

Sankofa School

2022-2023



Oklahoma House Bill 1775 (Critical Race Theory)

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House Bill 1775 was passed during the 2021 Legislative Session. HB 1775 prohibits higher education institutions in Oklahoma from requiring students to engage in any form of mandatory gender or sexual diversity training or counseling, and from instituting an orientation or requirement for students that presents any form of race or sex stereotyping or a bias based on race or sex.

HB 1775 prohibits Oklahoma public school teachers from teaching that “any individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously”.

School districts cannot require or make part of any curriculum that:

- One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously
- An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex
- Members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex
- An individual’s moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex
- Any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race or sex, or
- Meritocracy or traits such as hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race

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HB 1775 does not prevent the teaching of Oklahoma Academic Standards (OAS). All standards should still be taught including the requirements in OAS 6.9 that the Tulsa Race Massacre, Women's Suffrage, and the Civil Rights Movement be taught.

In addition to the state law, The State Board of Education implemented emergency rules to be followed by all public-school districts in regards to the law: Emergency rules for the implementation of HB 1775 approved by the Board at a meeting include requiring public school districts to develop a process for parents, students, teachers, school staff and the public to file complaints for alleged violations. The emergency rules also require school districts to investigate legally sufficient complaints.

Schools found to be in violation of HB 1775 can have their accreditation down graded and possible funding taken away. There has been a lawsuit against HB 1775 filed by American Civil Liberties Union stating that the law violates teachers' right to free speech.

Board Approved: January 2023