

Effective 5/9/2017

Superseded 7/1/2017

53A-17a-173 Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program -- Salary bonus -- Evaluation.

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.
- (b) "Cohort" means a group of students, defined by the year in which the group enters grade 1.
- (c) "Eligible teacher" means a teacher who:
 - (i) is employed as a teacher in a high poverty school at the time the teacher is considered by the board for a salary bonus; and
 - (ii) achieves a median growth percentile of 70 or higher:
 - (A) a full school year before the school year the eligible teacher is being considered by the board for a salary bonus under this section, regardless of whether the teacher was employed the previous school year by a high poverty school or a different public school; and
 - (B) while teaching at any public school in the state a course for which a statewide criterion-referenced test or online computer adaptive test is administered as described in Section 53A-1-603.
- (d) "High poverty school" means a public school:
 - (i) in which:
 - (A) more than 20% of the enrolled students are classified as children affected by intergenerational poverty; or
 - (B) 70% or more of the enrolled students qualify for free or reduced lunch; or
 - (ii)
 - (A) that has previously met the criteria described in Subsection (1)(d)(i)(A) and for each school year since meeting that criteria at least 15% of the enrolled students at the public school have been classified as children affected by intergenerational poverty; or
 - (B) that has previously met the criteria described in Subsection (1)(d)(i)(B) and for each school year since meeting that criteria at least 60% of the enrolled students at the public school have qualified for free or reduced lunch.
- (e) "Intergenerational poverty" means the same as that term is defined in Section 35A-9-102.
- (f) "Median growth percentile" means a number that describes the comparative effectiveness of a teacher in helping the teacher's students achieve growth in a year by identifying the median student growth percentile of all the students a teacher instructs.
- (g) "Program" means the Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program created in Subsection (2).
- (h) "Student growth percentile" is a number that describes where a student ranks in comparison to the student's cohort.

(2)

- (a) The Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program is created to provide an annual salary bonus for an eligible teacher.
- (b) The board shall, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, make rules for:
 - (i) the administration of the program;
 - (ii) payment of a salary bonus; and
 - (iii) application requirements.
- (c) The board shall make an annual salary bonus payment in a fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter in which money is appropriated for the program.

- (3)
 - (a) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall annually appropriate money to fund the program.
 - (b) Money appropriated for the program shall include money for the following employer-paid benefits:
 - (i) social security; and
 - (ii) Medicare.
- (4)
 - (a)
 - (i) A charter school or school district school shall annually apply to the board on behalf of an eligible teacher for an eligible teacher to receive an annual salary bonus each year that the teacher is an eligible teacher.
 - (ii) A teacher need not be an eligible teacher in consecutive years to receive the increased annual salary bonus described in Subsection (4)(b).
 - (b) The annual salary bonus for an eligible teacher is \$5,000.
 - (c) A public school that applies on behalf of an eligible teacher under Subsection (4)(a)(i) shall pay half of the salary bonus described in Subsection (4)(b) each year the eligible teacher is awarded the salary bonus.
 - (d) The board shall award a salary bonus to an eligible teacher based on the order that an application from a public school on behalf of the eligible teacher is received.
- (5) The board shall:
 - (a) determine if a teacher is an eligible teacher; and
 - (b) verify, as needed, the determinations made under Subsection (5)(a) with the school district and school district administrators.
- (6) The board shall:
 - (a) distribute money from the program to school districts and charter schools in accordance with this section and board rule; and
 - (b) include the employer-paid benefits described in Subsection (3)(b) in addition to the salary bonus amount described in Subsection (4)(b).
- (7) Money received from the program shall be used by a school district or charter school to provide an annual salary bonus equal to the amount specified in Subsection (4)(b) for each eligible teacher and to pay affiliated employer-paid benefits described in Subsection (3)(b).
- (8)
 - (a) After the third year salary bonus payments are made, and each succeeding year, the board shall evaluate the extent to which a salary bonus described in this section improves recruitment and retention of effective teachers in high poverty schools by at least:
 - (i) surveying teachers who receive the salary bonus; and
 - (ii) examining turnover rates of teachers who receive the salary bonus compared to teachers who do not receive the salary bonus.
 - (b) Each year that the board conducts an evaluation described in Subsection (8)(a), the board shall, in accordance with Section 68-3-14, submit a report on the results of the evaluation to the Education Interim Committee on or before November 30.
- (9) A public school shall annually notify a teacher:
 - (a) of the teacher's median growth percentile; and
 - (b) how the teacher's median growth percentile is calculated.
- (10) Notwithstanding this section, if the appropriation for the program is insufficient to cover the costs associated with salary bonuses, the board may limit or reduce a salary bonus.