

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 SENATE BILL 1480

By: Seifried

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 14-127, which relates to youth apprenticeship
9 programs; requiring technology center school
10 districts to designate apprenticeship coordinators;
11 providing duties of coordinators; amending 70 O.S.
12 2021, Section 1210.528-1, which relates to the
13 Apprenticeships, Internships and Mentorships (AIM)
14 Act of 2016; directing certain governing bodies to
15 collaborate with apprenticeship coordinators;
16 updating statutory language; updating statutory
17 reference; providing an effective date; and declaring
18 an emergency.

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

20 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 14-127, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 Section 14-127. A. The ~~Oklahoma~~ Legislature, recognizing the
23 need for improved methods of helping secondary students make a
24 smooth transition from high school to the workplace, hereby
establishes guidelines for youth apprenticeship programs.

25 B. Youth apprenticeship programs shall be defined as learning
26 programs for ~~young people~~ students enrolled in ~~vocational education~~
27 technology center school programs that combine on-the-job learning

1 with classroom instruction, that offer a bridge between secondary
2 and post high school training and education, and that result in
3 certification of mastery of work skills.

4 C. Youth apprenticeship programs shall be administered and
5 supervised by the State Board of Career and Technology Education,
6 which shall also establish standards for program operation.

7 D. To encourage participation in youth apprenticeship programs,
8 each technology center school district shall designate an
9 apprenticeship coordinator. The duties of an apprenticeship
10 coordinator shall include, but not be limited to:

11 1. Building relationships with employers in the area served by
12 the technology center school district to maximize availability of
13 apprenticeship opportunities;

14 2. Facilitating student participation in apprenticeship
15 opportunities; and

16 3. Coordinating with public school districts and public charter
17 schools served by the technology center school district that have
18 established opportunities for apprenticeships, internships, or
19 mentorships pursuant to the Apprenticeships, Internships and
20 Mentorships (AIM) Act of 2016.

21 E. Notwithstanding any other section of law, youth
22 apprenticeship programs shall not mean any traditional
23 apprenticeship program registered by the ~~Bureau of Apprenticeship~~

1 and ~~Training~~, Office of Apprenticeship within the United States
2 Department of Labor.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.528-1,
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 Section 1210.528-1. A. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school
6 year, the governing body of each public, private, magnet, charter,
7 or virtual charter school in this state ~~(the school)~~ is authorized
8 to enter into an agreement with private or public organizations for
9 the purpose of creating apprenticeship, internship,_ and mentorship
10 programs. Apprenticeships, internships,_ and mentorships may be
11 available to high school sophomores age sixteen (16) or older,
12 juniors,_ and seniors as permitted by each school. The
13 apprenticeship, internship,_ or mentorship may fill the requirement
14 of elective courses as the student's schedule permits. A student
15 may not use the apprenticeship, internship,_ or mentorship to replace
16 any other state education requirement, except as provided for in
17 subsection ~~D~~ E of this section.

18 B. The governing body of each school shall have the authority
19 to adopt policies regarding the creation of apprenticeships,
20 internships,_ and mentorships that include the registration and
21 qualifications for private or public organizations to participate in
22 the apprenticeship, internship,_ or mentorship program.

23 C. 1. The governing body of each school may obtain liability
24 insurance coverage to protect a student who participates in an

1 apprenticeship, internship, or mentorship program authorized by this
2 section. The coverage authorized by this subsection shall be
3 obtained from a reliable insurer authorized to do business in this
4 state and shall not exceed the amount that is deemed reasonably
5 necessary in the opinion of the governing body of each school.

6 2. The governing body of a school may not directly or
7 indirectly charge a student or the student's parent or legal
8 guardian for the cost of providing insurance coverage pursuant to
9 this subsection.

10 3. The failure of a governing body to obtain insurance coverage
11 authorized by this subsection or to obtain a specific amount of
12 coverage may not be construed as placing any legal liability on the
13 governing body of the school.

14 D. The governing body of a school that establishes an
15 apprenticeship, internship, and mentorship program and is served by
16 a technology center school district shall collaborate with the
17 apprenticeship coordinator designated pursuant to Section 14-127 of
18 this title to facilitate student participation in apprenticeship,
19 internship, and mentorship opportunities.

20 E. The State Board of Education may develop rules to determine
21 if apprenticeships, internships, and mentorships established
22 pursuant to this section are eligible for academic credit toward
23 meeting the graduation requirements set forth in Section 11-103.6 of
24 this title.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

2 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
3 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
4 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
5 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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