, criteria for evaluation of applications, and a grant awards  
8 process. The process shall minimize administrative costs, minimize  
9 burdens for applicants and grant recipients, and provide a framework  
10 that permits flexibility in program design and implementation among  
11 grant recipients.

12 C. The education partnership program shall align with programs  
13 implemented or proposed by organizations in the state that:

14 1. Identify and increase the capacity of organizations that are  
15 focused on achieving data-driven, locally controlled, positive  
16 outcomes for children and youth throughout an entire neighborhood or  
17 geographic area;

18 2. Build a continuum of educational family and community  
19 supports with academically rigorous schools at the center;

20 3. Maximize program efficiencies by integrating programmatic  
21 activities and eliminating administrative barriers;

22 4. Develop local infrastructure needed to sustain and scale up  
23 proven and effective solutions beyond the initial neighborhood or  
24 geographic area;

1       5. Utilize appropriate outcome measures based on unique  
2 community needs and interests and apply rigorous evaluation on a  
3 periodic basis to be used to both monitor outcomes and allow for  
4 continuous improvements to systems;

5       6. Collect and utilize data to improve student outcomes;

6       7. Share disaggregated performance data with the community to  
7 set community-level outcomes;

8       8. Employ continuous improvement processes;

9       9. Have a tribal entity, community foundation, higher education  
10 institution, or community-based organization as an anchor entity  
11 managing the partnership;

12       10. Convene a cross-sector leadership group and have a  
13 documented accountability structure; and

14       11. Demonstrate use of private funds, from multiple sources,  
15 including in-kind contributions.

16       D. A grant recipient's supportive services programming shall  
17 address:

18       1. Kindergarten readiness and youth development;

19       2. Third grade reading proficiency;

20       3. Middle school or junior high mathematics;

21       4. High school graduation;

22       5. Postsecondary educational enrollment;

23       6. Postsecondary education completion or attainment;

24       7. Physical and mental health;

8. Development of career skills and readiness;
9. Parental engagement and development;
10. Community engagement and programmatic alignment; and
11. Reduction of remedial education.

E. The State Regents, in consultation with grant recipients, shall:

1. Develop and revise core indicators of progress toward outcomes specifying program impacts;
2. Establish a reporting system for grant recipients to measure program outcomes using data sources and program goals; and
3. Evaluate effectiveness based on the core indicators established by each partnership.

F. A grant recipient's education partnership program in the planning, development, or implementation phase shall include:

1. Integrated supportive services programming, as provided in subsection D of this section, within a specific community or geographic area for all ages of children and youth and their families within that area, provided that services may be phased in to all ages over time; and
2. A system for evaluating goals and outcomes as provided in subsection E of this section.

G. By December 15 of each odd-numbered year, the State Regents shall submit a report on the education partnership program to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the Oklahoma House of

Representatives, President Pro Tempore and Minority Leader of the  
Oklahoma State Senate, and the Governor. At a minimum, the report  
shall summarize grantee activities, identify grant recipients and  
awards, analyze program performance measures and outcomes, and make  
any recommendations for legislative changes.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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