

**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

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

610:25-23-5. Securing Program Benefits [AMENDED]

610:25-23-6. Retaining eligibility in postsecondary education [AMENDED]

**SUMMARY:**

The proposed rule changes address the following issues:

**Grade Point Average (GPA) Standards:** The proposed amendments extend the numerical value of the program's minimum GPA requirements from one decimal point to two decimal points (e.g. from 2.5 to 2.50). In statute, the program GPA requirements are written out to the first decimal place. However, high school and college GPA's are near universally calculated out to the second decimal point. The change will provide clear guidance to students, parents and school officials about the minimum GPA cut-off points and will clarify that rounding of the student's GPA to the first decimal point will not be permitted.

**Three-Year Period after High School to Begin Using the Program Award:** The statutes creating the program state that, to begin using the program award after high school, an Oklahoma's Promise student must "have graduated within the previous three (3) years." The proposed change clarifies that the period is three *calendar* years. The change will help reduce any confusion about when the three-year period ends. For example, an Oklahoma's Promise student graduating in 2012 would be required to begin college no later than the end of 2015.

The remaining non-substantive changes simply update references to the State Regents policy on Institutional Admission and Retention.

**AUTHORITY:**

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

**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., April 1, 2013.

**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., April 1, 2013.

**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 March 1, 2013.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

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