

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                   1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4                   ENGROSSED SENATE  
5                   BILL NO. 387

6                   By: Seifried of the Senate

7                   and

8                   Osburn of the House

9                   An Act relating to Oklahoma Center for the  
10                  Advancement of Science and Technology; amending  
11                  Section 1, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 2022 (74 O.S. Supp.  
12                  2024, Section 5060.44), which relates to intern  
                    partnership for STEM Workforce Pipeline Program;  
                    modifying definition; updating statutory language;  
                    and providing an effective date.

13

14

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

16                  SECTION 1.       AMENDATORY       Section 1, Chapter 272, O.S.L.

17                  2022 (74 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 5060.44), is amended to read as  
18                  follows:

19                  Section 5060.44. A. As used in this section:

20                  1. "Applicant organization" means an Oklahoma-based entity that  
21                  is a nonprofit research foundation or private enterprise of special  
22                  importance to the Oklahoma economy; and

23                  2. "Eligible student" means an individual currently enrolled in  
24                  a technology center school under the governance of the State Board

1    of Career and Technology Education or an individual currently  
2    enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at an institution  
3    of higher education who is majoring in a science, technology,  
4    engineering, and mathematics (STEM) based discipline including, but  
5    not limited to, natural sciences, computer science, materials  
6    science, engineering, biomedical, biotechnical, data analytics,  
7    finance, mathematics, or a support area related to building  
8    successful Oklahoma high-tech companies.

9                 B. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Center for the  
10      Advancement of Science and Technology Intern Partnership for STEM  
11      Workforce Pipeline Program to be administered by the Oklahoma Center  
12      for the Advancement of Science and Technology under the governance  
13      of the Oklahoma Science and Technology Research and Development  
14      Board.

15                 C. The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and  
16      Technology may award competitive internship funds, through  
17      professional service contracts, to applicant organizations to hire  
18      qualified student interns to participate in innovative industry  
19      projects.

20                 D. To qualify for program internship funds, the applicant  
21      organization must provide:

22                    1. Documentation verifying that not less than fifty percent  
23      (50%) of the total direct cost of the proposed project will be  
24      provided by sources other than the Oklahoma Center for the

1      Advancement of Science and Technology and other state-appropriated  
2      money. Such sources may be in the form of salary, cash, nonstate  
3      grant funds, and other sources of funding as defined by the Oklahoma  
4      Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology;

5            2. A description of the potential commercial application of and  
6      the industrial sectors that will likely benefit from the project and  
7      the potential to enhance employment opportunities in Oklahoma;

8            3. An itemized research budget, timeline, and research  
9      methodology; and

10          4. Any other information that may be required by the Board.

11          E. The Board shall award professional service contracts after  
12      it determines the applicant organization:

13            1. Provides a beneficial and meaningful intern experience which  
14      includes exposure to real-world application of technology and  
15      innovation activities;

16            2. Involves projects leading to innovation, new knowledge, or  
17      technology that will benefit the applicant organization;

18            3. Has a reasonable probability to enhance employment  
19      opportunities within Oklahoma;

20            4. Is technically sound, will produce a measurable result, and  
21      will provide a positive impact to the applicant organization; and

22            5. Does not involve market surveys or research activities that  
23      create fundamental or basic information which lack the potential for  
24      reasonably short-term commercialization.

1       F. Based upon the information submitted by the applicant  
2 organization, external peer review, and such additional  
3 investigation as the staff of the Center shall make, the Board may  
4 approve such professional service contracts after the Board finds  
5 that:

6           1. The proposed project is research that leads to innovation,  
7 new knowledge, or technology and is not training or technical  
8 assistance for business firms;

9           2. The project has a reasonable probability to enhance  
10 employment opportunities within the state; and

11           3. The project is technically sound and will produce a  
12 measurable result.

13       G. The Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and  
14 Technology shall promulgate rules necessary to implement and  
15 administer the program authorized in this section.

16       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

17  
18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated  
04/17/2025 - DO PASS.  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24