

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

The Colcord Board of Education realizes that teachers may occasionally be absent from the classroom and recognizes the need for qualified substitute teachers. In recognizing that need, the board has decided that noncertified substitute teachers or substitute teachers with a lapsed or expired teaching certificate shall be paid at the rate of \$55 per teaching day. Certified substitute teachers shall be paid \$75 per day.

The board of education employs substitute teachers to follow the daily lesson plan provided by a regular classroom teacher who is unable to be present in his/her class. Individuals wishing to perform duties as a substitute teacher must be annually approved by the board or be subsequently approved by the board for inclusion on the district's master list of substitute teachers. Only substitute teachers included on the district's approved substitute list will be employed by the district. All substitute teachers will be paid at the annual board approved substitute rate of pay.

Prior to employment with the district, a substitute teacher may be required to undergo a background check pursuant to the board's policy governing criminal records searches. General exceptions to the background check requirement relate to teachers of ten or more years who have retired from the district and individuals who have been full time Oklahoma teachers in the past five years at another district where a background check is already available.

The employment of an individual substitute teacher within the district shall be limited as follows:

- maximum of 90 days per school year if the substitute does not have a current or lapsed/expired teaching certificate or bachelor's degree, with a maximum of 90 days in the same assignment;
- maximum of 100 days if the substitute has a lapsed/expired certificate or possesses a bachelor's degree, with a maximum of 100 days in the same assignment; or
- no limit on the number of days within the district or in the same assignment if the substitute holds a valid certificate.

In the event the district is unable to locate a substitute teacher with a valid certificate to teach special education for students with physical disabilities or students with mental retardation, the limitations outlined above may be waived. Prior to waiving these restrictions, the administration will contact the Oklahoma State Board of Education and other local resources to determine the availability of a certified substitute teacher. Substitute teachers teaching special education for more than fifteen (15) consecutive or thirty (30) total days must receive in-service training prescribed by the Oklahoma State Board of Education.

Teachers are expected to make all arrangements for the work during their absence. Teachers should keep records and lesson plans at all times so that in case of an emergency a substitute teacher can carry on the work with a minimum loss of efficiency.

A certified substitute teacher may be employed on a monthly or annual basis in accordance with the terms of a written employment contract in the same manner and under the same conditions as regular teachers. Such substitute teachers shall receive the same compensation as regular teachers, at the same salary level, and will be employed pursuant to a temporary employment contract.

**REFERENCE: 70 O.S. §6-105
Atty. Gen. Op. No. 80-112 (June 16, 1980)**