

Rule Impact Statement 210:35-21-2
"Alternative instructional delivery systems" [AMENDED]

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

This is the proposed permanent version of an emergency rule currently in effect. The amendment updates the administrative rule addressing alternative instructional delivery systems, including virtual instruction provided by means of the internet. The added content requires public school districts and charter schools to adopt policies for "distance learning plans", providing for how instruction will be offered to students outside a traditional classroom setting in the event of an emergency that closes or significantly impacts school campuses. Under the rule, public school distance learning plans must ensure equitable access to instruction for all students regardless of their resources, and distance learning policies must address issues such as attendance and course completion.

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 rule change will affect public school districts and charter schools.

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

The rule change will benefit the students and school communities of public school districts and charter schools, by ensuring plans are in place to safely and effectively provide instruction in an emergency that significantly impacts school operations.

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 political subdivisions or affected classes as a result of implementation of the proposed rule change, in that no new expenditures are required by the amendment. School districts that wish to newly implement virtual instruction options for distance learning may incur additional expenses relating to equipment and infrastructure, with costs that would vary according to the products and services selected by the district.

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 failure to implement the proposed rule at this time.

- k. **Date Prepared:** October 20, 2020