



ROSENSTEIN, FIST & RINGOLD

RED BANNER UPDATE

Date: June 30, 2024

Re: SB 1766

Signed: June 14, 2024

Effective: November 1, 2024

Topic: Driver's Ed

Summary: This bill amends existing law (47 O.S. § 6-105.2, § 6-110 and § 6-206.1) regarding the age of students for which secondary school instructors can provide driver education instruction. The revised law states that “Any instructor who has been issued a permit may instruct any person who is at **least thirteen and one-half (13 1/2)** years of age who will qualify for the permit to operate farm vehicles as provided for in Section 6-105 of this title. The revised law also provides that Service Oklahoma is authorized to approve and enter into agreements with third parties **including, but not limited to, public school districts, technology center districts** overseen by the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, institutions of higher education, or commercial driver training schools, to act as approved written examination proctors with regard to any written examination.

The law further provides that any driver education instructor employed by any school district in this state shall be eligible to apply to be a designated examiner of Service Oklahoma for the purposes of administering the Class D driving skills portion of the Oklahoma driving examination to any person who is eligible to take the Oklahoma driving examination including, but not limited to, a person who has been issued a learner permit or farm permit. Service Oklahoma shall to the maximum extent possible accept electronic signatures for all applications to be a designated examiner.

A qualified instructor of a driver improvement or defensive driving course is now required to possess an instructor's license for at least five years, rather than have 9 college or university credit hours in traffic safety education. The number of classroom instruction hours for such a course has been reduced from 6 to 4 hours.



Legal counsel at the firm is currently reviewing this legislation and will be advising clients as to any recommended changes to existing district policies.