

**TITLE 610. STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
CHAPTER 25. STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 33. Regional University Baccalaureate Scholarship Program
610:25-33-4. Eligibility Requirements [AMENDED]
610:25-33-5. Criteria for Continued Eligibility [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

The proposed rule changes address the following issues:

ACT Test Scores: To be eligible for the Regional University Baccalaureate Scholarship, students must score at least a 30 on the ACT unless they meet other designations. In recent years, ACT has expanded its options for taking the ACT test beyond the traditional six national Saturday testing dates each school year. Other official ACT testing options now include school-level testing administered at a school site during the school day, statewide ACT tests (not used in Oklahoma to date), and international tests. The proposed change recognizes these additional methods for students to obtain ACT scores considered official and valid by ACT. The language specifically excludes "residual" ACT tests administered by an individual college because ACT does not allow residual test scores to be used beyond the campus that administers the test.

Retention/Graduation Grade Point Average (GPA): The proposed changes allow, in addition to the cumulative GPA, the use of the student's retention/graduation GPA for meeting the program's continuing eligibility GPA requirements. The retention/graduation GPA calculation does not include activity courses or courses subject to academic forgiveness provisions authorized by State Regents' policy. State Regents' policy also uses the retention/graduation GPA for compliance with State Regent's system-wide academic enrollment requirements. In addition, on students' transcripts, the retention/graduation GPA is required to be shown but the reporting of the cumulative GPA is optional.

Final Semester Award: Students in the program are limited to eight semesters of scholarship eligibility and must enroll in at least twelve hours per fall or spring semester. The proposed revision would allow students in their final semester of undergraduate enrollment to be eligible for a half-semester award for at least six hours of enrollment. This provision is for students who need less than twelve hours in their final semester to complete their undergraduate degree. The change would prevent the student from having to take unnecessary courses to receive an award and would also prevent the program from having to pay a larger award for unnecessary courses.

AUTHORITY:

70 O.S. §3206 (i); Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

ACCEPTED 10/4/16
Office of Administrative Rules
Oklahoma Secretary of State
Docket # 16 - 755 OAR/cert CW

COMMENT PERIOD:

Interested persons may submit written and oral comments to David B. Harting, Assistant General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104, by 5:00 p.m., December 1, 2016.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, one can be requested by contacting David B. Harting, Assistant General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104 by 5:00 p.m., December 1, 2016.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:

N/A

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:

Copies of proposed rules may be obtained at the Office of the Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

Copies of the rule impact statement may be obtained at the Office of the Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104 on and after November 1, 2016.

CONTACT PERSON:

David B. Harting, Assistant General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, (405) 225-9289.

NAME OF AGENCY:

State Regents for Higher Education

TYPE OF DOCUMENT:

Notice of rulemaking intent

LIAISON VERIFICATION:

I verify that I have reviewed the attached document and that it substantially conforms to filing and format requirements of the APA and the rules of the Secretary of State. Additional information may be obtained by contacting me at 405-225-9289.



David B. Harting
Assistant General Counsel
October 4, 2016