

# Oklahoma Alternate Academic Standards

Presented to the  
Oklahoma State Board of Education  
Thursday, July 27, 2023



**OKLAHOMA**  
Education



# Request For Approval of Two Items

## New Alternate Academic Standards

- Social Studies
  - U. S. Government
  - Oklahoma History
  - Geography
- Life Skills
- Career Readiness

## Other Allowable Course Substitutions

- Life Skills 1-4
- Career Readiness 1-4

# Alternate Academic Standards

- Aligned to Oklahoma Academic Standards
- Referred to as the Essential Elements (EE)
- Used to teach students with the most significant cognitive disabilities
- Comprises about 1% of the tested student population
- Assessed with the Oklahoma Alternate Assessment Program (OAAP)

# Current Alternate Academic Standards

Oklahoma has been utilizing Alternate Academic Achievement Standards since 2011 in the following subjects:

- English Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- U.S. History

# Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

## 34 CFR § 300.102(a)(3)

- (iv) As used in paragraphs (a)(3)(i) through (iii) of this section, the term regular high school diploma means the **standard high school diploma** awarded to the preponderance of students in the State that is **fully aligned with State standards**, or a higher diploma, **except that a regular high school diploma shall not be aligned to the alternate academic achievement standards** described in section 1111(b)(1)(E) of the ESEA. A regular high school diploma does not include a recognized equivalent of a diploma, such as a general equivalency diploma, certificate of completion, certificate of attendance, or similar lesser credential.

# District Obligation to Provide Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) Ends When:

- 1.) The student meets the district's requirements that apply to all students for a receipt of a standard/regular high school diploma, or
- 2.) At the end of the school year in which the student turns 22 years of age.

# What is a State-Defined Alternate Diploma?

Expands graduation pathways for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities and adaptive delays.

# ESSA Language on State-Defined Alternate Diplomas

- Definition of “state-defined alternate diploma” included in Sec. 8101.
- Specifically **designated for students with the most significant cognitive** disabilities assessed using the alternate assessment aligned to alternate academic achievement standards.



# ESSA Language, cont.

The state-defined alternate diploma must meet three requirements:

- ✓ **Standards-based**
- ✓ **Aligned** with the State requirements for the regular high school diploma
- ✓ Obtained within the same period for which the State ensures the **availability of a free appropriate public education** under section 612(a)(1) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(1))

Also, the state-defined alternate diploma must meet the implied condition of being **state defined**.

# Oklahoma Statute Amended 2023 Session

- HB1041 amended the Oklahoma Statute 70 O.S. § 11-103.6 to allow for a state-defined alternate diploma beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.
- An alternate diploma shall be standards-based, **aligned** with requirements for a standard diploma and shall not terminate FAPE unless they reach the maximum age of FAPE.

# Required Courses for Graduation

## Standard/Regular Diploma

- 4 Units of English
- 3 Units of Math
- 3 Units of Science
- 3 Units of Social Studies
- 1 Unit of Art
- 1 Unit of Computer Education or World Language
- -
- -

## Alternate Diploma

- 4 Units of English Alternate
- 3 Units of Math Alternate
- 3 Units of Science Alternate
- 3 Units of Social Studies Alternate
- 1 Unit of Art
- 1 Unit of Computer Education or World Language
- 2 Units of Career Readiness
- 2 Units of Life Skills

# Proposed Alternate Academic Achievement Standards

- Developed and reviewed by parents, 9 agencies, and 42 districts.
- Reviewed for Public Comment for 30 days, and edits were made accordingly.

# New Social Studies Alternate Academic Standards

- U. S. Government – 6 Standards
- Oklahoma History – 6 Standards
- Geography – 7 Standards

# New Life Skills Alternate Academic Standards (6)

- Life Skills
- Independent Living Skills
- Community Participation
- Social Skills
- Self-Determination/Self-Advocacy Skills

# New Career Readiness Alternate Academic Standards (6)

- Self- Advocacy
- Job Exploration
- Workplace Readiness
- Post-Secondary Education Counseling
- Work Based Learning
- Technology

## Mini-Map for EE.G.1

Subject: Geography



### Learning Outcome

Essential Element	Oklahoma Academic Standard
<b>EE.G.1</b> The student will demonstrate how to use maps, geographic tools, and technology to identify locations and share information.	<b>WG.1</b> The student will use maps and other geographic representations, tools and technologies to acquire, research, process, and solve problems from a spatial perspective.

### Linkage Level Descriptions

Emerging	Approaching the Target	At Target (Objective)	Advanced
With assistance using visuals or other supports, the student will identify map symbols and use cardinal directions to identify a location on a map.	With assistance, the student will identify a given location in a neighborhood using a map.	The student will demonstrate how to find a location in the community using various geographic tools (e.g., maps, atlas, apps, GPS, etc.).	The student will independently use maps, geographic tools, and technology to identify a requested location (e.g., identify the state of Oklahoma and the six bordering states).

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## Mini-Map for EE.LS.1

Subject: Life Skills

Domain: Daily/Independent Living



### Learning Outcome

Essential Element	Objective 1.b
<b>EE.LS.1</b> The student will take care of their personal needs through appropriate daily living activities.	b. The student will dress themselves for their day.  *There is no corresponding Oklahoma academic standard for this domain.

### Linkage Level Descriptions

Emerging	Approaching the Target	At Target	Advanced
The student will select clothes with assistance or indicate their preference of clothing.	The student will put on clothes with minimal assistance.	The student will choose between two outfits and get dressed without prompting.	The student will independently dress themselves while selecting appropriate outfits for their day/weather.

# Proposed "Other Course Substitutions" for Life Skills 1-4

**2765**

**Life Skills**

**3400 (Any)**

**Family & Consumer Sciences**

**2750**

**Communication Skills**

**2755**

**Critical Thinking skills**

**2710**

**Driver Education**

**2715**

**Safety Education**

# Proposed "Other Course Substitutions" for Career Readiness 1-4

2410	Careers/Exploration
2790	Internship I
2791	Internship II
2407	Business Machines
2419	Office/Secretarial Procedures
2424	Word Processing
3500, 3600, 3700 (Any)	Industrial Arts/Technology Education
2720	JROTC
2775	Service Learning
8000 (Any)	Career Technology Courses

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