

**TITLE 210. STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CHAPTER 20. STAFF**

**SUBCHAPTER 9. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS: TEACHER EDUCATION AND
CERTIFICATION**

PART 9. TEACHER CERTIFICATION

210:20-9-110. Alternative placement teaching certificates

(a) Issuance of provisional alternative teaching certificates. The State Department of Education shall issue a three (3) year, nonrenewable provisional alternative placement teaching certificate to an individual who completes the application for an alternative placement teaching certificate and submits all documentation necessary to verify that the applicant meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) The applicant holds at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution whose accreditation is recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and has attained a retention/graduation grade point average of not less than 2.50 on a 4.0 scale;
- (2) The applicant has either:
 - (A) Earned a major in a field of study that corresponds to an area of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary Certificate, a Secondary Certificate or a career-technical certificate; or
 - (B) Provided a letter from the registrar or academic dean of the college or school from which the applicant graduated verifying that the applicant has completed a major in a field that corresponds to an area of specialization for an Elementary-Secondary Certificate, a Secondary Certificate or a career-technology certificate;
- (3) The applicant can document either:
 - (A) Two (2) years of work experience in the applicant's degree field area, unless the applicant is participating in the federal Troops to Teachers Program; or
 - (B) Completion of post-baccalaureate coursework in the applicant's degree field area;
- (3) The applicant declares the intention to earn standard certification by means of an alternative placement program that meets the requirements of 70 O.S. § 6-122.3 in not more than three (3) years;
- (4) The applicant has passed all of the following teacher competency examinations:
 - (A) The Oklahoma General Education Test (OGET); and
 - (B) The Oklahoma Subject Area Test (OSAT) in the area of specialization for which certification is sought;
- (5) The applicant provides one of the following types of documentation:
 - (A) A letter from an accredited Oklahoma public school district offering employment to the applicant in the area of specialization for which the applicant seeks certification that is conditioned upon the applicant's enrollment in an alternative certification program approved by the State Board of Education; or
 - (B) A letter from the applicant declaring the applicant's intention to seek employment as a teacher in an Oklahoma public school district accredited by the Oklahoma State Department of Education; and

(6) The applicant has received a favorable recommendation for certification from the Teacher Competency Review Panel (TCRP) for evaluation of the applicant's qualifications and career accomplishments.

(b) Requirements for enrollment in an alternative certification program. As a prerequisite to enrollment in an alternative placement program set forth in 70 O.S. § 6-122.3, applicants shall meet all of the following requirements;

(1) The applicant has never been denied admittance to a teacher education program approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to offer teacher education programs; and has never been enrolled in and subsequently failed courses necessary to successfully meet the minimum requirements of the program;

(2) The applicant has on file with the director of teacher education at an Oklahoma institution of higher education a plan for meeting standard certification requirements within three (3) years; and

(3) The applicant is participating in the teacher residency program set forth in 70 O.S. § 6-195, unless the residency program has been suspended for lack of funding.

(c) Issuance of standard alternative teaching certificates. The State Department of Education shall issue a standard teaching certificate to an individual who successfully completes all of the requirements set forth in (a) and (b) of this Section within three (3) years of the date of issuance of the applicant's provisional alternative teaching certificate and meets all of the following requirements:

(1) The applicant has passed the Oklahoma Professional Teaching Exam (OPTE) for either elementary/middle level or secondary level; and

(2) The applicant has completed all professional education requirements of the alternative placement program set forth in 70 O.S. § 6-122.3.

(d) No student teaching experience required. Student teaching and/or prestudent teaching field experience shall not be required of alternative program applicants as a condition of receiving a provisional or standard certificate pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

(e) State Board of Education exceptions. In accordance with the requirements of 70 O.S. § 6-122.3, the State Board of Education may grant a waiver or exception to any of the requirements of this Section and may grant a certificate upon demonstration of specific competency in the subject area of specialization by the applicant.