

**TITLE 610. STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
CHAPTER 25. STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS  
SUBCHAPTER 23. OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM**

**RULE IMPACT STATEMENT**

**A. Brief description of the purpose of the proposed rule.**

The proposed rule revision implements an amendment to the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program – Oklahoma’s Promise statutes as passed in SB 137 of the 2015 Oklahoma Legislative. The amendment relates to the determination of financial eligibility of students applying for the program in the 8th, 9th or 10th grade. The new statutory language requires the State Regents to review the financial eligibility of the student if the income of the student’s parent(s) includes income from either nontaxable military benefits or Social Security benefits due to the death or disability of a parent (Social Security retirement benefits are not included in the review). If the review determines that the total income of the parent(s), excluding nontaxable military benefits and Social Security benefits due to the death or disability benefits of a parent, does not exceed \$50,000, then the student will be eligible to enroll in the program.

**B. Description of the classes of persons who most likely will be affected by the proposed rule, including classes that will bear the costs of the proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts received by the agency from any private or public entities.**

The proposed rule change will impact some students in families that receive nontaxable military benefits or Social Security benefits due to the death or disability of a parent. The costs of the program are paid from the General Revenue Fund of the State of Oklahoma. No information on cost impacts has been received by any private or public entities.

**C. Description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rule.**

The proposed rule change will benefit some students in families that receive nontaxable military benefits or Social Security benefits due to the death or disability of a parent.

**D. Description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee change.**

It is estimated that the proposed rule change will result in about 25 additional scholarship recipients each year at a cost of about \$110,000.

**E. Probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any other agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain in such revenues if it can be projected by the agency.**

The costs to the agency or any other agencies to implement the proposed rule changes should be minimal. The program benefits are funded through the state’s General Revenue Fund. Consequently, there may be a small increase in the amount of state revenue needed to fund the benefits.

**F. Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule.**

The proposed rule changes should not have an economic impact on any political subdivisions.

**G. Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an adverse economic effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.**

After consideration with reference to Section 303(A)(4) and 303(B)(6) of Title 75, it is believed that the proposed rules will have no adverse impact upon Small Business.

**H. Explanation of the measures the agency has taken to minimize compliance costs and a determination of whether there are less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule.**

The proposed changes are designed to minimize compliance costs by working within existing administrative processes of the agency.

**I. Determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the public health, safety and environment and, if the proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment, an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk.**

The proposed rule should have no effect on the public health, safety, and environment.

**J. Determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety and environment if the proposed rule is not implemented.**

No effect on the public health, safety, or the environment will result if these rule amendments are not implemented.

**K. Date the rule impact statement was prepared and if modified, the date modified.**

October 27, 2015.