

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 HOUSE BILL 2418

By: Fetgatter

7 AS INTRODUCED

8 An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
9 Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 162,  
10 Chapter 452, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section  
11 6-122.3), which relates to adjunct teachers;  
12 requiring adjunct teachers obtain initial State Board  
of Education approval; requiring reapproval if  
certain changes occur; requiring State Board of  
Education to consider certain recommendations;  
providing an effective date; and declaring an  
emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-

19 122.3, as last amended by Section 162, Chapter 452, O.S.L.

20 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 6-122.3), is amended to

21 read as follows:

22 Section 6-122.3. A. The State Board of Education shall  
23 grant an alternative placement teaching certificate to a

person who makes application to the Board and meets the following criteria:

1. a. holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has attained a retention grade point average of not less than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale, or
  - b. has successfully completed a terminal degree, such as a doctorate of philosophy, a doctorate in education, professional doctorates, a master of fine arts degree or a master of library science degree, from an institution accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency which is recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall be consulted to verify other terminal degrees, or
  - c. holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has qualified work experience in a field that corresponds to an area of certification as determined by the State Board of Education, and

1                   d. in addition to the requirements of subparagraphs a, b  
2                   and c of this paragraph, has demonstrated competency  
3                   or completed a major in a field that corresponds to an  
4                   area of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary  
5                   Certificate or a Secondary Certificate as determined  
6                   by the State Board of Education or a vocational-  
7                   technical certificate as recommended by the Oklahoma  
8                   Department of Career and Technology Education;

9                 2. Declares the intention to earn standard certification by  
10               means of an alternative placement program in not more than three (3)  
11               years. The State Board of Education shall determine the subject  
12               matter and the number of clock or semester hours required for the  
13               professional education component for each person making application  
14               for an alternative placement teaching certificate based on the  
15               criteria of paragraph 1 of this subsection.

16               The State Board of Education shall establish a core minimum of  
17               six (6) semester hours or ninety (90) clock hours and a maximum of  
18               eighteen (18) semester hours or two hundred seventy (270) clock  
19               hours for the professional education component.

20               The requirements set forth in this subsection shall exclude all  
21               student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of  
22               subsection E of this section;

1       3. Has passed the subject area portion of the competency  
2 examination required in Section 6-187 of this title in the area of  
3 specialization for which certification is sought; and

4       4. Either presents a document from an accredited public school  
5 district in this state offering employment in the area of  
6 specialization for which certification is sought on condition that  
7 the person enroll in an alternative placement program approved by  
8 the State Board of Education or declares the intention to seek  
9 employment as a teacher at an accredited public school district in  
10 this state. The certificate granted pursuant to this subsection  
11 shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the  
12 purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this title, and the holder  
13 of the certificate shall be considered an inductee for the purposes  
14 of Section 6-195 of this title.

15      B. An alternative placement teaching certificate shall be  
16 renewed for not more than a maximum of three (3) years upon  
17 presentation of a document from an accredited public school district  
18 in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of  
19 specialization and a document from a teacher education institution  
20 verifying satisfactory progress in an appropriate alternative  
21 placement program.

22      C. Persons enrolled in an alternative placement program shall:  
23       1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education  
24 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,

1      the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the  
2      Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to offer teacher  
3      education programs, nor have enrolled in and subsequently failed  
4      courses necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of  
5      the program, except those persons who hold a certificate;

6            2. Have on file with the director of teacher education at an  
7      Oklahoma institution of higher education a plan for meeting standard  
8      certification requirements within three (3) years; and

9            3. Participate in an induction program as required in Section  
10     6-195 of this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as  
11     other inductees.

12          D. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the  
13     requirements for certification and, upon demonstration by an  
14     individual of specific competency in the subject area of  
15     specialization, may grant a certificate to the individual. The  
16     State Board may establish other requirements necessary to grant  
17     exceptions.

18          E. The State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
19     Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability, may grant an  
20     exception to the requirement to complete a subject area examination  
21     for initial certification in a field which does not require an  
22     advanced degree pursuant to this section if the candidate has an  
23     advanced degree in a subject that is substantially comparable to the  
24     content assessed on a subject area examination. The degree shall be

1 from an institution accredited by a national or regional accrediting  
2 agency which is recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department  
3 of Education. The Commission shall provide the Board with the  
4 necessary information to determine comparability.

5 F. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience  
6 shall not be required of alternative placement program participants  
7 for standard certification.

8 G. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules  
9 authorizing adjunct teachers who shall be persons with distinguished  
10 qualifications in their field. Adjunct teachers shall not be  
11 required to meet standard certification. Once an adjunct teacher  
12 has obtained initial State Board approval, the adjunct teacher shall  
13 retain his or her approval as an adjunct teacher unless significant  
14 changes in his or her qualifications or curriculum occur. If  
15 significant changes occur, the adjunct teacher shall be required to  
16 be reapproved by the State Board. The State Board shall take into  
17 consideration the recommendation for approval or disapproval of the  
18 adjunct teacher by the school districts and technology center school  
19 districts the adjunct teacher will be serving. A person employed as  
20 an adjunct teacher pursuant to this subsection who does not hold a  
21 valid certificate to teach shall not be considered a teacher as  
22 defined by Section 1-116 of this title.

23 H. Each teacher education institution shall provide the  
24 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation an annual report of

1 information as specified by the Commission regarding participation  
2 in the alternative placement programs offered by the institution.

3       I. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall not  
4 accredit, renew the accreditation of, or otherwise approve any  
5 teacher education program of any institution of higher education in  
6 this state that has not implemented alternative placement programs  
7 in at least four areas of specialization including mathematics,  
8 science and a foreign language. Each institution shall allow  
9 individuals who meet the criteria of subsections A and C of this  
10 section to be:

11           1. Admitted to an alternative placement program without further  
12 qualification; and

13           2. Offered the opportunity to complete the requirements for  
14 standard certification set forth in subsection A of this section  
15 during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year  
16 of teaching with an alternative placement teaching certificate. Any  
17 person seeking standard certification through an alternative  
18 placement program shall be permitted to take necessary courses  
19 during regular semesters if offered.

20       J. The criteria specified in subsection I of this section can  
21 be met through a cooperative arrangement entered into by two or more  
22 institutions of higher education.

23       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.  
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1 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
2 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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