SUBCHAPTER 9. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS: TEACHER EDUCATION
AND CERTIFICATION

a. **What is the purpose of the proposed rule change?**
The purpose of the proposed rule at 210:20-9-105 is to implement the provisions of HB 2683 pertaining to non-traditional certification of special education teachers. The 2014 bill amended 70 O.S. §§ 6-122.7, 6-122.8 and added a new law at 70 O.S. § 6-122.9. The proposed rule is necessary to implement new statutory requirements that applicants for provisional or standard certificates in special education have obtained at least a bachelor's level college degree from an accredited institution of higher education, and permit individuals certified through the non-traditional process, but who do not hold a certification in early childhood or elementary certification, to obtain HQ status necessary to teach special education students at the early childhood or elementary levels by successful completion of the corresponding OSAT. The proposed rule is also necessary to implement the new provisions of 70 O.S. § 6-122.9 permitting teachers certified through the alternative certification route to obtain certificate in special education. The proposed permanent rule, if approved, will replace the emergency rule currently in effect.

b. **What classes of persons will be affected by the proposed rule change and what classes of persons will bear the costs of the proposed rule change?**
The proposed changes will affect public school students with disabilities and their parents/legal guardians, public school teachers, as well as public school districts and public schools.

c. **What classes of persons will benefit from the proposed rule change?**
The proposed changes will benefit students with disabilities and their parents/legal guardians, public school teachers, as well as public school districts and public schools by providing a non-traditional special education certification opportunity available for qualified special education teachers.

d. **What is the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions?**
The agency does not anticipate any economic impact upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions as a result of implementation of the proposed rule change at this time.

e. **What is the probable cost to the agency to implement and enforce the proposed rule change?**
The agency does not anticipate any cost to the agency to implement and enforce as a result of the proposed change in the rule at this time. Additional record keeping, if any, will be performed by existing staff.

f. **What is the economic impact on any political subdivision to implement the proposed rule change?**
The agency does not anticipate any economic impact on any political subdivision to implement the proposed rule change at this time.

g. **Will implementing the rule change have an adverse effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act?**
The agency does not anticipate any adverse economic impact on small business as a result of the proposed rule change at this time.

h. **Are there any other methods which are less costly, nonregulatory, or less intrusive to achieve the purpose of the proposed rule change?**
No.

i. **Will the rule change impact the public health, safety, and environment, and is the change designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety, and environment? If so, explain nature of risk and to what extent the proposed rule change will reduce the risk.**
The agency does not anticipate any impact on public health, safety, or environment as a result of implementation of the proposed rule at this time.

j. **What detrimental effect will there be on the public health, safety, and environment if the rule change is not implemented?**
The agency does not anticipate any detrimental effect on public health, safety, or environment as a result of failure to implement the proposed rule at this time.

k. **Date Prepared**: October 1, 2014.