

**RULE IMPACT STATEMENT  
TITLE 210. STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 20. STAFF  
SUBCHAPTER 9. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS: TEACHER EDUCATION AND  
CERTIFICATION  
PART 9. TEACHER CERTIFICATION**

a. **What is the purpose of the proposed rule change?**

The purpose of the proposed to change to 210:20-9-102 is revise the criteria for teacher certification under the career development program for paraprofessionals in accordance with the provisions of 70 O.S. § 6-127A.

The proposed changes to the rule add a minimum GPA requirement that mirrors the requirements for alternative teacher certification set forth in statute, and remove the requirement that paraprofessionals with a provisional teaching certification complete the residency program in order to obtain a standard certificate. Instead, the teacher will complete a year of teaching experience in a public school and provide at least two letters of recommendation. The proposed changes are necessary because the residency program is currently on hiatus due to lack of funding and the addition of a GPA requirement is necessary to ensure provisional certificates are issued to qualified candidates for licensure.

The proposed change to the rule also requires that the one year of experience necessary for a paraprofessional to qualify for a provisional teaching certificate cannot be experience gained by an individual seeking to obtain certification under the nontraditional certification path for special education teachers set forth in 210:20-9-105. This proposed change is necessary to prevent applicants for special education certification through the special education "boot camp" set forth at 210:20-9-105 from using the paraprofessional rule to subvert the requirements of 210:20-9-105.

b. **What classes of persons will be affected by the proposed rule change and what classes of persons will bear the costs of the proposed rule change?**

The proposed changes will affect public school paraprofessionals who seek teacher certification under the career development program for paraprofessionals; public school students; and public school districts that currently employ or anticipate employment of teachers certified under the career development program for paraprofessionals.

c. **What classes of persons will benefit from the proposed rule change?**

The proposed changes will benefit public school paraprofessionals who seek teacher certification under the career development program for paraprofessionals; public school students; and public school districts that employ teachers certified under the career development program for paraprofessionals.

d. **What is the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions?**

The agency does not anticipate any economic impact upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions as a result of implementation of the proposed rule change at this time.

e. **What is the probable cost to the agency to implement and enforce the proposed rule change?**

The agency does not anticipate any cost to the agency to implement and enforce as a result of the proposed change in the rule at this time. Additional record keeping, if any, will be performed by existing staff.

f. **What is the economic impact on any political subdivision to implement the proposed rule change?**

The agency does not anticipate any economic impact on any political subdivision to implement the proposed rule change at this time.

g. **Will implementing the rule change have an adverse effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act?**

The agency does not anticipate any adverse economic impact on small business as a result of the proposed rule change at this time.

h. **Are there any other methods which are less costly, nonregulatory, or less intrusive to achieve the purpose of the proposed rule change?**

No.

i. **Will the rule change impact the public health, safety, and environment, and is the change designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety, and environment? If so, explain nature of risk and to what extent the proposed rule change will reduce the risk.**

The agency does not anticipate any impact on public health, safety, or environment as a result of implementation of the proposed rule at this time.

j. **What detrimental effect will there be on the public health, safety, and environment if the rule change is not implemented?**

The agency does not anticipate any detrimental effect on public health, safety, or environment as a result of implementation of the proposed rule at this time.

k. **Date Prepared:** December 6, 2013.