

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR ENGROSSED  
4 SENATE BILL NO. 701

By: Haste and Gillespie of the  
Senate

5 and

6 Hasenbeck and Marti of the  
7 House

11 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

12 An Act relating to higher education; declaring a  
13 moratorium on certain higher education course and  
14 program restrictions; providing for functional  
exceptions; defining term; providing for  
codification; providing an effective date; and  
15 declaring an emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4675 of Title 70, unless there  
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. Beginning on the effective date of this act and ending five  
22 (5) academic years thereafter, there is hereby declared a moratorium  
23 on the following higher education course and program restrictions:

1       1. Northern Oklahoma College's exclusive authority to offer all  
2 lower division courses and programs at the University Center at  
3 Ponca City as provided by subsection B of Section 3213.1 of this  
4 title;

5       2. Connors State College's restriction to lower division  
6 classes and programs as provided by subsection B of Section 3405.1  
7 of this title;

8       3. Northeastern State University Muskogee branch's restriction  
9 to upper division classes and programs and graduate classes at  
10 Masters level as provided by subsection C of Section 3405.1 of this  
11 title;

12       4. Oklahoma State University-Tulsa's restriction to upper  
13 division undergraduate courses and degree programs as provided by  
14 Section 4662 of this title;

15       5. Oklahoma State University's prohibition from duplicating  
16 undergraduate courses offered by Tulsa Community College as provided  
17 by Section 4665 of this title;

18       6. Oklahoma State University's prohibition from duplicating  
19 undergraduate degree programs offered by Langston University Branch  
20 in Tulsa as provided by Section 4667 of this title;

21       7. Langston University Branch in Tulsa's restriction to upper  
22 division undergraduate and graduate courses as provided by Section  
23 4667 of this title;

1       8. Northeastern State University in Tulsa's restriction to  
2 upper division undergraduate and graduate courses as provided by  
3 Section 4668 of this title;

4       9. Oklahoma State University-Tulsa's prohibition from  
5 duplicating undergraduate degree programs offered by Northeastern  
6 State University in Tulsa as provided by Section 4668 of this title;

7       10. Any restrictions imposed by law preventing two-year  
8 community colleges and junior colleges from offering upper division  
9 undergraduate courses and undergraduate degree programs; and

10      11. Any other geographical restrictions imposed by law  
11 restricting the offering of undergraduate courses or undergraduate  
12 degree programs at institutions of higher education with The State  
13 System of Higher Education.

14      B. The State Regents for Higher Education may approve  
15 functional exceptions. As used in this section, "functional  
16 exception" means an expansion or exception to assigned institutional  
17 function or mission to permit an institution of higher education  
18 within The State System of Higher Education to offer courses or  
19 degree programs outside the institution's assigned function or  
20 mission to meet unmet workforce needs.

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

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