

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 SENATE BILL 1122

By: Halligan

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to teacher certification; amending 70  
8 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.2, which relates to the  
9 Education Leadership Oklahoma program; extending  
certain moratorium; providing an effective date; and  
declaring an emergency.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-204.2, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 6-204.2. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the  
16 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation and the State Board of  
17 Education are authorized to establish the Education Leadership  
18 Oklahoma program.

19 B. The purposes of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program  
20 are:

21 1. Provide teachers throughout the state information about  
22 National Board certification and the Education Leadership Oklahoma  
23 program scholarships and services;

1           2. Provide technical assistance and National Board certified  
2 mentors to all teachers seeking National Board certification upon  
3 request;

4           3. Provide scholarships, pursuant to the Education Leadership  
5 Oklahoma Act and Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation rules,  
6 for teachers seeking National Board certification;

7           4. Provide a bonus to teachers who achieve National Board  
8 certification pursuant to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act and  
9 State Board of Education rules;

10          5. Reward teachers who achieve National Board certification  
11 without the financial support of the Education Leadership Oklahoma  
12 program by awarding them the application fee and the amount of the  
13 scholarship given to Education Leadership Oklahoma participants  
14 pursuant to this section and commission rules; and

15          6. Provide recognition to National Board certified teachers.

16          C. Except as otherwise provided for in subsection P of this  
17 section, to fulfill the objectives of the Education Leadership  
18 Oklahoma Act, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

19           1. Inform teachers of the Education Leadership Oklahoma program  
20 and the scholarships and services it provides to teachers seeking  
21 National Board certification, emphasizing recruiting efforts toward  
22 teachers at high-poverty schools, low-achieving schools and in  
23 counties with the lowest percentage of teachers who have achieved  
24 National Board certification;

1        2. Collect and review applications to the scholarship program  
2 from interested teachers;

3        3. Establish an applicant review committee for the purpose of  
4 identifying scholarship recipients pursuant to the Education  
5 Leadership Oklahoma Act for the Education Leadership Oklahoma  
6 program; and

7        4. Ensure that all scholarship recipients, alternates, and  
8 teachers seeking National Board certification independently receive  
9 adequate information regarding the level of commitment required to  
10 acquire National Board certification.

11        D. The applicant review committee shall:

12        1. Consist of:

13            a. five classroom teachers appointed by the State Board  
14 of Education, at least one of whom shall be a National  
15 Board certified teacher, if available,

16            b. five classroom teachers appointed by the Oklahoma  
17 Commission for Teacher Preparation, at least one of  
18 whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if  
19 available,

20            c. three classroom teachers appointed by the Oklahoma  
21 State Regents for Higher Education, at least one of  
22 whom shall be a National Board certified teacher, if  
23 available, and

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1           d.    a chair to be designated by the Executive Director of  
2                    the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation from  
3                    among the appointed members; and

4           2.    Except as otherwise provided for in subsection P of this  
5 section, select up to four hundred teachers each year, of whom a  
6 minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) teach at schools on the school  
7 improvement list as determined by the State Board of Education  
8 pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act or schools with more than  
9 fifty percent (50%) of students who qualify for the free and reduced  
10 price lunch program, and the appropriate number of alternates, who:

11           a.    have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in  
12                    teaching,

13           b.    meet all eligibility requirements for potential  
14                    certification as established by the National Board for  
15                    Professional Teaching Standards,

16           c.    are employed in an Oklahoma public school, and

17           d.    meet other requirements of the Commission.

18           E.    Subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the  
19 Legislature for the purposes of this subsection and except as  
20 otherwise provided for in subsection P of this section, the  
21 application fee for National Board certification shall be paid for  
22 scholarship recipients by the Commission, and scholarship recipients  
23 shall be provided a scholarship in the amount of Five Hundred  
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1 Dollars (\$500.00) to cover other expenses associated with obtaining  
2 National Board certification.

3 F. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma  
4 Commission for Teacher Preparation contract with Southeastern  
5 Oklahoma State University to establish Education Leadership Oklahoma  
6 program training in higher education teacher preparation programs in  
7 the state to assist teachers in meeting the requirements to obtain  
8 National Board certification.

9 G. Except as otherwise provided for in subsection P of this  
10 section, all teachers seeking National Board certification shall be  
11 eligible to participate in Education Leadership Oklahoma program  
12 training to assist them in meeting the requirements of the National  
13 Board certification process, free of charge.

14 H. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall  
15 promulgate rules for the selection of scholarship recipients, the  
16 selection and utilization of alternates, the payment and  
17 reimbursement of application fees, and the issuance of scholarships.

18 I. Subject to district board of education policy or collective  
19 bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be  
20 granted to teachers seeking National Board certification for  
21 National Board certification portfolio development. During the two  
22 (2) days of the additional professional days granted to teachers for  
23 National Board certification portfolio development, a substitute  
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1 teacher shall be provided by the school district at no cost to the  
2 teacher.

3 J. Except as otherwise provided for in subsection P of this  
4 section, the State Board of Education shall provide all teachers who  
5 attain National Board certification a bonus in the amount of Five  
6 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) annually no later than January 31 for  
7 as long as they maintain their National Board certification and are  
8 teaching in the classroom full-time in an Oklahoma public school.  
9 No school or school district shall be liable for payment of bonuses  
10 pursuant to this section.

11 K. The bonus shall not be included in the calculation of the  
12 teacher's salary for purposes of meeting the district or statutory  
13 minimum salary schedule or for purposes of compensating Oklahoma  
14 Teachers' Retirement System contributions or benefits.

15 L. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the  
16 provision of the bonus pursuant to this section to include, but not  
17 be limited to, a process by which a National Board certified teacher  
18 will verify that:

- 19 1. The National Board certification has not lapsed; and
- 20 2. The teacher is still a full-time teacher.

21 M. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Oklahoma State  
22 Regents for Higher Education incorporate the National Board  
23 certification portfolio development into all programs in education  
24 leading to a master's level degree.

1 N. Upon implementation of this subsection as provided for in  
2 subsection O of this section, the State Board of Education shall  
3 provide all teachers who attain National Board certification a bonus  
4 in the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) annually no  
5 later than January 31 for as long as they maintain their National  
6 Board certification and are full-time teachers in an Oklahoma public  
7 school. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of  
8 bonuses pursuant to this section. Upon implementation, the bonus  
9 provided for in this subsection shall replace the bonus provided for  
10 in subsection J of this section.

11 O. Implementation of subsection N of this section shall be  
12 contingent upon the appropriation by the Legislature of state funds  
13 for the specific purpose of implementing subsection N of this  
14 section. Nothing in this section shall prevent the State Board of  
15 Education or a school district board of education from utilizing  
16 private, local, or federal funds to implement subsection N of this  
17 section.

18 P. 1. Except as otherwise provided, the Oklahoma Commission  
19 for Teacher Preparation shall not accept any applications for the  
20 Education Leadership Oklahoma program, award scholarships pursuant  
21 to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act or pay the National Board  
22 certification application fee for scholarship recipients after June  
23 30, 2010, through June 30, ~~2012~~ 2014. The Commission may pay any  
24 scholarship amounts or pay the National Board certification

1 application fees incurred after June 30, 2010, for any teacher  
2 selected for the Education Leadership Oklahoma program before June  
3 30, 2010.

4 2. Except as otherwise provided, the State Board of Education  
5 shall not provide a bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars  
6 (\$5,000.00) as authorized in subsection J of this section beginning  
7 June 30, 2010, through June 30, ~~2012~~ 2014, to any teacher who  
8 attains National Board certification after June 30, 2010, through  
9 June 30, ~~2012~~ 2014. The Board shall provide a bonus to any teacher  
10 who attains National Board certification after June 30, 2010, if the  
11 teacher was selected for the Education Leadership Oklahoma program  
12 before June 30, 2010, or the teacher has submitted an application  
13 for National Board certification to the National Board for  
14 Professional Teaching Standards before June 30, 2010.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2012.

16 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
17 of the public peace, health and 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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