

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1432

By: Dossett

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-133, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 349, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 6-133), which relates to a teacher certification pilot program; removing reference to pilot status of program; removing sunset date; 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 6-133, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 349, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 6-133), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-133. A. As used in this section:

1. "Provider" means an eligible entity that seeks or has obtained approval of an alternative teacher preparation program consistent with this section; and

2. "Program" means content provided by a provider that leads toward licensure in a specific content area.

B. The State Board of Education shall identify providers to implement new and innovative pathways toward teacher certification

1 ~~on a pilot program basis.~~ Providers seeking to participate in the  
2 ~~pilot~~ innovative pathways program shall submit applications to the  
3 State Board of Education.

4 C. A provider chosen by the State Board of Education to  
5 participate in the ~~pilot~~ innovative pathways program shall offer a  
6 program that:

7 1. Provides evidence and history of fiscal solvency, capacity,  
8 operation, and program effectiveness;

9 2. Provides evidence of necessary infrastructure to provide  
10 accurate, timely, and secure data for the purpose of admission,  
11 teacher candidate monitoring, testing, and certification  
12 recommendations;

13 3. Has policies and procedures in place ensuring the security  
14 of teacher candidate records under applicable laws and regulations;

15 4. Has the instructional capacity within an existing novice  
16 teacher support program, the ability to obtain the instructional  
17 capacity, or has established a partnership with an accredited higher  
18 education institution to provide adequate instruction in accordance  
19 with this subsection;

20 5. Offers an instructional phase that provides intensive  
21 preparation before the teacher candidates assume classroom  
22 responsibilities;

1       6. Offers a research-based and results-oriented approach  
2 focused on best teaching practices to increase student achievement  
3 and growth measured against state academic standards;

4       7. Provides assessment, supervision, and evaluation of teacher  
5 candidates to determine their specific needs throughout the program  
6 and to support efforts to successfully complete the program;

7       8. Provides intensive and ongoing professional development  
8 opportunities that accelerate a teacher candidate's professional  
9 growth, support student learning, and provide a workplace  
10 orientation, professional staff development, and mentoring;

11       9. Offers peer review focused on standards of professional  
12 practice and continuous professional growth; and

13       10. Provides a process to review a teacher candidate's final  
14 competency of required certification content standards that leads to  
15 a potential candidate being recommended for teacher certification in  
16 accordance with subsection F of this section.

17       D. The State Board of Education shall ensure that providers  
18 approved to participate in the ~~pilot~~ innovative pathways program  
19 allow teacher candidates to demonstrate pedagogy and content  
20 standard proficiency in school-based programs and through other  
21 nontraditional means. Nontraditional means may include, but not be  
22 limited to, previous work experience, teacher experience, educator  
23 evaluations, industry-recognized certifications, and other  
24 essentially equivalent demonstrations.

1 E. If the State Board of Education determines that a provider  
2 fails to meet or is deficient in any of the requirements of this  
3 section, it may suspend or revoke the approval of the provider after  
4 providing notification of the deficiencies and an opportunity to  
5 remedy the deficiencies.

6 F. A teacher candidate that completes a program offered by an  
7 approved provider shall be eligible for certification, provided he  
8 or she meets the certification requirements set forth in Section 6-  
9 187 of this title in the area of specialization for which  
10 certification is sought and is recommended for certification by the  
11 approved provider.

12 G. The State Board of Education shall issue a certificate to  
13 teach to any person who meets the requirements set forth in this  
14 section and who has on file with the Board a current Oklahoma  
15 criminal history record check from the Oklahoma State Bureau of  
16 Investigation as well as a national criminal history record check as  
17 defined in Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The  
18 person applying for the certificate shall be responsible for the  
19 cost of the criminal history record checks.

20 H. A provider shall submit a report to the State Department of  
21 Education after one (1) year of operation showing the percentage of  
22 teacher candidates who have completed the program and who have  
23 successfully completed or who have failed the competency  
24 examinations for certification and the provider's efforts to help  
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1 candidates successfully pass the examinations. A provider shall  
2 annually submit a report to the State Department of Education  
3 outlining the success of the program.

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

6 ~~J. The pilot program created in this section shall end no later~~  
7 ~~than July 1, 2026.~~

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

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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