

**TITLE 610. STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
CHAPTER 10. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
SUBCHAPTER 1. STATE AUTHORIZATION**

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

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

The purpose of the proposed rules is to comply with the United States Department of Education federal regulations. In October 2010, the United States Department of Education issued new regulations for programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to hold institutions accountable for preparing students for gainful employment; protect students from misleading recruiting practices; ensure that only eligible students receive financial aid; and strengthen federal student aid programs at for-profit, non-profit, and public institutions. The regulations also include requirements for state authorization of institutions that offer educational programs beyond secondary education for purposes of federal financial aid program eligibility. The proposed rules establish a process of authorization that serves the diverse institutions that operate educational programs beyond secondary education and creates a framework for authorizing private higher education institutions with a physical presence in the state.

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.

Private independent not-for-profit and private for-profit institutions within the State of Oklahoma will be affected by the proposed rules. The proposed rules are not expected to increase the costs for these institutions and 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.

Private independent not-for-profit and private for-profit institutions with a physical presence in Oklahoma will benefit from the proposed rules. The proposed rules will provide state authorization for those private institutions that offer educational programs beyond secondary education for purposes of federal financial aid program eligibility. The oversight authority granted within these rules also provides greater protection for Oklahoma students from academically or financially marginal or deficient institutions.

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.

No fees are charged under the proposed rules and no economic impact is expected.

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 of the proposed rules to the agency should be minimal and the source of revenue for implementing the proposed rules is state revenue. However, no net loss or gain in state revenues is projected.

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 rules should not have an economic impact on any political subdivisions. Private independent not-for-profit and private for-profit institutions with a physical presence in Oklahoma will be required to cooperate in implementing the proposed rules, but this should not require changes to their administrative systems or institutional structure.

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.

No adverse impact on small business is expected from implementation of the proposed rules.

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 rules should not impose any additional compliance costs. The reports required by these proposed rules are typically prepared for other agencies for governance, accreditation or financial aid. There are no less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rules.

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 rules 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 the proposed rules are not implemented.

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

January 24, 2014.