

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

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 1. Academic Scholars Program

610:25-1-3. General Principles for Operation of Program [AMENDED]

610:25-1-4. Eligibility Requirements and Term of Scholarship Award [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

The program provides participants a scholarship for up to four years of study at accredited institutions of higher education in Oklahoma. The State Regents recently modified the allocation of freshmen Institutional Nominee scholarship slots to more closely reflect the enrollment patterns of first-time entering freshmen at state system colleges and universities and have adjusted the award amount for Institutional Nominees commensurate with available funding. The proposed rule revisions address two issues. The first is adding a third minimum eligibility criterion option for Institutional Nominees that provides a stronger predictor of college success, addresses a disadvantage for students graduating from high schools that do not calculate class rank and provides more flexibility for institutions to select qualified applicants while maintaining high academic standards. The second is allowing consideration of ACT scores based on a recent change in ACT's testing and scoring policy. On October 8, 2019, ACT announced a change in the administration of the ACT test that will calculate a "superscore" if a student takes the test more than once. The new ACT policy will also allow students to retake in one or more of the individual test sections without having to retake the entire test. These changes become effective in September 2020.

AUTHORITY:

70 O.S. Sections 2401 through 2407; 70 O.S. Section 3206 (i); Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

COMMENT PERIOD:

Interested persons may submit written and oral comments to David B. Harting, Associate General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104, by 5:00 p.m., February 3, 2020.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, one can be requested by contacting David B. Harting, Associate General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104 by 5:00 p.m., February 3, 2020.

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 January 2, 2020.

CONTACT PERSON:

ACCEPTED 12/6/19

Office of Administrative Rules

Oklahoma Secretary of State

Docket # 19-923

OAR/cer CAL

David B. Harting, Associate 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David B. Harting", is written over a horizontal line.

David B. Harting

Associate General Counsel

December 6, 2019