

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 HOUSE BILL 1113

By: Pogemiller

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 6-122.3, as last amended by Section 162,
9 Chapter 452, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section
10 6-122.3), which relates to adjunct teachers;
11 requiring certification for certain adjunct teachers;
12 providing an effective date; and declaring an
13 emergency.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-122.3, as
16 last amended by Section 162, Chapter 452, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp.
17 2024, Section 6-122.3), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 6-122.3. A. The State Board of Education shall grant
19 an alternative placement teaching certificate to a person who makes
20 application to the Board and meets the following criteria:

- 21 1. a. holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an
22 institution whose accreditation is recognized by the
23 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has
24 attained a retention grade point average of not less
than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale, or

1 b. has successfully completed a terminal degree, such as
2 a doctorate of philosophy, a doctorate in education,
3 professional doctorates, a master of fine arts degree
4 or a master of library science degree, from an
5 institution accredited by a national or regional
6 accrediting agency which is recognized by the
7 Secretary of the United States Department of
8 Education. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
9 Education shall be consulted to verify other terminal
10 degrees, or

11 c. holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an
12 institution whose accreditation is recognized by the
13 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has
14 qualified work experience in a field that corresponds
15 to an area of certification as determined by the State
16 Board of Education, and

17 d. in addition to the requirements of subparagraphs a, b
18 and c of this paragraph, has demonstrated competency
19 or completed a major in a field that corresponds to an
20 area of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary
21 Certificate or a Secondary Certificate as determined
22 by the State Board of Education or a vocational-
23 technical certificate as recommended by the Oklahoma
24 Department of Career and Technology Education;

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

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

12 The requirements set forth in this subsection shall exclude all
13 student teaching requirements pursuant to the provisions of
14 subsection E of this section;

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

18 4. Either presents a document from an accredited public school
19 district in this state offering employment in the area of
20 specialization for which certification is sought on condition that
21 the person enroll in an alternative placement program approved by
22 the State Board of Education or declares the intention to seek
23 employment as a teacher at an accredited public school district in
24 this state. The certificate granted pursuant to this subsection

1 shall be considered a "valid certificate of qualification" for the
2 purposes of Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of this title, and the holder
3 of the certificate shall be considered an inductee for the purposes
4 of Section 6-195 of this title.

5 B. An alternative placement teaching certificate shall be
6 renewed for not more than a maximum of three (3) years upon
7 presentation of a document from an accredited public school district
8 in this state offering renewed employment in the same area of
9 specialization and a document from a teacher education institution
10 verifying satisfactory progress in an appropriate alternative
11 placement program.

12 C. Persons enrolled in an alternative placement program shall:

13 1. Have never been denied admittance to a teacher education
14 program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education,
15 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the
16 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to offer teacher
17 education programs, nor have enrolled in and subsequently failed
18 courses necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of
19 the program, except those persons who hold a certificate;

20 2. Have on file with the director of teacher education at an
21 Oklahoma institution of higher education a plan for meeting standard
22 certification requirements within three (3) years; and
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1 3. Participate in an induction program as required in Section
2 6-195 of this title and have the same duties and responsibilities as
3 other inductees.

4 D. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the
5 requirements for certification and, upon demonstration by an
6 individual of specific competency in the subject area of
7 specialization, may grant a certificate to the individual. The
8 State Board may establish other requirements necessary to grant
9 exceptions.

10 E. The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
11 Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability, may grant an
12 exception to the requirement to complete a subject area examination
13 for initial certification in a field which does not require an
14 advanced degree pursuant to this section if the candidate has an
15 advanced degree in a subject that is substantially comparable to the
16 content assessed on a subject area examination. The degree shall be
17 from an institution accredited by a national or regional accrediting
18 agency which is recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department
19 of Education. The Commission shall provide the Board with the
20 necessary information to determine comparability.

21 F. Student teaching and a prestudent teaching field experience
22 shall not be required of alternative placement program participants
23 for standard certification.

1 G. 1. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules
2 authorizing adjunct teachers who shall be persons with distinguished
3 qualifications in their field. ~~Adjunct~~ Except as provided in
4 paragraph 2 of this subsection, adjunct teachers shall not be
5 required to meet standard certification. A person employed as an
6 adjunct teacher pursuant to this subsection who does not hold a
7 valid certificate to teach shall not be considered a teacher as
8 defined by Section 1-116 of this title.

9 2. If an adjunct teacher has been employed full time by a
10 school district for two (2) school years, the adjunct teacher shall
11 be required to obtain, or have started the process to obtain, a
12 standard, alternative placement teaching, or emergency certification
13 before starting his or her third year of full-time employment with a
14 school district.

15 H. Each teacher education institution shall provide the
16 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation an annual report of
17 information as specified by the Commission regarding participation
18 in the alternative placement programs offered by the institution.

19 I. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall not
20 accredit, renew the accreditation of, or otherwise approve any
21 teacher education program of any institution of higher education in
22 this state that has not implemented alternative placement programs
23 in at least four areas of specialization including mathematics,
24 science and a foreign language. Each institution shall allow

1 individuals who meet the criteria of subsections A and C of this
2 section to be:

3 1. Admitted to an alternative placement program without further
4 qualification; and

5 2. Offered the opportunity to complete the requirements for
6 standard certification set forth in subsection A of this section
7 during the summer preceding and the summer following the first year
8 of teaching with an alternative placement teaching certificate. Any
9 person seeking standard certification through an alternative
10 placement program shall be permitted to take necessary courses
11 during regular semesters if offered.

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

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

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

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