

**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 permanent rule revisions address the following three issues:

Incorporating the statutory change to extend the application period to the 11th grade: Senate Bill 132, passed in the 2021 legislative session, extended the application period for the program to the 11th grade effective beginning in fall 2021. Students may now apply at any time during the 8th – 11th grade. For homeschool students the bill extended the application period to age 16, allowing homeschool students to apply between the ages of 13 and 16.

Modifying the program's high school curricular requirements to reflect changes in the college admission curricular requirements recently approved by the State Regents: Current statutes require students in the program to complete high school curriculum requirements that are based on college admission requirements for state system colleges and universities. The revisions incorporate recent changes to the admission curricular requirements.

Deleting an obsolete reference to cooperative agreements between a public career technology center and an institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education: Legislation passed in 2017 deleted references to "cooperative agreements." The proposed revisions remove this obsolete text from the rules.

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 changes will affect 11th-grade high school students and sixteen-year-old homeschool students who are now eligible to apply for the program. No information on cost impacts has been received by the agency from any private or public entities.

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

The proposed rule changes will benefit 11th-grade high school students and sixteen-year-old homeschool students by allowing them to apply to the program.

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.

The proposed rule change should have positive economic impact upon 11th-grade students and sixteen-year-old homeschool students who are now eligible to apply for the program. There is no expected economic impact on political subdivisions. The program does not assess any fees.

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 proposed rule changes are not expected to have any administrative cost impact to the agency. The impact of the extension of the application period, which is mandated by statute, on the scholarship costs of the program are expected to be modest.

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 or require their cooperation to implement the rule.

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 not expected to increase compliance costs.

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.

February 10, 2022.