

PARAEDUCATOR TO TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2008 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Ronda Rudd Menlove

Senate Sponsor: Karen Mayne

LONG TITLE

Committee Note:

The Education Interim Committee recommended this bill.

General Description:

This bill creates a program to award scholarships to paraeducators for education and training to become a licensed teacher.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ creates the Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program which provides scholarships of up to ~~\$→ [\$10,000]~~ \$5,000 ~~←\$~~ to paraeducators employed by school districts and charter schools who are pursuing an associate's degree or bachelor's degree to become a licensed teacher;

- ▶ provides that scholarship monies may only be used for tuition costs for:
 - an associate's degree program that fulfills credit requirements for the first two years of a bachelor's degree program leading to teacher licensure; or
 - the first two years of a bachelor's degree program leading to teacher licensure;

and

- ▶ directs the State Board of Education to:
 - establish a committee to select scholarship recipients; and
 - make rules to administer the Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program.

H.B. 66



28 **Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

29 This bill appropriates:

30 ▶ as an ongoing appropriation, ~~\$ → [\$1,000,000] \$25,000 ← \$~~ from the Uniform School

30a Fund for fiscal

31 year 2008-09.

32 **Other Special Clauses:**

33 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2008.

34 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

35 ENACTS:

36 **53A-6-801**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

37 **53A-6-802**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



39 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

40 Section 1. Section **53A-6-801** is enacted to read:

41 **Part 8. Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program**

42 **53A-6-801. Definition.**

43 As used in this part, "paraeducator" means a school employee who:

44 (1) delivers instruction under the direct supervision of a teacher; and

45 (2) works in an area where there is a shortage of qualified teachers, such as special
46 education, Title I, ESL, reading remediation, math, or science.

47 Section 2. Section **53A-6-802** is enacted to read:

48 **53A-6-802. Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program.**

49 (1) The Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program is created to award scholarships
50 to paraeducators for education and training to become licensed teachers.

51 (2) The State Board of Education shall use money appropriated for the Paraeducator to
52 Teacher Scholarship Program to award scholarships of up to ~~\$ → [\$10,000] \$5,000 ← \$~~ to
52a paraeducators

53 employed by school districts and charter schools who are pursuing an associate's degree or
54 bachelor's degree program to become a licensed teacher.

55 (3) A paraeducator is eligible to receive a scholarship if:

56 (a) the paraeducator is employed by a school district or charter school;

57 (b) is admitted to, or has made an application to, an associate's degree program or
58 bachelor's degree program that will prepare the paraeducator for teacher licensure; and

59 (c) the principal at the school where the paraeducator is employed has nominated the
 60 paraeducator for a scholarship.

61 (4) (a) The State Board of Education shall establish a committee to select scholarship
 62 recipients from nominations submitted by school principals.

63 (b) The committee shall include representatives of the State Board of Education, State
 64 Board of Regents, and the general public, excluding school district and charter school
 65 employees.

66 (c) (i) (A) A committee member who is not a government employee may not receive
 67 compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and expenses
 68 incurred in the performance of the member's official duties at the rates established by the
 69 Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

70 (B) A member may decline to receive per diem and expenses for the member's service.

71 (ii) (A) A committee member who is a government employee member who does not
 72 receive salary, per diem, or expenses from the agency the member represents for the member's
 73 service may receive per diem and expenses incurred in the performance of the member's
 74 official duties at the rates established by the Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and
 75 63A-3-107.

76 (B) A government employee member may decline to receive per diem and expenses for
 77 the member's service.

78 (d) The committee shall select scholarship recipients based on the following criteria:

79 (i) test scores, grades, or other evidence demonstrating the applicant's ability to
 80 successfully complete a teacher education program; and

81 (ii) the applicant's record of success as a paraeducator.

82 (5) The maximum scholarship amount is ~~\$10,000~~ \$5,000 ~~←\$~~ .

83 (6) Scholarship monies may only be used to pay for tuition costs:

84 (a) of:

85 (i) an associate's degree program that fulfills credit requirements for the first two years
 86 of a bachelor's degree program leading to teacher licensure; or

87 (ii) the first two years of a bachelor's degree program leading to teacher licensure; and

88 (b) at a higher education institution:

89 (i) located in Utah; and

90 (ii) accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

91 (7) A scholarship recipient must be continuously employed ~~H~~→ **as a paraeducator** ←~~H~~ by
91a a school district or
92 charter school while pursuing a degree using scholarship monies.

93 (8) The State Board of Education shall make rules in accordance with this section and
94 Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to administer the Paraeducator to
95 Teacher Scholarship Program, including rules establishing:

96 (a) scholarship application procedures;

97 (b) the number of, and qualifications for, committee members who select scholarship
98 recipients; and

99 (c) procedures for distributing scholarship monies.

100 **Section 3. Appropriation.**

101 As an ongoing appropriation subject to future budget constraints, there is appropriated
102 for fiscal year 2008-09, ~~\$~~→ [~~\$1,000,000~~] **\$25,000** ←~~\$~~ from the Uniform School Fund to the State
102a Board of
103 Education for the Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program.

104 **Section 4. Effective date.**

105 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2008.

Legislative Review Note
as of 11-16-07 9:56 AM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

H.B. 66 - Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program - As Amended

Fiscal Note

2008 General Session
State of Utah

State Impact

Enactment of this bill appropriates \$25,000 in ongoing Uniform School Fund revenue to the State Board of Education to implement the Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program outlined in the bill.

	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2009</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2010</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2009</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2010</u> <u>Revenue</u>
Uniform School Fund	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

Selected paraeducators actively working in school districts or charter schools may benefit through the enactment of this bill by receiving scholarships to become teachers.