

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2702

By: Ford

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to special education; defining term; requiring certain qualifications for special education administrators; requiring State Board of Education to issue certain acknowledgement of competency; requiring training cover certain topics; requiring competency exam; exempting certain special education administrators from requirement; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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 6-189.3 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. For this section, "special education administrator" means the director and assistant director of a special education program for a school district.

B. Beginning July 1, 2025, no school district shall employ a special education administrator unless the individual:

1        1. Holds a valid standard teaching certificate issued by the  
2 State Board of Education; and

3        2. Except as provided for in subsection D of this section,  
4 obtains an acknowledgment of competency within one (1) year of being  
5 employed as a special education administrator.

6        C. The State Board of Education shall issue an acknowledgement  
7 of competency in the area of mild-moderate disabilities, severe-  
8 profound disabilities, or comprehensive special education to a  
9 special education administrator who has:

10       1. Satisfactorily completed a one-hundred-fifty-clock-hour  
11 special education program prescribed by the State Board of Education  
12 which shall include training on the rules and regulations for the  
13 Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA); and

14       2. Achieved at least a seventy percent (70%) on a competency  
15 examination in the area of mild-moderate disabilities, severe-  
16 profound disabilities, or comprehensive special education  
17 administered by the State Department of Education.

18       D. An individual who has a valid Special Education Teaching  
19 Certificate as provided for in Sections 6-122.7, 6-122.8, or 6-122.9  
20 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall not be required to obtain  
21 an acknowledgement of competency.

22       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

23       SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
24 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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