

1 ENGROSSED SENATE AMENDMENT  
2 TO  
3 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
4 BILL NO. 1096

By: Hasenbeck of the House

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Pugh of the Senate

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Sections 6-194, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 15, O.S.L. 2023, 6-195.1, 11-107.1, 1210.508, 2403, and 2603, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 440, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Sections 6-194 and 2603), which relate to student testing; changing certain testing achievement goals in professional development programs; changing continuing education program source recommendations for mathematics core curriculum; adding consideration of CLT exam scores to remedial class options; modifying exams used in establishing goals to improve state average scores; modifying test qualifications for the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program; adding CLT exam scores to award eligibility in the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program; requiring students to take the Classical Learning Test exam at a testing center; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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18 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 1, strike the title, enacting clause and  
19 entire bill and insert

20 "An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
21 Sections 6-194, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter  
22 15, O.S.L. 2023, 6-195.1, 11-107.1, and 1210.508 (70  
23 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 6-194), which relate to  
24 student testing; modifying certain goal for  
professional development programs; modifying intent  
of certain continuing education program; modifying  
reference to certain exam; allowing certain exam  
scores to be considered in determining whether a

1           student needs a remediation course; modifying  
2           reference to certain average exam score to be used in  
3           goal for subject matter standards; defining terms;  
4           requiring students who take certain test to do so at  
5           certain testing site; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Sections  
6           2403 and 2603, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 440,  
7           O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 2603), which  
8           relate to eligibility for higher education  
9           assistance; modifying reference to certain exam to  
10          qualify for the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic  
11          Scholars Program; allowing certain equivalent scores  
12          to be used to determine eligibility for the Oklahoma  
13          Higher Learning Access Program; providing for  
14          codification; providing an effective date; and  
15          declaring an emergency.

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

17          SECTION 1.       AMENDATORY       70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-194, as  
18          last amended by Section 2, Chapter 15, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp.  
19          2024, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

20          Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this  
21          state shall establish professional development programs for the  
22          certified teachers and administrators of the district. Programs  
23          shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations of a  
24          professional development committee appointed by the board of  
education for the district.

25          B. Each professional development committee shall include  
26          classroom teachers, administrators, school counselors or licensed  
27          mental health providers, and parents, guardians, or custodians of  
28          children in the school district and shall consult with a higher

1 education faculty. A majority of the members of the professional  
2 development committee shall be composed of classroom teachers. The  
3 teacher members shall be selected by a designated administrator of  
4 the school district from a list of names submitted by the teachers  
5 in the school district. The members selected shall be subject to  
6 the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the district.

7 C. In developing program recommendations, each professional  
8 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach  
9 to analyze student data and determine district and school  
10 professional development needs. The professional development  
11 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of  
12 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum  
13 areas for the following goals:

14 1. Increasing the academic performance data scores for the  
15 district and each school site;

16 2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;

17 3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-  
18 mandated tests and ~~the ACT nationally norm-referenced college~~  
19 entrance exams;

20 4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and

21 5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

22 Each program may also include components on classroom management  
23 and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents, guardians,  
24 or custodians of students, special education, and racial and ethnic

1 education, which all personnel defined as teachers in Section 1-116  
2 of this title shall be required to complete at a frequency as  
3 determined by the board of education. The State Board of Education  
4 shall provide guidelines to assist school districts in developing  
5 and implementing racial and ethnic education components into  
6 professional development programs.

7 D. A program which includes the following information shall be  
8 completed the first year a certified teacher is employed by a school  
9 district, and then once every fifth academic year:

- 10 1. Training on recognition of child abuse and neglect;
- 11 2. Recognition of child sexual abuse;
- 12 3. Proper reporting of suspected abuse; and
- 13 4. Available resources.

14 E. One time per year, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year,  
15 training in the area of autism shall be offered and all resident  
16 teachers of students in early childhood programs through grade three  
17 shall be required to complete the autism training during the  
18 resident year and at least one time every three (3) years  
19 thereafter. All other teachers and education support professionals  
20 of students in early childhood programs through grade three shall be  
21 required to complete the autism training at least one time every  
22 three (3) years. The autism training shall include a minimum  
23 awareness of the characteristics of autistic children, resources  
24 available, and an introduction to positive behavior supports to

1 challenging behavior. Each adopted program shall allow school  
2 counselors to receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or  
3 credit required each year through programs or courses specifically  
4 designed for school counselors.

5 Districts are authorized to utilize any means for professional  
6 development that is not prohibited by law including, but not limited  
7 to, professional development provided by the district, any state  
8 agency, institution of higher education, or any private entity.

9 F. One time per year, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, a  
10 dyslexia awareness program shall be offered. Beginning in the 2023-  
11 2024 school year, the program shall include information and training  
12 in dysgraphia. At a minimum, the program shall include:

- 13 1. Training in awareness of dyslexia characteristics in  
14 students;
- 15 2. Training in effective classroom instruction to meet the  
16 needs of students with dyslexia; and
- 17 3. Available dyslexia resources for teachers, students, and  
18 parents.

19 G. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, each  
20 certified teacher in this state shall be required by the district  
21 board of education to meet the professional development requirements  
22 established by the board, or established through the negotiation  
23 process. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, the  
24 professional development requirements established by each board of

1 education shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum  
2 number of the total number of points required to maintain  
3 employment; provided, no more than a total of one hundred fifty  
4 (150) hours of local, state, or federal professional development or  
5 training shall be required for classroom teachers during any five-  
6 year period. Failure of any teacher to meet district board of  
7 education professional development requirements may be grounds for  
8 nonrenewal of such teacher's contract by the board. Such failure  
9 may also be grounds for nonconsideration of salary increments  
10 affecting the teacher. Teachers shall maintain written  
11 documentation of all their completed professional development.

12 H. Each district shall annually submit a report to the State  
13 Department of Education on the district level professional  
14 development needs, activities completed, expenditures, and results  
15 achieved for each school year by each goal as provided in subsection  
16 C of this section. If a school district elects not to adopt and  
17 offer a professional development program as provided for in  
18 subsection A of this section, the district shall not be required to  
19 submit an annual report as required pursuant to this subsection but  
20 shall report to the State Department of Education its election not  
21 to offer a program and all professional development activities  
22 completed by teachers and administrators of the school district.

23 I. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall  
24 develop an online system for reporting as required in subsection H

1 of this section. The Department shall also make such information  
2 available on its website.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-195.1, is

4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 6-195.1. A. It is hereby declared to be the intent of  
6 the Legislature to establish a continuing education program whereby  
7 teachers employed to teach mathematics may obtain certification in  
8 mathematics and teachers certified to teach mathematics in the state  
9 may take higher education courses in order to obtain the  
10 competencies needed to enable the teacher to successfully complete  
11 the subject area examinations and become certified to teach any of  
12 the core curriculum mathematics courses recommended by the ~~American~~  
13 ~~College Test~~ State Department of Education. The program shall pay  
14 up to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per credit hour up to a maximum  
15 of twenty-four (24) credit hours for a teacher to take higher  
16 education courses in mathematics. Teachers required to gain  
17 certification as provided in Section 6-189.1 of this title shall be  
18 given priority in the funding for the continuing education program.  
19 The purpose of the program is to improve the knowledge and skills of  
20 teachers and to ensure that the children of the state are taught by  
21 professional educators, fully prepared in the area of mathematics.

22 B. Implementation of this section shall be contingent upon the  
23 appropriation of state funds by the Legislature for the specific  
24 purpose of implementing this section. Nothing in this section shall

1 prevent the State Board of Education or a school district board of  
2 education from utilizing private, local, or federal funds to  
3 implement this section.

4       C. Implementation of this section shall be delayed until the  
5 current expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance in public  
6 elementary and secondary schools in unadjusted dollars for the 1998-  
7 99 school year or any school year thereafter for Oklahoma, as  
8 reported by the National Center for Education Statistics annually in  
9 the Digest of Education Statistics, reaches at least ninety percent  
10 (90%) of the regional average expenditure for that same year, and  
11 funds are provided. For purposes of this section, the regional  
12 average expenditure shall consist of the current expenditure per  
13 pupil in average daily attendance in public elementary and secondary  
14 schools in unadjusted dollars for each of the following states:  
15 Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and  
16 Texas, averaged together. By January 1 of each year, the State  
17 Board of Education shall report whether or not the ninety-percent  
18 expenditure level has been reached based on information reported  
19 annually in the Digest of Education Statistics by the National  
20 Center for Education Statistics. This section shall be implemented  
21 on July 1 after the first January 1 report verifies that the ninety-  
22 percent expenditure level has been reached and funds have been  
23 provided for the specific purposes of this section.

1 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 11-107.1, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 11-107.1. A. Each school district in this state may  
4 offer a remediation course for high school students who score below  
5 a nineteen (19) on the American College Testing (ACT) exam or below  
6 an equivalent score on the ~~SAT exam~~ Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT)  
7 or Classic Learning Test (CLT) exams.

8 B. Nothing in subsection A of this section shall be construed  
9 to require that a teacher providing instruction in the remediation  
10 course be certified in any subject matter that is tested on the ACT  
11 ~~or,~~ SAT exam, or CLT exams.

12 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.508, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

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

19 2. The statewide student assessment system adopted by the Board  
20 pursuant to this subsection shall be aligned with the Oklahoma  
21 Academic Standards as adopted by the Board and which prepare  
22 students for college and careers.

23 B. 1. The Board shall issue a request for proposals for the  
24 selection of assessments to be administered to students in grades

1 three through twelve as a part of the statewide student assessment  
2 system adopted by the Board pursuant to this section.

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

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

13           1. Are aligned with the Oklahoma subject matter standards as  
14 adopted by the Board;

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

16           3. Yield both norm-referenced scores and criterion-referenced  
17 scores;

18           4. Have a track record of statistical reliability and accuracy;  
19 and

20           5. For assessments administered in high school, provide a  
21 measure of future academic performance.

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

1       1. English Language Arts or ~~Reading~~ reading and ~~Mathematics~~  
2       mathematics in grades three through eight and at least once in high  
3       school, during the grade span of nine through twelve;

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

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

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

10      a. English Language Arts and ~~Mathematics~~ mathematics in  
11       grades three through eight and at least once in high  
12       school, during the grade span of nine through twelve,

13      b. ~~Science~~ science not less than once during each grade  
14       span of three through five, six through nine, and ten  
15       through twelve, and

16      c. United States History, with an emphasis on civics, not  
17       less than once during the grade span of nine through  
18       twelve.

19       2. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the statewide  
20       student assessment system may include:

21      a. assessments in ~~Reading~~ reading and ~~Writing~~ writing in  
22       certain grades as determined by the Board, and

23      b. contingent upon the availability of funds, an  
24       additional nationally recognized college- and career-

1                   readiness assessment or assessments as recommended by  
2                   the State Department of Education which will be  
3                   administered to students in high school at no cost to  
4                   the student.

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

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

21               3. For students who start the ninth grade prior to or during  
22               the 2016-2017 school year, school districts shall adopt a plan that  
23               establishes the assessment or assessments those students are  
24               required to take in order to graduate from a public high school with

1 a standard diploma. The plan may also include any or all of the  
2 other high school graduation requirements adopted by the Board  
3 pursuant to Section 5 of Enrolled House Bill No. 3218 of the 2nd  
4 Session of the 55th Oklahoma Legislature that those students will be  
5 required to meet in order to graduate from a public high school with  
6 a standard diploma.

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

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

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

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

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

1 professional development, school improvement, and remediation for  
2 students.

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

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

21       J. 1. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules  
22 setting the assessment window dates for each statewide assessment so  
23 that the assessments are administered according to recommended  
24 testing protocols, and so that the assessment results are reported

1 back to school districts in a timely manner. The vendor shall  
2 provide a final electronic data file of all school site, school  
3 district, and state results to the State Department of Education and  
4 the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability prior to August  
5 20 of each year. The Department shall forward the final data files  
6 for each school district and each school site in that district to  
7 the school district. The Board shall ensure the contract with the  
8 vendor includes a provision that the vendor report assessment  
9 results directly to the Office of Educational Quality and  
10 Accountability at the same time it is reported to the Board.

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

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

4       L. The State Board of Education shall develop, administer, and  
5 incorporate as a part of the Oklahoma School Testing Program, other  
6 assessment programs or procedures, including appropriate  
7 accommodations for the assessment of students with disabilities as  
8 required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA),  
9 20 U.S.C., Section 1400 et seq.

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

14      SECTION 5.     NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.508-7 of Title 70, unless  
16 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17      A. As used in this title:

18       1. "Classic Learning Test" or "CLT" means the Classic Learning  
19 Test administered by Classic Learning Initiatives, LLC; and

20       2. "Testing site" means an independently run testing center  
21 operated by the assessment company and any physical location where  
22 means of education are provided including public school districts,  
23 charter schools, private schools, institutions of higher education

1 | within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, and private  
2 | institutions of higher education in this state.

3 |       B. Students in this state who take the Classic Learning Test  
4 | (CLT) shall only take the test in a brick-and-mortar testing site.

5 |       SECTION 6.       AMENDATORY       70 O.S. 2021, Section 2403, is  
6 | amended to read as follows:

7 |       Section 2403. A. No person shall be eligible to participate in  
8 | the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program unless the  
9 | person:

10 |           1. Has complied with all of the rules promulgated by the  
11 | Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education pursuant to the  
12 | provisions of the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Act,  
13 | Section 2401 et seq. of this title, for the award, regulation, and  
14 | administration of scholarships; and

15 |           2. Qualifies as one of the following:

16 |           a. an Individual Applicant Qualified Student, which shall  
17 | mean a student who is a resident of ~~the State of~~  
18 | ~~Oklahoma~~ this state whose ~~American College Testing~~  
19 | ~~Program score or whose Scholastic Aptitude Test score~~  
20 | on a nationally norm-referenced college entrance exam  
21 | falls within the 99.5 to 100.0 percentile levels as  
22 | administered in ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state and  
23 | whose grade point average and/or class rank is  
24 | exceptional, as determined by the State Regents,

- 1           b. a Presidential Scholar, which shall mean a student  
2           selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars  
3           administered by the United States Department of  
4           Education,  
5           c. a National Merit Scholar, which shall mean a student  
6           designated as a National Merit Scholar by the National  
7           Merit Scholarship Corporation,  
8           d. a National Merit Finalist, which shall mean a student  
9           designated as a National Merit Finalist by the  
10          National Merit Scholarship Corporation, or  
11          e. after October 1, 1999, an Institutional Nominee, which  
12          shall mean a student nominated by an institution in  
13          The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education:  
14           (1) whose ~~American College Testing Program or~~  
15           ~~Scholastic Aptitude Test score on a nationally~~  
16           norm-referenced college entrance exam falls  
17           within the 95.0 to 99.49 percentile levels, or  
18           (2) who shows exceptional academic achievement as  
19           evidenced by factors, including, but not limited  
20           to, grade point average, class rank, national  
21           awards, scholastic achievements, honors, and who  
22           shows exceptional promise based on documentation  
23           that may include, but not be limited to, teacher  
24           recommendations, extracurricular activities, and

1                   evidence of overcoming economic and social  
2                   obstacles as determined by the State Regents.

3                   The State Regents shall ensure that standards of  
4                   high academic ability are documented.

5                   Scholarship awards to Institutional Nominees  
6                   shall become effective when appropriate  
7                   documentation is verified by the State Regents.

8                 B. No person shall be eligible to receive a scholarship  
9                 pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic  
10                Scholars Program unless the person is enrolled as a full-time  
11                student at a public or private accredited institution of higher  
12                education in Oklahoma.

13                C. The Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program shall  
14                provide a scholarship in an amount not to exceed the average costs  
15                of all enrollment fees, tuition and other fees, room and board, and  
16                all required textbooks or materials for up to five (5) years of  
17                undergraduate and/or graduate study at an accredited public or  
18                private institution of higher education in Oklahoma as provided in  
19                subsection E of this section. The State Regents may establish  
20                separate scholarship award levels for each qualifying category.

21                D. If a person identifies himself or herself as a student with  
22                a disability and requests consideration for a scholarship under the  
23                Academic Scholars Program by means other than standard testing  
24                procedures, the State Regents shall determine what means of

1 assessment are appropriate and upon the basis of said such  
2 assessment results, determine what level of award, if any, shall be  
3 made.

4       E. 1. If the student is attending an institution of The  
5 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, the total funding for the  
6 scholarship provided in this section, exclusive of any internships,  
7 shall not exceed the costs for items specified in subsection C of  
8 this section at the institution attended as determined annually by  
9 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

10       2. If the student is attending a private institution of higher  
11 education, the total funding for the scholarship provided in this  
12 section, exclusive of any internships, shall not exceed the costs  
13 for items specified in subsection C of this section at an  
14 institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education of  
15 comparable type which has the highest general enrollment fees of its  
16 type institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education as  
17 determined annually by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
18 Education.

19           SECTION 7.       AMENDATORY       70 O.S. 2021, Section 2603, as  
20 amended by Section 1, Chapter 440, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024,  
21 Section 2603), is amended to read as follows:

22           Section 2603. A. Except as otherwise provided for in  
23 subsection B of this section and elsewhere in this section, to be  
24 eligible to participate in the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access

1 Program and to qualify for an award which includes payment of an  
2 amount equivalent to resident tuition or other tuition pursuant to  
3 Section 2604 of this title for the first semester or other academic  
4 unit of postsecondary enrollment, a student shall:

5       1. Be a resident of this state or be enrolled in a school  
6 district located in this state that serves students who reside in  
7 both this state and an adjacent state pursuant to a contract as  
8 authorized in Section 5-117.1 of this title;

9       2. Be a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United  
10 States. A student who is not a United States citizen or lawfully  
11 present in the United States shall not be eligible to participate in  
12 the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program and to qualify for an  
13 award notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3242 of this title.

14 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any student who  
15 was enrolled in the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program prior to  
16 the end of the 2006-2007 school year;

17       3. Have a record of satisfactory compliance with agreements  
18 executed pursuant to Section 2605 of this title;

19       4. a. have graduated within the previous three (3) years  
20                   from a high school accredited by the State Board of  
21                   Education or the Oklahoma School of Science and  
22                   Mathematics with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point  
23                   average on a 4.0 scale for all work attempted in  
24                   grades nine through twelve,

- 1           b. have graduated within the previous three (3) years  
2           from a high school not accredited by the State Board  
3           of Education with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point  
4           average on a 4.0 scale for all work attempted in  
5           grades nine through twelve and have achieved a  
6           composite score of 22 or higher on the ACT test or an  
7           equivalent score on the SAT or CLT as determined by  
8           the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, or  
9           c. have satisfactorily completed within the previous  
10          three (3) years an educational program that was  
11          provided through a means other than a public or  
12          private school and have achieved a composite score of  
13          22 or higher on the ACT test or an equivalent score on  
14          the SAT or CLT as determined by the Oklahoma State  
15          Regents for Higher Education;

16         5. Have completed the curricular requirements for admission to  
17         an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education  
18         and one additional unit or set of competencies in a course that  
19         meets college admission requirements, or have completed the core  
20         curriculum and be seeking admission to a technology center school  
21         overseen by the State Board of Career and Technology Education. The  
22         curriculum requirements for admission to an institution within The  
23         Oklahoma State System of Higher Education shall include two units or  
24         sets of competencies in foreign or non-English language or

1 technology courses that meet the college admission requirements and  
2 one unit or set of competencies of a fine arts course. Students  
3 shall also have attained a 2.5 grade point average in the core  
4 curriculum courses. Students who attended a high school which did  
5 not offer all the core curriculum courses or students who were  
6 educated by other means and were not offered all the core curriculum  
7 courses shall be allowed to satisfy this curriculum requirement by  
8 participating in a program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents  
9 for Higher Education for remediation of high school curricular  
10 deficiencies;

11       6. Have satisfied admission standards as determined by the  
12 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for first-time-entering  
13 students for the appropriate type of institution, or, if attending a  
14 private institution, have satisfied admission standards as  
15 determined by the private institution. No student participating in  
16 the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program shall be admitted into  
17 an institution of higher education by special admission standards;

18       7. Have secured admission to, and enrolled in, an institution  
19 which is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,  
20 a postsecondary vocational-technical program offered by a technology  
21 center school that meets the requirements to be eligible for federal  
22 student financial aid, or a private institution of higher learning  
23 located within this state and accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of  
24 this title; and

8. a. have established financial need according to the provisions of subsection D of Section 2605 of this title and standards and provisions promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,

b. if the student was adopted between birth and twelve (12) years of age while in the permanent custody of the Department of Human Services, in the court-ordered custody of a licensed private nonprofit child-placing agency, or federally recognized Indian tribe, as defined by the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, have established financial need according to the provisions of paragraph 1 of subsection E of Section 2605 of this title and standards and provisions promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, or

c. if the student was adopted between thirteen (13) and seventeen (17) years of age while in the permanent custody of the Department of Human Services, in the court-ordered custody of a licensed private nonprofit child-placing agency, or federally recognized Indian tribe, as defined by the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, have established financial need according to the provisions of paragraph 2 of subsection E of Section 2605 of this title and standards and

provisions promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents  
for Higher Education.

B. 1. A student shall be eligible to participate in the  
Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program and to qualify for an award  
which includes payment of an amount equivalent to resident tuition  
or other tuition pursuant to Section 2604 of this title for the  
first semester or other academic unit of postsecondary enrollment if  
the student meets all of the following criteria:

- a. is a child of any person killed after January 1, 2000,  
in the line of duty in any branch of the United States  
Armed Forces or who died after January 1, 2000, as a  
result of an injury sustained while in the line of  
duty in any branch of the United States Armed Forces  
and the person who was killed or died filed an  
individual or joint Oklahoma income tax return for the  
tax year prior to the year during which the person was  
killed or died,
- b. is a resident of this state or is enrolled in a school  
district located in this state that serves students  
who reside in both this state and an adjacent state  
pursuant to a contract as authorized in Section 5-  
117.1 of this title,

- 1           c. enrolls in an institution within The Oklahoma State  
2           System of Higher Education prior to reaching the age  
3           of twenty-one (21),
- 4           d. has satisfied admission standards as determined by the  
5           Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for first-  
6           time-entering students for the appropriate type of  
7           institution, or, if attending a private institution,  
8           has satisfied admission standards as determined by the  
9           private institution. No student participating in the  
10          Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program shall be  
11          admitted into an institution of higher education by  
12          special admission standards,
- 13          e. has secured admission to, and enrolled in, an  
14          institution which is a member of The Oklahoma State  
15          System of Higher Education, a postsecondary  
16          vocational-technical program offered by a technology  
17          center school that meets the requirements to be  
18          eligible for federal student financial aid, or a  
19          private institution of higher learning located within  
20          this state and accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of  
21          this title, and
- 22          f. executes an agreement pursuant to subsection C of  
23          Section 2605 of this title.
- 24

1       2. A student who is eligible to participate in the program  
2 pursuant to this subsection shall not be required to meet the  
3 eligibility requirements set forth in subsection A of this section.

4       C. To retain eligibility while pursuing the program of higher  
5 learning in which enrolled, the student shall:

6           1. Meet the requirements for retention and degree completion as  
7 established by the institution in which the student is enrolled;

8           2. Maintain good academic standing and satisfactory academic  
9 progress according to standards of the Oklahoma State Regents for  
10 Higher Education;

11           3. Maintain satisfactory academic progress as required for  
12 eligibility for federal Title IV student financial aid programs.

13 The provisions of this paragraph shall become effective for the  
14 2012-2013 school year;

15           4. Comply with the standards related to maintenance of  
16 eligibility as promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
17 Education; and

18           5. Refrain from conduct that leads to expulsion or suspension  
19 of more than one semester from an institution of higher education.

20 A student who violates the provisions of this paragraph shall  
21 permanently lose eligibility for program benefits. The provisions  
22 of this paragraph shall become effective January 1, 2008.

23       D. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the  
24 State Board of Career and Technology Education shall promulgate

1 rules relating to maintenance of eligibility under the Oklahoma  
2 Higher Learning Access Act by a student.

3       E. It is the intent of the Legislature that students in the  
4 ninth grade for the 1992-93 school year who are determined to be  
5 eligible Oklahoma Higher Learning Access students pursuant to the  
6 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Act shall be the first students  
7 eligible for benefits from the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Trust  
8 Fund.

9       F. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are  
10 authorized to study, develop, and propose criteria for determining  
11 award eligibility based upon the completion of seven semesters of  
12 high school coursework by a student.

13       SECTION 8. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

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

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Passed the Senate the 8th day of May, 2025.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
2025.

Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 1096

3 By: Hasenbeck of the House

4 and

5 Pugh of the Senate

6

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
8 Sections 6-194, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter  
9 15, O.S.L. 2023, 6-195.1, 11-107.1, 1210.508, 2403,  
10 and 2603, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 440,  
11 O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Sections 6-194 and  
12 2603), which relate to student testing; changing  
13 certain testing achievement goals in professional  
14 development programs; changing continuing education  
15 program source recommendations for mathematics core  
16 curriculum; adding consideration of CLT exam scores  
to remedial class options; modifying exams used in  
establishing goals to improve state average scores;  
modifying test qualifications for the Oklahoma State  
Regents' Academic Scholars Program; adding CLT exam  
scores to award eligibility in the Oklahoma Higher  
Learning Access Program; requiring students to take  
the Classical Learning Test exam at a testing center;  
providing for codification; providing an effective  
date; and declaring an emergency.

17

18

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

20 SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-194, as

21 last amended by Section 2, Chapter 15, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp.  
22 2024, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

23 Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this  
24 state shall establish professional development programs for the

1 certified teachers and administrators of the district. Programs  
2 shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations of a  
3 professional development committee appointed by the board of  
4 education for the district.

5       B. Each professional development committee shall include  
6 classroom teachers, administrators, school counselors or licensed  
7 mental health providers, and parents, guardians or custodians of  
8 children in the school district and shall consult with a higher  
9 education faculty. A majority of the members of the professional  
10 development committee shall be composed of classroom teachers. The  
11 teacher members shall be selected by a designated administrator of  
12 the school district from a list of names submitted by the teachers  
13 in the school district. The members selected shall be subject to  
14 the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the district.

15       C. In developing program recommendations, each professional  
16 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach  
17 to analyze student data and determine district and school  
18 professional development needs. The professional development  
19 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of  
20 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum  
21 areas for the following goals:

- 22           1. Increasing the academic performance data scores for the  
23 district and each school site;  
24           2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;

1       3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-  
2 mandated tests and ~~the ACT~~ nationally norm-referenced college  
3 entrance exams;

- 4       4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and  
5       5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

6       Each program may also include components on classroom management  
7 and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents, guardians or  
8 custodians of students, special education, and racial and ethnic  
9 education, which all personnel defined as teachers in Section 1-116  
10 of this title shall be required to complete at a frequency as  
11 determined by the board of education. The State Board of Education  
12 shall provide guidelines to assist school districts in developing  
13 and implementing racial and ethnic education components into  
14 professional development programs.

15      D. A program which includes the following information shall be  
16 completed the first year a certified teacher is employed by a school  
17 district, and then once every fifth academic year:

- 18       1. Training on recognition of child abuse and neglect;  
19       2. Recognition of child sexual abuse;  
20       3. Proper reporting of suspected abuse; and  
21       4. Available resources.

22      E. One time per year, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year,  
23 training in the area of autism shall be offered and all resident  
24 teachers of students in early childhood programs through grade three

1 shall be required to complete the autism training during the  
2 resident year and at least one time every three (3) years  
3 thereafter. All other teachers and education support professionals  
4 of students in early childhood programs through grade three shall be  
5 required to complete the autism training at least one time every  
6 three (3) years. The autism training shall include a minimum  
7 awareness of the characteristics of autistic children, resources  
8 available and an introduction to positive behavior supports to  
9 challenging behavior. Each adopted program shall allow school  
10 counselors to receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or  
11 credit required each year through programs or courses specifically  
12 designed for school counselors.

13 Districts are authorized to utilize any means for professional  
14 development that is not prohibited by law including, but not limited  
15 to, professional development provided by the district, any state  
16 agency, institution of higher education, or any private entity.

17 F. One time per year, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, a  
18 dyslexia awareness program shall be offered. Beginning in the 2023-  
19 2024 school year, the program shall include information and training  
20 in dysgraphia. At a minimum, the program shall include:

21 1. Training in awareness of dyslexia characteristics in  
22 students;

23 2. Training in effective classroom instruction to meet the  
24 needs of students with dyslexia; and

1       3. Available dyslexia resources for teachers, students and  
2 parents.

3       G. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, each  
4 certified teacher in this state shall be required by the district  
5 board of education to meet the professional development requirements  
6 established by the board, or established through the negotiation  
7 process. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, the  
8 professional development requirements established by each board of  
9 education shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum  
10 number of the total number of points required to maintain  
11 employment; provided, no more than a total of one hundred fifty  
12 (150) hours of local, state, or federal professional development or  
13 training shall be required for classroom teachers during any five-  
14 year period. Failure of any teacher to meet district board of  
15 education professional development requirements may be grounds for  
16 nonrenewal of such teacher's contract by the board. Such failure  
17 may also be grounds for nonconsideration of salary increments  
18 affecting the teacher. Teachers shall maintain written  
19 documentation of all their completed professional development.

20       H. Each district shall annually submit a report to the State  
21 Department of Education on the district level professional  
22 development needs, activities completed, expenditures, and results  
23 achieved for each school year by each goal as provided in subsection  
24 C of this section. If a school district elects not to adopt and

1 offer a professional development program as provided for in  
2 subsection A of this section, the district shall not be required to  
3 submit an annual report as required pursuant to this subsection but  
4 shall report to the State Department of Education its election not  
5 to offer a program and all professional development activities  
6 completed by teachers and administrators of the school district.

7 I. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall  
8 develop an online system for reporting as required in subsection H  
9 of this section. The Department shall also make such information  
10 available on its website.

11 SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-195.1, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Section 6-195.1. A. It is hereby declared to be the intent of  
14 the Legislature to establish a continuing education program whereby  
15 teachers employed to teach mathematics may obtain certification in  
16 mathematics and teachers certified to teach mathematics in the state  
17 may take higher education courses in order to obtain the  
18 competencies needed to enable the teacher to successfully complete  
19 the subject area examinations and become certified to teach any of  
20 the core curriculum mathematics courses recommended by the ~~American~~  
21 ~~College Test~~ State Department of Education. The program shall pay  
22 up to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per credit hour up to a maximum  
23 of twenty-four (24) credit hours for a teacher to take higher  
24 education courses in mathematics. Teachers required to gain

1 certification as provided in Section 6-189.1 of this title shall be  
2 given priority in the funding for the continuing education program.  
3 The purpose of the program is to improve the knowledge and skills of  
4 teachers and to ensure that the children of the state are taught by  
5 professional educators, fully prepared in the area of mathematics.

6       B. Implementation of this section shall be contingent upon the  
7 appropriation of state funds by the Legislature for the specific  
8 purpose of implementing this section. Nothing in this section shall  
9 prevent the State Board of Education or a school district board of  
10 education from utilizing private, local, or federal funds to  
11 implement this section.

12       C. Implementation of this section shall be delayed until the  
13 current expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance in public  
14 elementary and secondary schools in unadjusted dollars for the 1998-  
15 99 school year or any school year thereafter for Oklahoma, as  
16 reported by the National Center for Education Statistics annually in  
17 the Digest of Education Statistics, reaches at least ninety percent  
18 (90%) of the regional average expenditure for that same year, and  
19 funds are provided. For purposes of this section, the regional  
20 average expenditure shall consist of the current expenditure per  
21 pupil in average daily attendance in public elementary and secondary  
22 schools in unadjusted dollars for each of the following states:  
23 Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and  
24 Texas, averaged together. By January 1 of each year, the State

1 Board of Education shall report whether or not the ninety-percent  
2 expenditure level has been reached based on information reported  
3 annually in the Digest of Education Statistics by the National  
4 Center for Education Statistics. This section shall be implemented  
5 on July 1 after the first January 1 report verifies that the ninety-  
6 percent expenditure level has been reached and funds have been  
7 provided for the specific purposes of this section.

8 SECTION 12. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 11-107.1,

9 is amended to read as follows:

10 Section 11-107.1. A. Each school district in this state may  
11 offer a remediation course for high school students who score below  
12 a nineteen (19) on the American College Testing (ACT) exam or below  
13 an equivalent score on the ~~SAT exam~~ Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT)  
14 or Classical Learning Test (CLT) exams.

15 B. Nothing in subsection A of this section shall be construed  
16 to require that a teacher providing instruction in the remediation  
17 course be certified in any subject matter that is tested on the ACT  
18 or, SAT exam, or CLT exams.

19 SECTION 13. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.508,

20 is amended to read as follows:

21 Section 1210.508. A. 1. By no later than December 31, 2016,  
22 the State Board of Education shall adopt a statewide system of  
23 student assessments in compliance with the Elementary and Secondary

1 Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as reauthorized and amended by P.L.  
2 No. 114-95, also known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

3       2. The statewide student assessment system adopted by the Board  
4 pursuant to this subsection shall be aligned with the Oklahoma  
5 Academic Standards as adopted by the Board and which prepare  
6 students for college and careers.

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

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

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

- 21       1. Are aligned with the Oklahoma subject matter standards as  
22 adopted by the Board;  
23       2. Provide a measure of comparability among other states;

1       3. Yield both norm-referenced scores and criterion-referenced  
2 scores;

3       4. Have a track record of statistical reliability and accuracy;  
4 and

5       5. For assessments administered in high school, provide a  
6 measure of future academic performance.

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

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

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

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

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

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

21           b. Science not less than once during each grade span of  
22           three through five, six through nine and ten through  
23           twelve, and

1                   c. United States History, with an emphasis on civics, not  
2                   less than once during the grade span of nine through  
3                   twelve.

4                   2. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the statewide

5 student assessment system may include:

- 6                   a. assessments in Reading and Writing in certain grades  
7                   as determined by the Board, and  
8                   b. contingent upon the availability of funds, an  
9                   additional nationally recognized college- and career-  
10                  readiness assessment or assessments as recommended by  
11                  the State Department of Education which will be  
12                  administered to students in high school at no cost to  
13                  the student.

14                  F. 1. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the

15 2017-2018 school year, each student shall take the assessment or

16 assessments included in the statewide student assessment system

17 adopted by the Board pursuant to subsection A of this section in

18 order to graduate from a public high school with a standard diploma.

19 All students shall take the assessment or assessments prior to

20 graduation, unless otherwise exempt by law.

21                  2. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the

22 2017-2018 school year, each student, in addition to taking the

23 assessment or assessments included in the statewide student

24 assessment system adopted by the Board pursuant to subsection A of

1 this section, shall meet any other high school graduation  
2 requirements adopted by the Board pursuant to Section 5 of Enrolled  
3 House Bill No. 3218 of the 2nd Session of the 55th Oklahoma  
4 Legislature in order to graduate from a public high school with a  
5 standard diploma.

6       3. For students who start the ninth grade prior to or during  
7 the 2016-2017 school year, school districts shall adopt a plan that  
8 establishes the assessment or assessments those students are  
9 required to take in order to graduate from a public high school with  
10 a standard diploma. The plan may also include any or all of the  
11 other high school graduation requirements adopted by the Board  
12 pursuant to Section 5 of Enrolled House Bill No. 3218 of the 2nd  
13 Session of the 55th Oklahoma Legislature that those students will be  
14 required to meet in order to graduate from a public high school with  
15 a standard diploma.

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

21       G. In order to provide an indication of the levels of  
22 competency attained by the student in a permanent record for  
23 potential future employers and institutions of higher education,  
24 school districts shall report on the high school transcript of the

1 student the highest-achieved score on the assessment or assessments  
2 included in the statewide student assessment system adopted by the  
3 Board pursuant to subsection A of this section and any business- and  
4 industry-recognized endorsements attained.

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

10 I. 1. All assessments required by this section shall measure  
11 academic competencies in correlation with the subject matter  
12 standards adopted by the Board pursuant to Sections 11-103.6 and 11-  
13 103.6a of this title and referred to as the Oklahoma Academic  
14 Standards. The State Board of Education shall evaluate the subject  
15 matter standards to ensure the competencies reflect high standards,  
16 are specific, well-defined, measurable, challenging, and will  
17 prepare elementary students for next-grade-level course work and  
18 secondary students for postsecondary studies at institutions of  
19 higher education or technology center schools without the need for  
20 remediation. All subject matter standards shall reflect the goals  
21 as set forth in Section 11-103.6 of this title and of improving the  
22 state average ~~ACT score~~ of college entrance exam scores.

23 2. The State Department of Education shall annually evaluate  
24 the results of the assessments. The State Board of Education shall

1 ensure that preliminary results for all statewide assessments are  
2 reported to districts no later than June 20 of each year and are  
3 presented in a manner that yields detailed, diagnostic information  
4 for the purpose of guiding instruction and student remediation. As  
5 improvements are made to the assessments required by this section,  
6 the Board shall seek to increase the depth of knowledge assessed for  
7 each subject. The State Board of Education shall seek to ensure  
8 that data yielded from the assessments required in this section are  
9 utilized at the school district level to inform instruction,  
10 professional development, school improvement and remediation for  
11 students.

12       3. The Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability  
13 shall determine the cut scores for the performance levels on all  
14 statewide assessments. The Commission shall conduct an ongoing  
15 review to compare the statewide assessment content and performance  
16 descriptors with those of other states. Upon receipt of the review,  
17 the Commission may adjust the cut scores as necessary.

18       4. The State Board of Education, for the purposes of conducting  
19 reliability and validity studies, monitoring contractor adherence to  
20 professionally accepted testing standards, and providing  
21 recommendations for testing program improvement, shall retain the  
22 services of an established, independent agency or organization that  
23 is nationally recognized for its technical expertise in educational  
24 testing but is not engaged in the development of aptitude or

1 achievement tests for elementary or secondary level grades. These  
2 national assessment experts shall annually conduct studies of the  
3 reliability and validity of the statewide assessments administered  
4 pursuant to this section. Validity studies shall include studies of  
5 decision validity and concurrent validity.

6 J. 1. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules  
7 setting the assessment window dates for each statewide assessment so  
8 that the assessments are administered according to recommended  
9 testing protocols, and so that the assessment results are reported  
10 back to school districts in a timely manner. The vendor shall  
11 provide a final electronic data file of all school site, school  
12 district, and state results to the State Department of Education and  
13 the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability prior to August  
14 20 of each year. The Department shall forward the final data files  
15 for each school district and each school site in that district to  
16 the school district. The Board shall ensure the contract with the  
17 vendor includes a provision that the vendor report assessment  
18 results directly to the Office of Educational Quality and  
19 Accountability at the same time it is reported to the Board.

20 2. State, district, and site level results of all assessments  
21 required in this section shall be disaggregated by gender, race,  
22 ethnicity, disability status, migrant status, English proficiency,  
23 and status as economically disadvantaged, except that such  
24 disaggregation shall not be required in a case in which the number

1 | of students in a category is insufficient to yield statistically  
2 | reliable information or the results would reveal personally  
3 | identifiable information about an individual student. Each school  
4 | site shall notify the student's parents of the school's performance  
5 | levels in the Oklahoma School Testing Program as reported in the  
6 | Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program at the end of each school  
7 | year.

8 |       K. The State Board of Education shall be responsible for the  
9 | field-testing and validation of the statewide assessment system  
10 | required in subsection A of this section.

11 |       L. The State Board of Education shall develop, administer, and  
12 | incorporate as a part of the Oklahoma School Testing Program, other  
13 | assessment programs or procedures, including appropriate  
14 | accommodations for the assessment of students with disabilities as  
15 | required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA),  
16 | 20 U.S.C., Section 1400 et seq.

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

21 |       SECTION 14.      NEW LAW      A new section of law to be codified  
22 | in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.508-7 of Title 70, unless  
23 | there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 |

1       Oklahoma students taking the Classical Learning Test (CLT) shall  
2 only take the test in a brick-and-mortar testing center.

3       SECTION 15.       AMENDATORY       70 O.S. 2021, Section 2403, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5       Section 2403. A. No person shall be eligible to participate in  
6 the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program unless the  
7 person:

8           1. Has complied with all of the rules promulgated by the  
9 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education pursuant to the  
10 provisions of the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Act,  
11 Section 2401 et seq. of this title, for the award, regulation, and  
12 administration of scholarships; and

13           2. Qualifies as one of the following:

14           a. an Individual Applicant Qualified Student, which shall  
15 mean a student who is a resident of the State of  
16 Oklahoma whose ~~American College Testing Program score~~  
17 ~~or whose Scholastic Aptitude Test score on a~~  
18 ~~nationally norm-referenced college entrance exam~~ falls  
19 within the 99.5 to 100.0 percentile levels as  
20 administered in the State of Oklahoma and whose grade  
21 point average and/or class rank is exceptional, as  
22 determined by the State Regents,  
23 b. a Presidential Scholar, which shall mean a student  
24 selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars

administered by the United States Department of Education,

- c. a National Merit Scholar, which shall mean a student designated as a National Merit Scholar by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation,
  - d. a National Merit Finalist, which shall mean a student designated as a National Merit Finalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, or
  - e. after October 1, 1999, an Institutional Nominee, which shall mean a student nominated by an institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education:
    - (1) whose ~~American College Testing Program or Scholastic Aptitude Test score on a nationally norm-referenced college entrance exam falls~~ within the 95.0 to 99.49 percentile levels, or
    - (2) who shows exceptional academic achievement as evidenced by factors, including, but not limited to, grade point average, class rank, national awards, scholastic achievements, honors, and who shows exceptional promise based on documentation that may include, but not be limited to, teacher recommendations, extracurricular activities, and evidence of overcoming economic and social obstacles as determined by the State Regents.

1                   The State Regents shall ensure that standards of  
2                   high academic ability are documented.

3                   Scholarship awards to Institutional Nominees  
4                   shall become effective when appropriate  
5                   documentation is verified by the State Regents.

6                 B. No person shall be eligible to receive a scholarship  
7                 pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma State Regents' Academic  
8                 Scholars Program unless the person is enrolled as a full-time  
9                 student at a public or private accredited institution of higher  
10                education in Oklahoma.

11               C. The Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program shall  
12                provide a scholarship in an amount not to exceed the average costs  
13                of all enrollment fees, tuition and other fees, room and board, and  
14                all required textbooks or materials for up to five (5) years of  
15                undergraduate and/or graduate study at an accredited public or  
16                private institution of higher education in Oklahoma as provided in  
17                subsection E of this section. The State Regents may establish  
18                separate scholarship award levels for each qualifying category.

19               D. If a person identifies himself or herself as a student with  
20                a disability and requests consideration for a scholarship under the  
21                Academic Scholars Program by means other than standard testing  
22                procedures, the State Regents shall determine what means of  
23                assessment are appropriate and upon the basis of said assessment  
24                results, determine what level of award, if any, shall be made.

1       E. 1. If the student is attending an institution of The  
2 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, the total funding for the  
3 scholarship provided in this section, exclusive of any internships,  
4 shall not exceed the costs for items specified in subsection C of  
5 this section at the institution attended as determined annually by  
6 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

7       2. If the student is attending a private institution of higher  
8 education, the total funding for the scholarship provided in this  
9 section, exclusive of any internships, shall not exceed the costs  
10 for items specified in subsection C of this section at an  
11 institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education of  
12 comparable type which has the highest general enrollment fees of its  
13 type institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education as  
14 determined annually by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
15 Education.

16       SECTION 16.       AMENDATORY       70 O.S. 2021, Section 2603, as  
17 amended by Section 1, Chapter 440, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024,  
18 Section 2603), is amended to read as follows:

19       Section 2603. A. Except as otherwise provided for in  
20 subsection B of this section and elsewhere in this section, to be  
21 eligible to participate in the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access  
22 Program and to qualify for an award which includes payment of an  
23 amount equivalent to resident tuition or other tuition pursuant to

1      Section 2604 of this title for the first semester or other academic  
2      unit of postsecondary enrollment, a student shall:

3            1. Be a resident of this state or be enrolled in a school  
4      district located in this state that serves students who reside in  
5      both this state and an adjacent state pursuant to a contract as  
6      authorized in Section 5-117.1 of this title;

7            2. Be a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United  
8      States. A student who is not a United States citizen or lawfully  
9      present in the United States shall not be eligible to participate in  
10     the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program and to qualify for an  
11     award notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3242 of this title.

12    The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any student who  
13    was enrolled in the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program prior to  
14    the end of the 2006-2007 school year;

15            3. Have a record of satisfactory compliance with agreements  
16    executed pursuant to Section 2605 of this title;

17            4. a. have graduated within the previous three (3) years  
18                        from a high school accredited by the State Board of  
19                        Education or the Oklahoma School of Science and  
20                        Mathematics with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point  
21                        average on a 4.0 scale for all work attempted in  
22                        grades nine through twelve,

23            b. have graduated within the previous three (3) years  
24                        from a high school not accredited by the State Board

of Education with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale for all work attempted in grades nine through twelve and have achieved a composite score of 22 or higher on the ACT test or an equivalent score on the SAT or CLT, or have satisfactorily completed within the previous three (3) years an educational program that was provided through a means other than a public or private school and have achieved a composite score of 22 or higher on the ACT test or an equivalent score on the SAT or CLT;

5. Have completed the curricular requirements for admission to institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education one additional unit or set of competencies in a course that meets college admission requirements; or have completed the core curriculum and be seeking admission to a technology center school overseen by the State Board of Career and Technology Education. The curriculum requirements for admission to an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education shall include two units or sets of competencies in foreign or non-English language or technology courses that meet the college admission requirements and one unit or set of competencies of a fine arts course. Students shall also have attained a 2.5 grade point average in the core curriculum courses. Students who attended a high school which did

1 not offer all the core curriculum courses or students who were  
2 educated by other means and were not offered all the core curriculum  
3 courses shall be allowed to satisfy this curriculum requirement by  
4 participating in a program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents  
5 for Higher Education for remediation of high school curricular  
6 deficiencies;

7       6. Have satisfied admission standards as determined by the  
8 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for first-time-entering  
9 students for the appropriate type of institution, or, if attending a  
10 private institution, have satisfied admission standards as  
11 determined by the private institution. No student participating in  
12 the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program shall be admitted into  
13 an institution of higher education by special admission standards;

14       7. Have secured admission to, and enrolled in, an institution  
15 which is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,  
16 a postsecondary vocational-technical program offered by a technology  
17 center school that meets the requirements to be eligible for federal  
18 student financial aid, or a private institution of higher learning  
19 located within this state and accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of  
20 this title; and

21       8. a. have established financial need according to the  
22 provisions of subsection D of Section 2605 of this  
23 title and standards and provisions promulgated by the  
24 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,

- b. if the student was adopted between birth and twelve (12) years of age while in the permanent custody of the Department of Human Services, in the court-ordered custody of a licensed private nonprofit child-placing agency, or federally recognized Indian tribe, as defined by the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, have established financial need according to the provisions of paragraph 1 of subsection E of Section 2605 of this title and standards and provisions promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, or
- c. if the student was adopted between thirteen (13) and seventeen (17) years of age while in the permanent custody of the Department of Human Services, in the court-ordered custody of a licensed private nonprofit child-placing agency, or federally recognized Indian tribe, as defined by the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, have established financial need according to the provisions of paragraph 2 of subsection E of Section 2605 of this title and standards and provisions promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

B. 1. A student shall be eligible to participate in the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program and to qualify for an award which includes payment of an amount equivalent to resident tuition

1 or other tuition pursuant to Section 2604 of this title for the  
2 first semester or other academic unit of postsecondary enrollment if  
3 the student meets all of the following criteria:

- 4       a. is a child of any person killed after January 1, 2000,  
5               in the line of duty in any branch of the United States  
6               Armed Forces or who died after January 1, 2000, as a  
7               result of an injury sustained while in the line of  
8               duty in any branch of the United States Armed Forces  
9               and the person who was killed or died filed an  
10          individual or joint Oklahoma income tax return for the  
11          tax year prior to the year during which the person was  
12          killed or died,
- 13       b. is a resident of this state or is enrolled in a school  
14          district located in this state that serves students  
15          who reside in both this state and an adjacent state  
16          pursuant to a contract as authorized in Section 5-  
17          117.1 of this title,
- 18       c. enrolls in an institution within The Oklahoma State  
19          System of Higher Education prior to reaching the age  
20          of twenty-one (21),
- 21       d. has satisfied admission standards as determined by the  
22          Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for first-  
23          time-entering students for the appropriate type of  
24          institution, or, if attending a private institution,

1           has satisfied admission standards as determined by the  
2           private institution. No student participating in the  
3           Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program shall be  
4           admitted into an institution of higher education by  
5           special admission standards,

- 6         e. has secured admission to, and enrolled in, an  
7           institution which is a member of The Oklahoma State  
8           System of Higher Education, a postsecondary  
9           vocational-technical program offered by a technology  
10          center school that meets the requirements to be  
11          eligible for federal student financial aid, or a  
12          private institution of higher learning located within  
13          this state and accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of  
14          this title, and

- 15         f. executes an agreement pursuant to subsection C of  
16           Section 2605 of this title.

17         2. A student who is eligible to participate in the program  
18          pursuant to this subsection shall not be required to meet the  
19          eligibility requirements set forth in subsection A of this section.

20         C. To retain eligibility while pursuing the program of higher  
21          learning in which enrolled, the student shall:

- 22         1. Meet the requirements for retention and degree completion as  
23          established by the institution in which the student is enrolled;

1       2. Maintain good academic standing and satisfactory academic  
2 progress according to standards of the Oklahoma State Regents for  
3 Higher Education;

4       3. Maintain satisfactory academic progress as required for  
5 eligibility for federal Title IV student financial aid programs.

6 The provisions of this paragraph shall become effective for the  
7 2012-2013 school year;

8       4. Comply with the standards related to maintenance of  
9 eligibility as promulgated by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
10 Education; and

11       5. Refrain from conduct that leads to expulsion or suspension  
12 of more than one semester from an institution of higher education.

13 A student who violates the provisions of this paragraph shall  
14 permanently lose eligibility for program benefits. The provisions  
15 of this paragraph shall become effective January 1, 2008.

16       D. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the  
17 State Board of Career and Technology Education shall promulgate  
18 rules relating to maintenance of eligibility under the Oklahoma  
19 Higher Learning Access Act by a student.

20       E. It is the intent of the Legislature that students in the  
21 ninth grade for the 1992-93 school year who are determined to be  
22 eligible Oklahoma Higher Learning Access students pursuant to the  
23 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Act shall be the first students  
24

1 eligible for benefits from the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Trust  
2 Fund.

3 F. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are  
4 authorized to study, develop, and propose criteria for determining  
5 award eligibility based upon the completion of seven semesters of  
6 high school coursework by a student.

7 SECTION 17. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

8 SECTION 18. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
9 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
10 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
11 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

12 Passed the House of Representatives the 11th day of March, 2025.

13  
14 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 Presiding Officer of the House  
16 of Representatives  
17

18 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 Presiding Officer of the Senate  
21  
22  
23  
24