RULEMAKING ACTION:
Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:
Subchapter 1. State Authorization [NEW]
610:10-1-1. Purpose [NEW]
610:10-1-2. Definitions [NEW]
610:10-1-3. Authorization to operate in the state [NEW]
610:10-1-4. Standards for program authorization [NEW]
610:10-1-5. Standards for operation [NEW]
610:10-1-6. Reporting requirements [NEW]

SUMMARY:
The proposed rule changes address the following issues:
In October 2010, the United States Department of Education issued new regulations, including, but not limited to, 34 C.F.R. 600.9 (a), for programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to hold institutions accountable for preparing students for gainful employment, protect students from misleading recruiting practices, ensure that only eligible students receive financial aid, and strengthen federal student aid programs at for-profit, non-profit, and public institutions. The regulations and federal guidance provide that States must take an “active role” in approving institutions operating educational programs beyond secondary education. These rules delineate the active role of the State of Oklahoma in that process.

AUTHORITY:
70 O.S. §4103; Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

COMMENT PERIOD:
Interested persons may submit written and oral comments to David B. Harting, Assistant General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104, by 5:00 p.m., March 20, 2014.

PUBLIC HEARING:
A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, one can be requested by contacting David B. Harting, Assistant General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104 by 5:00 p.m., March 20, 2014.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:
N/A

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:
Copies of proposed rules may be obtained at the Office of the Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:
Copies of the rule impact statement may be obtained at the Office of the Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK, 73104 on and after February 1, 2014.

CONTACT PERSON:
David B. Harting, Assistant General Counsel, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, (405) 225-9289.