

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 432

6 By: Ford of the Senate

7 and

8 Denney and Cannaday of the  
9 House

10 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to career and technology education;  
12 creating the Oklahoma Career Promise Act; providing  
13 short title; directing the Executive Director of the  
14 Oklahoma Department of Commerce, in certain  
15 consultation, to publish a list of certain industry  
16 certification areas; directing the Oklahoma State  
17 Regents for Higher Education, in certain  
18 consultation, to identify certain programs;  
19 establishing criteria for certain programs; providing  
20 for identification of costs; establishing eligibility  
21 and providing for verification; providing for  
22 funding; directing the Oklahoma State Regents for  
23 Higher Education, in certain consultation, to make  
24 certain estimate; directing submission of certain  
report; directing promulgation of rules; creating the  
Oklahoma Career Promise Revolving Fund; providing for  
codification; providing an effective date; and  
declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2606 of Title 70, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act shall be known and may be cited  
as "Oklahoma Career Promise Act".

1           SECTION 2.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2607 of Title 70, unless there  
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4           A.   The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of  
5 Commerce, in consultation with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
6 Education and the State Board of Career and Technology Education,  
7 shall publish no later than October 1, 2013, and by June 30 each  
8 year thereafter, a list of critical industry certification areas  
9 that meet the guidelines of the identified core competencies of the  
10 state based on wealth generation, growth potential and competitive  
11 advantage.

12           B.   The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in  
13 consultation with the State Board of Career and Technology  
14 Education, shall identify postsecondary vocational-technical  
15 programs offered at technology center schools and programs offered  
16 at institutions within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education  
17 that correlate to industry certification areas identified by the  
18 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. The  
19 programs shall:

- 20           1.   Meet the requirements for federal financial aid; and
- 21           2.   Include a minimum of nine hundred (900) contact hours or  
22 include a minimum of twenty-four (24) college credit equivalent  
23 hours.

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1 C. The State Board of Career and Technology Education and State  
2 Regents for Higher Education shall annually identify the total cost  
3 of in-district tuition and fees broken down by each school and  
4 institution of all industry certification areas identified by the  
5 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. An award  
6 for eligible Oklahoma Career Promise Program students enrolled in  
7 qualifying postsecondary vocational-technical programs offered at  
8 technology center schools or programs offered by an institution of  
9 higher education shall include payment of an amount equivalent to  
10 in-district tuition and fees at the technology center school or  
11 institution of higher education.

12 D. To be eligible to participate in the Oklahoma Career Promise  
13 Program during the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, a student  
14 shall:

15 1. Meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the  
16 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program pursuant to Sections 2603  
17 and 2605 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, as verified by the  
18 State Regents for Higher Education; and

19 2. Enroll in qualifying postsecondary vocational-technical  
20 programs offered at technology center schools or programs offered by  
21 an institution of higher education identified by the State Regents  
22 for Higher Education, in consultation with the State Board of Career  
23 and Technology Education.

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1 E. A technology center school or institution of higher  
2 education shall verify with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
3 Education that a student is eligible for an Oklahoma Career Promise  
4 Program award.

5 F. Subject to the availability of funds, an amount equal to the  
6 in-district tuition and fees for any eligible Oklahoma Career  
7 Promise Program student enrolled in a public postsecondary  
8 vocational-technical program or course offered at a technology  
9 center school or program offered at an institution of higher  
10 education for the purposes set forth in this section shall be  
11 awarded by allocation from the Oklahoma Career Promise Revolving  
12 Fund. If the qualifying postsecondary vocational-technical program  
13 or higher education institution program consists of two semesters,  
14 fifty percent (50%) of the award shall be provided to the technology  
15 center school or higher education institution during the first  
16 semester and forty percent (40%) of the award shall be provided to  
17 the technology center school or higher education institution during  
18 the second semester. The remaining ten percent (10%) of the award  
19 shall be provided to the technology center school or higher  
20 education institution upon completion of the program and receipt of  
21 industry certification by the student. If the qualifying  
22 postsecondary vocational-technical program or higher education  
23 institution program consists of more than two semesters, fifty  
24 percent (50%) of the award shall be provided to the technology

1 center school or higher education institution during the first  
2 semester and forty percent (40%) of the award shall be provided to  
3 the technology center school or higher education institution when  
4 the student has satisfactorily completed one-half (1/2) of the  
5 program. The remaining ten percent (10%) of the award shall be  
6 provided to the technology center school or higher education  
7 institution upon the completion of the program and receipt of  
8 industry certification by the student.

9 G. Benefits awarded according to this section through the  
10 Oklahoma Career Promise Program to students attending qualifying  
11 postsecondary vocational-technical programs or higher education  
12 institution programs shall be awarded on a first-come, first-serve  
13 basis to all eligible applicants, subject to availability of  
14 funding.

15 H. A student who meets the eligibility qualifications set forth  
16 in subsection D of this section and enrolls in a qualifying  
17 postsecondary vocational-technical program or higher education  
18 institution program according to this section may complete the  
19 prescribed coursework for industry certification, regardless of  
20 whether the program is included on the most current list published  
21 by the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, as  
22 long as certification is achieved within five (5) years of the  
23 student's first enrollment in the program.

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1 I. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in  
2 consultation with the State Board of Career and Technology  
3 Education, shall estimate the amount of revenue deemed necessary to  
4 fund the awards allowed under this section for the fiscal year which  
5 begins July 1, 2013, and provide the estimate to the President Pro  
6 Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
7 Representatives within thirty (30) days of passage and approval of  
8 this act. Thereafter, the estimates shall be provided annually on  
9 October 1 to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and Speaker of  
10 the House of Representatives.

11 J. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the State  
12 Board of Career and Technology Education and the Executive Director  
13 of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall promulgate rules as  
14 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

15 K. Not later than the end of each calendar year, the Oklahoma  
16 State Regents for Higher Education, in consultation with the State  
17 Board of Career and Technology Education, shall submit a report to  
18 the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
19 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Executive Director of  
20 the Oklahoma Department of Commerce containing the number and types  
21 of certificates achieved by students who received benefits awarded  
22 under the Oklahoma Career Promise Program.

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1 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2608 of Title 70, unless there  
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund  
5 for the State Regents for Higher Education to be designated the  
6 "Oklahoma Career Promise Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a  
7 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall  
8 consist of all monies appropriated or transferred to the fund by the  
9 Legislature. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are  
10 hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma  
11 State Regents for Higher Education to provide Oklahoma Career  
12 Promise Program awards to eligible students. Expenditures from the  
13 fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer  
14 against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the  
15 Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and  
16 payment.

17 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2013.

18 SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
19 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
20 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
21 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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