

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

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 23. Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program

610:25-23-2. Eligibility of participants [AMENDED]

610:25-23-4. Program requirements [AMENDED]

610:25-23-7. Payment of awards; policies and limitations [AMENDED]

610:25-23-8. Administrative responsibilities [AMENDED]

610:25-23-9. "Heroes Promise" [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

Oklahoma's Promise was created in 1992. Students must enroll in the program in the 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grade. The program requires students to complete a 17-unit core curriculum, achieve at least a 2.50 GPA in the core curriculum and a 2.50 GPA overall, attend school regularly, and refrain from drug abuse or delinquent acts. Students completing the requirements qualify for a scholarship equal to public college tuition. Participation is limited to students from families with an income of \$55,000 or less at the time of application to the program (the income limit will increase to \$60,000 beginning in 2021-2022). The student's family income must also not exceed \$100,000 while the student is enrolled in college. During the 2021 legislative session, the State Regents recommended legislation to expand the application period to the 11th grade. Legislation to make this change, SB 132 by Sen. David Bullard and Rep. Rhonda Baker, passed the Senate and House on unanimous votes. The proposed permanent rule revisions address the three following items:

Incorporating the statutory change to extend the application period to the 11th grade;

Modifying the program's high school curricular requirements to reflect changes in the college admission curricular requirements recently approved by the State Regents; and

Deleting an obsolete reference to cooperative agreements between a public career technology center and an institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

AUTHORITY:

70 O.S. § 2601 et seq.; 70 O.S. § 3206(i) and (o); Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

COMMENT PERIOD:

Persons wishing to present their views in writing may do so before 5:00 p.m. on March 17, 2022, at the following address: Matt Stangl, General Counsel, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK 73104-3603; or, at P.O. Box 108850, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-8850; or, at mstangl@osrhe.edu.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, pursuant to 75 O.S. § 303(B)(9), "persons may demand a hearing" by contacting Matt Stangl, General Counsel, at mstangl@osrhe.edu or 405.225.9129 no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 17, 2022.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:

N/A

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:

Copies of proposed rules are available in the office of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK 73104), by email to mstangl@osrhe.edu, and on the agency's website at <https://www.okhighered.org>.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

Pursuant to 75 O.S. § 303(D), a rule impact statement will be prepared and will be available on the agency's website at <https://www.okhighered.org>.

CONTACT PERSON:

Matt Stangl, General Counsel, 405.225.9129, or mstangl@osrhe.edu