

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 181

By: Bullard

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to child care; amending 10 O.S. 2021, Section 405.4, which relates to education and continuing education requirements; extending continuing education cycle; providing certain exemption for master teacher qualifications; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 2021, Section 405.4, is amended to read as follows:

Section 405.4. A. Any person with a bachelor's degree or postgraduate degree shall be considered as having met the educational requirements for a director of a full-time child care center required by the Department of Human Services. Nothing in this section shall be construed as to affect ~~annual~~ continuing education requirements. The director of a child care center may also qualify as a master teacher for children of all ages.

1 B. ~~Any~~ The continuing education requirements established by the
2 Department shall be on a two-year cycle.

3 C. Subject to the exemptions provided by subsection D of this
4 section, a person replacing a master teacher at a child care center
5 shall be granted a one-year probationary period to fulfill the
6 educational qualifications required by the Department for a master
7 teacher. The Department may extend the probationary period an
8 additional year as long as the person is actively pursuing that
9 goal.

10 D. A person shall be exempt from the educational qualifications
11 required by the Department for a master teacher if the person has:

12 1. Not less than two (2) years of full-time experience or the
13 equivalent in the profession of child care or education as
14 determined by the Department; or

15 2. Obtained not less than six (6) credit hours at an
16 institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education or
17 at a technology center school in subjects relevant to child care as
18 determined by the Department.

19 ~~E.~~ E. Licensed child care facilities opened or expanded before
20 November 1, 2016, shall have thirty-five (35) square feet of floor
21 area per infant in rooms occupied only by infants. New construction
22 and existing space not previously licensed for child care after
23 November 1, 2016, shall have forty (40) square feet of floor area
24 per infant in rooms occupied only by infants.

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

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