A. Brief description of the purpose of the proposed rule.

All acquisitions of the State Regents are made pursuant to the State Regents’ approved Purchasing Policy and in accordance with the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act. The proposed rules changes set forth and clarify the necessary instructions and guidelines for vendors or other interested parties regarding agency purchasing processes. Purposes of the rules are:

To establish consistent purchasing practices and procedures for operations of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education;
- To achieve economies and efficiencies and make the most effective use of public funds;
- To encourage competition and ensure fair and equitable treatment among vendors; and
- To insure the quality and integrity of the purchasing process.

The proposed changes to the State Regents’ Purchasing Policy will allow for competitive bidding and economy-of-scale to be achieved in shared purchasing models for the state system as a whole. These proposed rule changes expand the consortium model beyond the existing rules for OneNet to allow for general contracting powers through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education on behalf of the State System. The proposed rule amendments include but are not limited to edits, clarification of terminology, and other proposed changes to modernize the rules.

B. Description of the classes of persons who most likely will be affected by the proposed rule, including classes that will bear the costs of the proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts received by the agency from any private or public entities.

The proposed rule changes will affect the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the public institutions comprising the Oklahoma State System for Higher Education, and the vendors engaged by each. No information on cost impacts has been received from any private or public entities.

C. Description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rule.

The proposed rule changes will benefit the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the public institutions comprising the Oklahoma State System for Higher Education and, most importantly, the students who will ultimately benefit through greater cost savings and efficiencies.

D. Description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee change.

The proposed rule changes should have positive economic impacts on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the public institutions comprising the Oklahoma System for Higher Education and, ultimately, the students. There is no expected economic impact on political subdivisions. There are no fees involved.

E. Probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any other agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and
enforcement of the proposed rule, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain in such revenues if it can be projected by the agency.

The proposed rules are not expected to create additional costs for the agency or any other agencies. There is no expected effect on state revenues.

F. **Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule.**

The proposed rules are not expected to have an economic impact on any political subdivisions.

G. **Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an adverse economic effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.**

After consideration with reference to Section 303(A)(4) and 303(B)(6) of Title 75, it is believed that the proposed rules will have no adverse impact upon Small Business.

H. **Explanation of the measures the agency has taken to minimize compliance costs and a determination of whether there are less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule.**

The proposed rules are not expected to have compliance costs.

I. **Determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the public health, safety and environment and, if the proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment, an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk.**

The proposed rules will have no effect on the public health, safety, and environment.

J. **Determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety and environment if the proposed rule is not implemented.**

No effect on the public health, safety, or the environment will result if the proposed rules are not implemented.

K. **Date the rule impact statement was prepared and if modified, the date modified.**

March 1, 2022.