

**EFFECTIVE TEACHERS IN HIGH POVERTY SCHOOLS
INCENTIVE PROGRAM AMENDMENTS**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Mike Winder

Senate Sponsor: Lyle W. Hillyard

Cosponsors:	Adam Robertson
Carol Spackman Moss	V. Lowry Snow
Susan Pulsipher	Christine F. Watkins

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends the Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ amends the definition of eligible teacher to allow teachers of grade 1 through grade 3 to become eligible for the Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program;
- ▶ increases the amount of the annual salary bonus; and
- ▶ guarantees the portion of the annual salary bonus paid to an eligible teacher by the state board.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

28 **53F-2-513**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 186

29

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

31 Section 1. Section **53F-2-513** is amended to read:

32 **53F-2-513. Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program --**
33 **Salary bonus -- Evaluation.**

34 (1) As used in this section:

35 (a) "Cohort" means a group of students, defined by the year in which the group enters
36 grade 1.

37 (b) "Eligible teacher" means a teacher who:

38 (i) is employed as a teacher in a high poverty school at the time the teacher is
39 considered by the state board for a salary bonus; and

40 ~~[(ii) achieves a median growth percentile of 70 or higher;]~~

41 ~~[(A) a full school year before the school year the eligible teacher is being considered by~~
42 ~~the state board for a salary bonus under this section, regardless of whether the teacher was~~
43 ~~employed the previous school year by a high poverty school or a different public school; and]~~

44 (ii) a full school year before the school year the eligible teacher is being considered by
45 the state board for a salary bonus under this section, regardless of whether the teacher was
46 employed the previous year by a high poverty school or a different public school, either:

47 ~~[(B)]~~ (A) achieves a median growth percentile of 70 or higher while teaching at any
48 public school in the state a course for which a standards assessment is administered as
49 described in Section 53E-4-303[-]; or

50 (B) teaches grade 1, 2, or 3, and achieves at least 85% of students whose progress is
51 assessed as typical or better at the end of the year assessment while teaching at any public
52 school in the state at which a benchmark assessment is administered as described in Section

53 53F-2-503.

54 (c) "High poverty school" means a public school:

- 55 (i) in which:
- 56 (A) more than 20% of the enrolled students are classified as children affected by
- 57 intergenerational poverty; or
- 58 (B) 70% or more of the enrolled students qualify for free or reduced lunch; or
- 59 (ii) (A) that has previously met the criteria described in Subsection (1)(c)(i)(A) and for
- 60 each school year since meeting that criteria at least 15% of the enrolled students at the public
- 61 school have been classified as children affected by intergenerational poverty; or
- 62 (B) that has previously met the criteria described in Subsection (1)(c)(i)(B) and for
- 63 each school year since meeting that criteria at least 60% of the enrolled students at the public
- 64 school have qualified for free or reduced lunch.
- 65 (d) "Intergenerational poverty" means the same as that term is defined in Section
- 66 [35A-9-102](#).
- 67 (e) "Median growth percentile" means a number that describes the comparative
- 68 effectiveness of a teacher in helping the teacher's students achieve growth in a year by
- 69 identifying the median student growth percentile of all the students a teacher instructs.
- 70 (f) "Program" means the Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive
- 71 Program created in Subsection (2).
- 72 (g) "Student growth percentile" is a number that describes where a student ranks in
- 73 comparison to the student's cohort.
- 74 (2) (a) The Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program is created to
- 75 provide an annual salary bonus for an eligible teacher.
- 76 (b) The state board shall make rules for:
- 77 (i) the administration of the program;
- 78 (ii) payment of a salary bonus; and
- 79 (iii) application requirements.
- 80 (c) The state board shall make an annual salary bonus payment in a fiscal year that
- 81 begins on July 1, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter in which money is appropriated for the

82 program.

83 (3) (a) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall annually appropriate
84 money to fund the program.

85 (b) Money appropriated for the program shall include money for the following
86 employer-paid benefits:

87 (i) social security; and

88 (ii) Medicare.

89 (4) (a) (i) A charter school or school district school shall annually apply to the state
90 board on behalf of an eligible teacher for an eligible teacher to receive an annual salary bonus
91 each year that the teacher is an eligible teacher.

92 (ii) A teacher need not be an eligible teacher in consecutive years to receive the
93 increased annual salary bonus described in Subsection (4)(b).

94 (b) The annual salary bonus for an eligible teacher is [~~\$5,000~~] \$7,000.

95 (c) A public school that applies on behalf of an eligible teacher under Subsection
96 (4)(a)(i) shall pay half of the salary bonus described in Subsection (4)(b) each year the eligible
97 teacher is awarded the salary bonus.

98 (d) The state board shall award a salary bonus to an eligible teacher based on the order
99 that an application from a public school on behalf of the eligible teacher is received.

100 (5) The state board shall:

101 (a) determine if a teacher is an eligible teacher; and

102 (b) verify, as needed, the determinations made under Subsection (5)(a) with the school
103 district and school district administrators.

104 (6) The state board shall:

105 (a) distribute money from the program to school districts and charter schools in
106 accordance with this section and state board rule; and

107 (b) include the employer-paid benefits described in Subsection (3)(b) in addition to the
108 salary bonus amount described in Subsection (4)(b).

109 (7) Money received from the program shall be used by a school district or charter
110 school to provide an annual salary bonus equal to the amount specified in Subsection (4)(b) for
111 each eligible teacher and to pay affiliated employer-paid benefits described in Subsection
112 (3)(b).

113 (8) (a) After the third year salary bonus payments are made, and each succeeding year,
114 the state board shall evaluate the extent to which a salary bonus described in this section
115 improves recruitment and retention of effective teachers in high poverty schools by at least:

- 116 (i) surveying teachers who receive the salary bonus; and
- 117 (ii) examining turnover rates of teachers who receive the salary bonus compared to
118 teachers who do not receive the salary bonus.

119 (b) Each year that the state board conducts an evaluation described in Subsection
120 (8)(a), the state board shall, in accordance with Section [68-3-14](#), submit a report on the results
121 of the evaluation to the Education Interim Committee on or before November 30.

122 (9) A public school shall annually notify a teacher:

- 123 (a) of the teacher's median growth percentile; and
- 124 (b) how the teacher's median growth percentile is calculated.

125 (10) Notwithstanding this section, if the appropriation for the program is insufficient to
126 cover the costs associated with salary bonuses, the state board may limit or reduce a salary
127 bonus.