



JOY HOFMEISTER
STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents and Special Education Directors

FROM: Matt Holder, Deputy Superintendent, Finance & Federal Programs
Todd Loftin, Executive Director, Special Education Services
Kathy Black, Executive Director, Financial Accounting/OCAS/Audits

DATE: June 20, 2017

SUBJECT: **Project 616: Subject Area Certification Examination Reimbursement**

In an effort to increase the ability of districts to appropriately serve students with disabilities who receive services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) the Oklahoma State Department of Education Special Education Services division (OSDE-SES) is implementing a new program - Project 616: Subject Area Certification Examination Reimbursement.

To participate in the program, districts will need to ensure that their board policies allow for subject area certification reimbursements. Please see the additional attachment for an example board policy.

This program is limited to one subject area examination per individual. Approval is based on information provided by the district and available funds for the program. Please note that taking and passing a subject area examination does not, in and of itself, constitute approval for providing direct instruction in any subject area. Districts must comply with current State law regarding certification requirements.

The OSDE-SES will reimburse districts for fees associated with subject area examinations as outlined below:

- A. Teachers who are currently certified in Special Education (Mild-Moderate or Severe-Profound):
 - a. Early Childhood Education (105)
 - b. Elementary Education Subtest 1: Reading/Language Arts (050) and Elementary Education Subtest 2: Social Studies/Mathematics/Science/Health, Fitness, and the Arts (051)
 - c. English (007) or English (107)
 - d. Middle Level English (024)
 - e. Advanced Mathematics (011) or Advanced Mathematics (111)
 - f. Elementary Mathematics Specialist (082)
 - g. Middle Level/Intermediate Mathematics (025) or Middle Level/Intermediate Mathematics (125)
 - h. Chemistry (004)

- i. Earth Science (008)
- j. Middle Level Science (026)
- k. Physical Science (013)
- l. Physics (014)
- m. Middle Level Social Studies (027)
- n. Psychology/Sociology (032)
- o. U.S. History/Oklahoma History/ Government/Economics (017)
- p. World History/Geography (018)
- q. Mild-Moderate Disabilities (029) or Mild-Moderate Disabilities (129)
- r. Severe-Profound/Multiple Disabilities (031) or Severe-Profound/Multiple Disabilities (131)
- s. Blind/Visual Impairment (028)
- t. Deaf/Hard of Hearing (030)

B. General Education Teachers or Participants in the Non-Traditional Route to Special Education Certification program:

- a. Mild-Moderate Disabilities (029) or Mild-Moderate Disabilities (129)
- b. Severe-Profound/Multiple Disabilities (031) or Severe-Profound/Multiple Disabilities (131)
- c. Blind/Visual Impairment (028)
- d. Deaf/Hard of Hearing (030)

Reimbursements must be pre-approved. For pre-approval please email any OSDE-SES contact below using the subject line "Project 616". Provide a statement, on district letterhead, with the following details:

- 1) Names of individuals for whom the reimbursement is being sought.
- 2) Current teaching assignment for each individual.
- 3) Justification for the necessity of each individual to take and pass the subject area examination.
- 4) Total cost.

Once pre-approval is obtained and an individual takes and passes the subject area examination, the district must submit a computer generated Expenditure Summary and Detail report and a copy of each individual's subject area examination results. If an individual does not pass the test, the district must obtain pre-approval again. The report and copies must be faxed (405-522-2380) or emailed to your Compliance, Data, and Finance Specialist.

For questions, please contact:

Carole Tomlin: carole.tomlin@sde.ok.gov – 405-521-2335
Janet Felton: janet.felton@sde.ok.gov – 405-522-1578
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