

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3274

By: Baker

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.508, which relates to the statewide system of student assessments; adding optional career-readiness and armed services assessments for certain students; requiring assessment to be administered at no cost to students; 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 1210.508, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.508 A. 1. By no later than December 31, 2016, the State Board of Education shall adopt a statewide system of student assessments in compliance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as reauthorized and amended by P.L. No. 114-95, also known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

2. The statewide student assessment system adopted by the Board pursuant to this subsection shall be aligned with the Oklahoma

1 Academic Standards as adopted by the Board and which prepare  
2 students for college and careers.

3 B. 1. The Board shall issue a request for proposals for the  
4 selection of assessments to be administered to students in grades  
5 three through twelve as a part of the statewide student assessment  
6 system adopted by the Board pursuant to this section.

7 2. The Board shall adopt assessments from the selected  
8 proposals that were submitted pursuant to paragraph 1 of this  
9 subsection. The adopted assessments shall be administered by the  
10 Board for a period that is in coordination with the six-year subject  
11 area textbook adoption cycle unless the vendor does not fulfill the  
12 terms of the contract or fails to comply with or violates the terms  
13 of the contract. The Board shall administer the assessments  
14 beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

15 C. The statewide student assessment system adopted by the Board  
16 pursuant to this section shall include assessments that:

17 1. Are aligned with the Oklahoma subject matter standards as  
18 adopted by the Board;

19 2. Provide a measure of comparability among other states;

20 3. Yield both norm-referenced scores and criterion-referenced  
21 scores;

22 4. Have a track record of statistical reliability and accuracy;  
23 and  
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1        5. For assessments administered in high school, provide a  
2 measure of future academic performance.

3        D. For the 2016-2017 school year, the Board shall administer  
4 assessments in:

5            1. English Language Arts or Reading and Mathematics in grades  
6 three through eight and at least once in high school, during the  
7 grade span of nine through twelve;

8            2. Science not less than once during each grade span of three  
9 through five, six through nine and ten through twelve; and

10           3. United States History not less than once during the grade  
11 span of nine through twelve.

12        E. 1. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the statewide  
13 student assessment system shall include assessments in:

14           a. English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades three  
15 through eight and at least once in high school, during  
16 the grade span of nine through twelve,

17           b. Science not less than once during each grade span of  
18 three through five, six through nine and ten through  
19 twelve, and

20           c. United States History, with an emphasis on civics, not  
21 less than once during the grade span of nine through  
22 twelve.

23        2. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the statewide  
24 student assessment system may include:  
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- 1 a. assessments in Reading and Writing in certain grades  
2 as determined by the Board, and  
3 b. contingent upon the availability of funds, an  
4 additional nationally recognized college- and career-  
5 readiness assessment or assessments as recommended by  
6 the State Department of Education which will be  
7 administered to students in high school at no cost to  
8 the student.

9 3. a. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the  
10 statewide student assessment system may include:

11 (1) a retest of the nationally recognized college-  
12 and career-readiness assessment administered  
13 pursuant to subparagraph b of paragraph 2 of this  
14 subsection,

15 (2) nationally recognized, portable career-readiness  
16 assessments that lead to a National Career  
17 Readiness Certificate, or

18 (3) the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery  
19 (ASVAB) .

20 b. The assessments described in this paragraph shall be  
21 available for students in the fall semester of their  
22 twelfth grade year and shall be administered at no  
23 cost to the students.

1 F. 1. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the  
2 2017-2018 school year, each student shall take the assessment or  
3 assessments included in the statewide student assessment system  
4 adopted by the Board pursuant to subsection A of this section in  
5 order to graduate from a public high school with a standard diploma.  
6 All students shall take the assessment or assessments prior to  
7 graduation, unless otherwise exempt by law.

8 2. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the  
9 2017-2018 school year, each student, in addition to taking the  
10 assessment or assessments included in the statewide student  
11 assessment system adopted by the Board pursuant to subsection A of  
12 this section, shall meet any other high school graduation  
13 requirements adopted by the Board pursuant to Section 5 of Enrolled  
14 House Bill No. 3218 of the 2nd Session of the 55th Oklahoma  
15 Legislature in order to graduate from a public high school with a  
16 standard diploma.

17 3. For students who start the ninth grade prior to or during  
18 the 2016-2017 school year, school districts shall adopt a plan that  
19 establishes the assessment or assessments those students are  
20 required to take in order to graduate from a public high school with  
21 a standard diploma. The plan may also include any or all of the  
22 other high school graduation requirements adopted by the Board  
23 pursuant to Section 5 of Enrolled House Bill No. 3218 of the 2nd  
24 Session of the 55th Oklahoma Legislature that those students will be

1 required to meet in order to graduate from a public high school with  
2 a standard diploma.

3 4. The Board shall promulgate rules to ensure that students who  
4 transfer into an Oklahoma school district from out-of-state after  
5 the junior year of high school shall not be denied the opportunity  
6 to be awarded a standard diploma due to differing testing  
7 requirements.

8 G. In order to provide an indication of the levels of  
9 competency attained by the student in a permanent record for  
10 potential future employers and institutions of higher education,  
11 school districts shall report on the high school transcript of the  
12 student the highest-achieved score on the assessment or assessments  
13 included in the statewide student assessment system adopted by the  
14 Board pursuant to subsection A of this section and any business- and  
15 industry-recognized endorsements attained.

16 H. Students who do not perform at a proficiency level on  
17 assessments shall be remediated as established in the assessment  
18 requirements adopted by the Board pursuant to Section 5 of Enrolled  
19 House Bill No. 3218 of the 2nd Session of the 55th Oklahoma  
20 Legislature, subject to the availability of funding.

21 I. 1. All assessments required by this section shall measure  
22 academic competencies in correlation with the subject matter  
23 standards adopted by the Board pursuant to Sections 11-103.6 and 11-  
24 103.6a of this title and referred to as the Oklahoma Academic  
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1 Standards. The State Board of Education shall evaluate the subject  
2 matter standards to ensure the competencies reflect high standards,  
3 are specific, well-defined, measurable, challenging, and will  
4 prepare elementary students for next-grade-level course work and  
5 secondary students for postsecondary studies at institutions of  
6 higher education or technology center schools without the need for  
7 remediation. All subject matter standards shall reflect the goals  
8 as set forth in Section 11-103.6 of this title and of improving the  
9 state average ACT score.

10 2. The State Department of Education shall annually evaluate  
11 the results of the assessments. The State Board of Education shall  
12 ensure that preliminary results for all statewide assessments are  
13 reported to districts no later than June 20 of each year and are  
14 presented in a manner that yields detailed, diagnostic information  
15 for the purpose of guiding instruction and student remediation. As  
16 improvements are made to the assessments required by this section,  
17 the Board shall seek to increase the depth of knowledge assessed for  
18 each subject. The State Board of Education shall seek to ensure  
19 that data yielded from the assessments required in this section are  
20 utilized at the school district level to inform instruction,  
21 professional development, school improvement and remediation for  
22 students.

23 3. The Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability  
24 shall determine the cut scores for the performance levels on all  
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1 statewide assessments. The Commission shall conduct an ongoing  
2 review to compare the statewide assessment content and performance  
3 descriptors with those of other states. Upon receipt of the review,  
4 the Commission may adjust the cut scores as necessary.

5 4. The State Board of Education, for the purposes of conducting  
6 reliability and validity studies, monitoring contractor adherence to  
7 professionally accepted testing standards, and providing  
8 recommendations for testing program improvement, shall retain the  
9 services of an established, independent agency or organization that  
10 is nationally recognized for its technical expertise in educational  
11 testing but is not engaged in the development of aptitude or  
12 achievement tests for elementary or secondary level grades. These  
13 national assessment experts shall annually conduct studies of the  
14 reliability and validity of the statewide assessments administered  
15 pursuant to this section. Validity studies shall include studies of  
16 decision validity and concurrent validity.

17 J. 1. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules  
18 setting the assessment window dates for each statewide assessment so  
19 that the assessments are administered according to recommended  
20 testing protocols, and so that the assessment results are reported  
21 back to school districts in a timely manner. The vendor shall  
22 provide a final electronic data file of all school site, school  
23 district, and state results to the State Department of Education and  
24 the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability prior to August  
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1 20 of each year. The Department shall forward the final data files  
2 for each school district and each school site in that district to  
3 the school district. The Board shall ensure the contract with the  
4 vendor includes a provision that the vendor report assessment  
5 results directly to the Office of Educational Quality and  
6 Accountability at the same time it is reported to the Board.

7 2. State, district, and site level results of all assessments  
8 required in this section shall be disaggregated by gender, race,  
9 ethnicity, disability status, migrant status, English proficiency,  
10 and status as economically disadvantaged, except that such  
11 disaggregation shall not be required in a case in which the number  
12 of students in a category is insufficient to yield statistically  
13 reliable information or the results would reveal personally  
14 identifiable information about an individual student. Each school  
15 site shall notify the student's parents of the school's performance  
16 levels in the Oklahoma School Testing Program as reported in the  
17 Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program at the end of each school  
18 year.

19 K. The State Board of Education shall be responsible for the  
20 field-testing and validation of the statewide assessment system  
21 required in subsection A of this section.

22 L. The State Board of Education shall develop, administer, and  
23 incorporate as a part of the Oklahoma School Testing Program, other  
24 assessment programs or procedures, including appropriate  
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1 accommodations for the assessment of students with disabilities as  
2 required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA),  
3 20 U.S.C., Section 1400 et seq.

4 M. For purposes of developing and administering alternate  
5 assessments for students with the most significant cognitive  
6 disabilities, the State Board of Education shall not be subject to  
7 subsections D and E of Section 11-103.6a of this title.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

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

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