Effective 3/17/2021
Sunsets 1/1/2022
53F-2-418 Supplemental Educator COVID-19 Stipend.
(1) As used in this section:
(a)
(i) "Classified school-level employee" means an individual:
(A) whom an LEA or RESA employs and directly pays; and
(B) who is assigned to work in a school setting.
(ii) "Classified school-level employee" includes the following categories that an LEA reports to the state board:
(A) instructional paraprofessionals;
(B) library paraprofessionals;
(C) student support; and
(D) school and other support, including employees like custodians, bus drivers, and food service; and
(iii) "Classified school-level employee" also includes an individual in LEA or RESA administration or administration support if the individual works exclusively in a school setting supporting students.
(b) "COVID-19 pandemic" means the spread of COVID-19 that the World Health Organization declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020.
(c) "Employer-paid benefits" means a proportionate contribution toward retirement, workers' compensation, Social Security, and Medicare.
(d)
(i) "Licensed school-level educator" means an individual whom:
(A) the state board licenses or who holds a license that the state board recognizes; and
(B) an LEA or RESA employs, directly pays, and assigns to work in an in-person or online school setting.
(ii) "Licensed school-level educator" includes the following categories that an LEA reports to the state board:
(A) teachers, including preschool, kindergarten, elementary, secondary, and special education teachers;
(B) support staff, including librarians, instructional leaders or specialists, counselors, and other support staff including employees like psychologists and social workers; and
(C) administrators, including principals, assistant principals, and directors.
(e)
(i) "Qualifying employee" means a licensed school-level educator or a classified school-level employee who was employed by an LEA or RESA as of December 1, 2020, and is employed by:
(A) an LEA that provides a broad-based in-person learning option for all students in kindergarten through grade 12 by February 8, 2021, or an RESA that works with LEAs that provide a broad-based in-person learning option for all students in kindergarten through grade 12 by February 8, 2021; or
(B) an online-only charter school.
(ii) "Qualifying employee" does not include:
(A) school district employees who are assigned to work in the central administration of the school district, including superintendents, deputy and assistant superintendents, area and regional directors, curriculum specialists, and support staff; or

(B) individuals with whom an LEA contracts but does not directly pay the individual or report the individual to the state board in annual employment reports.

(f) "Regional education service agency" or "RESA" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53G-4-410.

(g) "Stipend" means the one-time Supplemental Educator COVID-19 Stipend.

(2) There is created a one-time Supplemental Educator COVID-19 Stipend in appreciation of work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

(3)

(a) Subject to legislative appropriations, the state board shall allocate funds to a qualifying education entity by March 30, 2021, to provide the stipend to qualifying employees as follows:

(i)

(A) for a licensed school-level educator, $1,500; or

(B) for a classified school-level employee, $1,000; and

(ii) employer paid benefits.

(b) The stipend shall be prorated for each employee based on full-time equivalent status.

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a), in the event that an allocation to an LEA or RESA is insufficient to provide the full stipend to each qualifying employee whom the LEA or RESA employs, the LEA or RESA shall reduce the amount of the stipend on a prorated basis.

(4) An LEA or RESA that receives an allocation from the state board under Subsection (3) shall return any unexpended amounts to the state no later than June 30, 2021.