

OACRAO State Regents Update

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Preview...

- Outline recent policy changes
- Discuss current COI policy revisions
- Highlight proposed and recently signed legislation

Policy Changes

Functions of Public Institutions policy

- Last Spring, the State Regents received two requests relating to function expansion.
- Given the timing of these requests coupled with the Task Force recommendations and need for implementation planning, it was prudent to reexamine the policy framework that guides the process through which proposed function changes/expansions are reviewed.



Functions of Public Institutions policy

- As a result of these issues, in 2018, the State Regents:
 - Placed a moratorium on function/mission expansion through June 30, 2019; and
 - Created a subcommittee of the State Regents' Academic Affairs Committee to review and analyze national trends, best practices, and the recommendations of the State Regents' Task Force on the Future of Higher Education.

Functions of Public Institutions policy

- In the end, the subcommittee recommended revisions to the State Regents' *Functions of Public Institutions* policy, which were approved by the State Regents at their January 24, 2019 meeting.
- These revisions provide an avenue for institutions to submit a request for an exception to operate outside the scope of its State Regents' defined function.
- These requests will be scrutinized at both the local level by the governing board and at the statewide level by the State Regents.

Functions of Public Institutions policy

At the local level, the governing board will evaluate the following criteria when reviewing a function exception request and associated new program request:

- Purpose of the function exception request and associated degree program request;
- Mission and function;
- Academic standards;
- Faculty;
- Support resources;
- Demand and capacity;
- Complement to existing function and programs;
- Unnecessary duplication;
- Collaborations or alternative forms of meeting local needs;
- Institutional costs, funding, and sustainability; and
- Review and assessment.

Functions of Public Institutions policy

The State Regents will review all the criteria from the Governing Board Review as well as the following statewide criteria:

- Demand and capacity;
- Unnecessary duplication;
- Collaborations or alternative forms of meeting local needs;
- Costs, funding, and sustainability; and
- Review and assessment.

Functions of Public Institutions policy

- The State Regents' staff will review the institution's function exception request with the associated degree program request and will submit a recommendation for State Regents' action. The State Regents may take one of four actions:
 - Deny the request;
 - Defer the request until the institution meets specified criteria or provides additional information;
 - Provisionally approve the request which will include a specified period of time for the function exception's operation and associated degree program's operation with certain criteria developed in cooperation with the institution to be met if the function exception and associated program is to continue beyond the specified date; or
 - Approve the function exception and associated degree program without qualification.

In-State/Out-of-State Status of Enrolled Students policy

- Last Fall, President Trump signed public law 115-251, which amended section 3679(c) of Title 38 of the United States Code.
- The amendments to 3679(c) outline the criteria that Chapter 31 (Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment) VA benefit recipients must meet to qualify for in-state status.
- This law went into effect for courses, semesters, or terms beginning after March 1, 2019.



In-State/Out-of-State Status of Enrolled Students policy

- In the meantime, to ensure compliance with the federal law, please make sure to reclassify the residency status of any out-of-state student who:
 1. files with the institution within the State System at which the student intends to register a letter of intent to establish residence in the state and resides in the state while enrolled in the institution;
 2. is using educational assistance chapter 31; and
 3. is enrolled in any courses, semesters, or terms beginning after March 1, 2019.
- Later this Spring, the State Regents' In-State/Out-of-State Status of Enrolled Students policy will be updated to reflect this guidance.
- Lastly, it should be noted that this guidance only impacts chapter 31 VA benefit recipients. Therefore, the existing policy criteria that are required for chapter 30 and 33 VA benefit recipients to qualify for in-state status remains the same.

English Proficiency Exam Issues

- In Fall 2018, a faculty committee reviewed three exams that are designed to measure English proficiency: Duolingo, PTE Academic, and iTEP.
- After review, the committee did not recommend to add these exams as measures that would allow a non-native speaker to demonstrate English proficiency.
- Thus, the TOEFL and IELTS remain as the two acceptable exams that allow a non-native speaker to demonstrate English proficiency.

UDS Data Coding

Element: 39

Column (s) 234

Element Title: Co-Requisite Course Flag (Optional)

Description: A course design in which students who are assessed below college-ready in Math, English or Reading are enrolled in a first-year college course and receive additional academic support or otherwise are instructed in college-level content and receive additional academic support concurrently with the college-level material. The model ensures that a student has the opportunity to complete a college-level gateway course within one academic year.

Category

Math, Statistical.....	S
Math, General Education.....	G
Math, Modeling and Functions.....	M
Math, College Algebra.....	A
English.....	E
Reading.....	R
Not Applicable.....	N

Status of Current COI Policy Revisions

Institutional Admission and Retention policy Revisions

The Council on Instruction's Admission, Retention, and Transfer committee has discussed a number of policy areas, including:

- First-Time-Entering Student Issues
 - Aligning the policy definition with IPEDS
 - High School Courses Required for College Admission
 - Holistic Admission Options
- Transfer Student Issues
- International Student Issues
- Adult Student Issues

Assessment and Remediation Policy Revisions

- The Council on Instruction's Assessment Committee has discussed:
 - Establishing a universally-defined minimum standard for science course placement;
 - Establishing a definition of corequisite remediation; and
 - Reviewing the ways in which students may satisfy certain high school curricular deficiencies.

Legislation

Senate Bill 152

Senator Allison Ikley-Freeman

- Would have prohibited State System institutions from charging a fee to a person who is enrolled in the institution or who was previously enrolled in the institution, regardless of whether they graduated from the institution, for the first two copies of a person's college transcript.
- This bill was not heard in the Senate Education committee. As a result, it will not be considered this year.

House Bill 1320

Representative Kelly Albright

- Would have exempted certain members of the Armed Forces of the United States who are also Oklahoma residents and their dependents from tuition, dues, fees and other required charges by State System institutions.
- Failed to pass out of the House Appropriations and Budget Education Subcommittee 5-6 on Tuesday, February 12, 2019.

Senate Bill 211

Senator Joe Newhouse

- Would require State System institutions to participate in a tuition waiver pilot program beginning in 2020-2021 and ending in 2024-2025.
- During the pilot program, a veteran who provides proof that he/she has a service-connected disability rating of fifty percent (50%) or more would be granted a resident tuition waiver.
- This would be a last dollar waiver program. So the student would have to exhaust all federal and state aid before the tuition waiver took effect.
- Passed out of the Senate Education Committee 13-2 on Tuesday, February 12.

Senate Bill 996

Senator Kim David

- Would require that technology center STEM block courses approved by the State Board of Education and the independent district board of education apply toward the mathematics high school college and career ready graduation requirement.
- Passed out of the Senate Education Committee 15-0 on February 26, 2019.

House Bill 2597

(Multiple Authors)

- Makes Oklahoma a constitutional carry state. The bill permits a person at least 21 years of age or older, or 18 years of age but not yet 21 and a member or veteran of the United States Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard or was discharged under honorable conditions, and who is otherwise not disqualified from the possession or purchase of a firearm under state or federal law and is not carrying the firearm in furtherance of a crime to carry a firearm, concealed or unconcealed, loaded or unloaded.
- This bill was signed by Governor Kevin Stitt on Wednesday, February 27, 2019.
- The bill allows for higher education campus exemptions.

Senate Bill 80

Senator Roger Thompson

- Would create an additional Oklahoma's Promise eligibility option for students who did not graduate from an accredited high school.
 - The current statute requires that these students meet the following assessment requirement: earn a 22 or higher on the ACT.
 - This bill would create a second option, demonstrating proficiency on statewide assessments, as a means to satisfy the assessment requirement.
- Passed out of the Senate Education Committee 14-0 on February 19, 2019.