

Oklahoma CTE Guidelines for Academics – 2017-18

This document is to clarify 2002 Oklahoma House Bill 2886, which authorizes technology centers to offer academic courses to their students, as well as 2016 Oklahoma House Bill 3218 and Senate Bill 1380 legislation. Each piece of legislation has unique requirements and conditions to ensure adherence to law and sound educational practice.

Legislation

House Bill 3218 establishes assessment requirements beginning in 2017-18. All Oklahoma juniors will take the ACT or SAT. In addition, all 11th graders will also take the statewide science exam. The U.S. History assessment must be taken once during high school, following completion of the course. (This assessment will be given when the SDE has this statewide assessment prepared). House Bill 3218 became law on July 1, 2016. Senate Bill 1380 contains curriculum requirements for high school graduation. It goes into effect on July 1, 2018, and affects graduates of 2019 and beyond. (2017-18 juniors)

Parents/students must choose one of two graduation curriculum options: College Prep/Work Ready or Core. Students are automatically enrolled in the College Prep/Work Ready curriculum unless parents give written permission for their student to enroll in the core curriculum.

Academic Courses for Sophomores Within a Focused Field of Study (Academies)

In 2004, the state legislature authorized that technology center districts may offer programs/career majors for **sophomores** by passing HB 2662. However, in order for sophomores to obtain academic credit for math and science courses above Algebra I and Biology I, students must be enrolled in a **focused field of study**. The focused field of study and the academics integrated into the academy must be developed in cooperation with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education (ODCTE), State Department of Education (SDE), and State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE). Examples of a focused field of career study/academy would be pre-engineering, biomedical sciences, and computer science. As always, teachers must be Oklahoma subject-certified in the math and science courses they are teaching.

The State Board of Education and local comprehensive school boards must approve the academy (focused field of study). We recommend that official approval be in place by March 1 of the previous school year.

Math/Science

Math and science courses taught at the technology center follow the same guidelines and Oklahoma Academic Standards as those taught at the comprehensive school. These teachers must be Oklahoma subject-certified for courses they teach. The teacher of record should also be the actual classroom teacher.

On March 26, 2015, the Oklahoma State Board of Education approved specific math and science courses taught at technology centers and select high schools to count for academic credit on high school transcripts. On June 8, 2015, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education approved

specific PLTW Pre-Engineering and PLTW Biomedical courses to count for academic credit on the College Prep/Work Ready curriculum and to count for OKPromise. In December 2016, this course list was updated and approved by OSRHE. Biotechnology courses will count as science courses on the CORE curriculum and will count as electives on the CollegePrep/WorkReady curriculum. www.okcareer.tech/cac - Academics - CTE Academics.

Computer Education Courses

Approved career and technology education (CTE) courses taught in the technology centers and the high schools may be counted as computer education credit for College Prep/Work Ready and Oklahoma's Promise requirements. These select courses have gone through a statewide approval process with the ODCTE and OSRHE. www.okcareer.tech/cac - Academics - CTE Academics. Academic Credits for CareerTech Courses that meet requirements for Oklahoma's Promise and the College Prep/Work Ready and Core Curriculums for list of courses and corresponding Subject Codes. It is critical to name and transcript the courses that count for Oklahoma's Promise **EXACTLY** as listed on these websites.

Agricultural Education Courses

The current Core curriculum allows for "qualified agricultural education courses" as determined by the State Board of Education to offer the sets of science competencies in Oklahoma Academic Standards. These courses correspond to academic science courses. Qualified agricultural education courses may include but are not limited to horticulture, plant and soil science, animal science, natural resources, and environmental science.

College Prep/Work Ready Requirements for Science

Currently two courses qualify for science credit: Botany Plant Science (Botany 5040) and Zoological Animal Science (Zoology 5240). These courses will count only if the Ag teacher holds an Oklahoma certification in biological sciences (certification code: 6003 or 6050) and the course is taught above the rigor of Biology I Oklahoma Academic Standards.

Core Curriculum Requirements for Science

For the "qualified agricultural education courses" to meet the Core curriculum requirements and count for high school graduation **ONLY**, the teacher must be certified in Agriculture Education (7550) or Career and Technology Agriculture (7511).

In May 2012, the State Department of Education granted approval to allow students majoring in agriculture to enroll in the course, *Communications in Agriculture*, and use the earned credit to satisfy the fine arts or speech competency required by law. A student may only earn one credit for this course; thus, the student must decide at enrollment whether to use the credit to satisfy the fine arts requirement (4221 Speech I) or to use the credit as an agricultural credit (8022 Introduction to Agricultural Communications). Because the course is an elective, an agricultural education instructor with agricultural education certification is qualified to teach the course. <http://www.okcareertech.org/educators/agricultural-education/forms-reports-applications> Select Letter to Superintendents regarding Speech Credit.

Anatomy and Physiology

Science credit can be granted for anatomy and physiology courses taught at a technology center. In CTE programs, a .5 credit can be earned for Anatomy (5333) and a .5 credit can be earned for Physiology (5220) and may be approved for College Prep/Work Ready requirements if the teacher holds a biological science certification (certification code: 6050) and the local school board approves it as a lab science. The anatomy and physiology courses must also

contain the process standards for lab science required in Oklahoma Academic standards. To see these course standards, go to http://sde.ok.gov/sde/sites/ok.gov.sde/files/OAS_Science_Standards_3-2-15.pdf.

Carnegie Units

Academic courses offered in technology centers must adhere to the SDE requirements for awarding Carnegie units of credit. A unit of credit is given for successful completion of a course that meets a minimum of 40 minutes a day, 5 days a week for 36 weeks, or the equivalent of 120 clock hours within the school year.

Oklahoma's Promise

The courses approved for Oklahoma's Promise credit were updated in December 2016. CTE courses that are listed for Oklahoma's Promise credit have undergone a statewide approval process between ODCTE and OSRHE. CTE courses submitted independently to the OSRHE by high schools or CareerTech centers will not be reviewed. For a list of CTE courses that have been approved for Oklahoma's Promise recognized credit go to: www.okcareer.tech/cac - Academics - Oklahoma Promise.

Only the CTE courses that are approved and funded by the ODCTE are found on the Oklahoma's Promise approved course list. It does not include locally developed business and other vocational courses not supported or recognized by the ODCTE. Schools using the approved CTE course names will be jeopardizing student eligibility for Oklahoma's Promise credit if the course is not an approved and funded CTE course recognized through the ODCTE.

Other Academic Courses

Academic courses such as English, social studies, and world language may not be taught at a technology center for high school credit with the following exceptions: approved alternative education programs, dropout/credit-recovery programs, Internet-based or distance-learning courses approved by the local school board. As always, a SDE regional accreditation officer is the best contact for specific questions regarding high school credit.

Online Curriculum

Many technology centers are offering online courses. Technology centers may offer online courses for:

- 1) Remediation: provided by a subject certified teacher or under the supervision of one.
- 2) Credit accrual: for math and science only provided by a subject certified teacher.
- 3) Credit recovery: provided by a subject certified teacher or under the supervision of one.

There are many online curriculum systems. Some supply a subject certified teacher as part of their service. Some provide curriculum only. It is the technology center's responsibility to follow proper guidelines for the online system used.

E-transcripts

The transcript exchange system is a secure process that allows Oklahoma high school counselors to electronically send student transcripts to Oklahoma college and university admissions offices, technology centers, Oklahoma's Promise Scholarship Program, and the NCAA eligibility center.

E transcripts enable technology centers to receive transcripts more often and in a timely manner. Technology center student services staff can more closely monitor students' academic progress, including grades, test scores, and business- and industry-recognized endorsements.

It is also critical to closely monitor the transcripts of students to ensure that both proper course transcription and graduation and other requirements are being met. (NOTE: Technology centers can receive and view transcripts; additions and corrections can be made by the high schools only.)

Transcripted Business and Industry Endorsements

House Bill 3218 states that the local high school shall transcript business and industry recognized endorsements earned by CTE students. Technology centers shall notify local high schools when a student has earned such credentials. A list of approved endorsements can be found at www.okcareer.tech/cac - Academics - A-F - Industry Certifications Assessment List.

If you have questions or need additional information, contact the following:

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