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## HOUSE BILL No. 1266

AM126609 has been incorporated into January 8, 2026 printing.

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**Synopsis:** Department of education and education matters.

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January 8, 2026

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1266

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 10-21-1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.150-2023,  
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this  
4 chapter:  
5 (1) "Accredited nonpublic school" means a nonpublic school  
6 that:  
7 (A) has voluntarily become accredited under IC 20-31-4.1;  
8 or  
9 (B) is accredited by a national or regional accrediting  
10 agency that is recognized by the state board of education.  
11 (2) "Active event warning system" refers to a system that  
12 includes services and technology that will notify available law  
13 enforcement agencies in the area of a school building of a life  
14 threatening emergency.  
15 (3) "ADM" refers to average daily membership determined

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under IC 20-43-4-2. In the case of a school corporation career and technical education school described in IC 20-37-1-1, "ADM" refers to the count on a full-time equivalency basis of students attending the school on the date ADM is determined under IC 20-43-4-2.

(4) "Board" refers to the secured school safety board established by section 3 of this chapter.

(5) "Bullying prevention program" refers to a program that must contain one (1) or more of the following components:

(A) Offers students and school personnel opportunities to develop the skills and strategies to prevent bullying and potential bullying situations in digital and physical spaces, including the usage of research based models.

(B) Enables school personnel, including school safety specialists, safe school committee members, and school resource officers, to identify and acquire the programs, technology software, resources, and training necessary concerning the:

(i) development and implementation of bullying and cyberbullying prevention programs and school violence, human trafficking, and self-harm mitigation programs;

(ii) establishment of bullying and cyberbullying investigation, intervention, and reporting procedures;

(iii) adoption of discipline rules that comply with IC 20-33-8-13.5; and

(iv) integration of the program into wider school efforts, including a school safety plan, to promote educational progress and the physical safety and well-being of school students, families, faculty, and staff.

(6) "County school safety commission" has the meaning set forth in section 12 of this chapter.

(7) "Critical incidence digital mapping" means the digitized mapping of a school building and school grounds to best assist first responders in an emergency that must:

(A) include accurate floor plans overlaid on or current aerial imagery of a school building or school plan with surrounding school grounds;

(B) include site-specific labeling that matches:

(i) the structure of the school building, including room labels, hallway names, room numbers, external doors,

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- 1 interior doors, stairwell numbers, locations of  
 2 hazardous materials, key utility locations, key boxes,  
 3 automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits; and  
 4 (ii) the school grounds, including parking areas,  
 5 athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring  
 6 properties;  
 7 (C) be compatible with platforms and applications used by  
 8 local, state, and federal public safety agencies;  
 9 (D) be verified for accuracy through a walk through of a  
 10 school building and school grounds;  
 11 (E) not require the purchase of additional software for use;  
 12 (F) be accessible in a printable format;  
 13 (G) be shared with:  
 14 (i) the law enforcement agency and fire department  
 15 that have jurisdiction over the mapped school building;  
 16 and  
 17 (ii) the statewide 911 system as described in  
 18 IC 36-8-16.7-22 through the public safety answer  
 19 point, or "PSAP", described in IC 36-8-16.7-20 that has  
 20 jurisdiction over the mapped school building; and  
 21 (H) be kept confidential and withheld from public  
 22 disclosure.  
 23 (8) "Fund" refers to the Indiana secured school fund established  
 24 by section 2 of this chapter.  
 25 (9) "Law enforcement agency" refers to a state, local, or federal  
 26 agency or department that would respond to an emergency event  
 27 at a school, including both on duty and off duty officers within  
 28 the agency or department.  
 29 (10) "Multi-disciplinary threat assessment team" means a group  
 30 of individuals with expertise in school physical security, school  
 31 administration, educational instruction, youth counseling, mental  
 32 health and behavioral health, and law enforcement established  
 33 by the leadership of the school corporation or charter school that  
 34 may serve one (1) or more schools, that must meet the following  
 35 requirements:  
 36 (A) Be comprised of at least:  
 37 (i) a school safety specialist or an individual  
 38 designated by the school safety committee;  
 39 (ii) a member of a safe school committee;  
 40 (iii) a school building level administrator;  
 41 (iv) a school resource officer, if one (1) is either  
 42 employed by or assigned to the school corporation or

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- 1 charter school;  
 2 (v) an individual with expertise in special education;  
 3 and  
 4 (vi) a school counselor or social worker.  
 5 (B) Conduct multi-disciplinary threat assessments that  
 6 shall:  
 7 (i) provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff  
 8 regarding the recognition of threatening or aberrant  
 9 behavior that may represent a threat to the community,  
 10 school, or self;  
 11 (ii) identify members of the school community to  
 12 whom threatening behavior should be reported;  
 13 (iii) establish procedures to assess, identify, and  
 14 intervene with individuals whose behavior may pose a  
 15 threat to the safety of school students, families, faculty,  
 16 and staff; and  
 17 (iv) inform the adoption, implementation, and updating  
 18 of policies adopted by the school corporation or charter  
 19 school, including school safety plans and the policies  
 20 of a safe school committee for a particular school.  
 21 (11) "Safe school committee" means a safe school committee  
 22 established under section 14 of this chapter.  
 23 (12) "School corporation or charter school" refers to:  
 24 (A) an individual school corporation;  
 25 (B) a school corporation career and technical education  
 26 school described in IC 20-37-1-1; ~~or~~  
 27 (C) a charter school; ~~but also includes:~~  
 28 (D) a coalition of:  
 29 (A) (i) ~~a coalition of~~ school corporations;  
 30 (B) (ii) ~~a coalition of~~ charter schools; or  
 31 (C) (iii) ~~a coalition of~~ both school corporations and  
 32 charter schools;  
 33 that intend to jointly employ a school resource officer or to  
 34 jointly apply for a matching grant under this chapter, unless  
 35 the context clearly indicates otherwise;  
 36 (E) the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually  
 37 Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1; or  
 38 (F) the Indiana School for the Deaf established by  
 39 IC 20-22-2-1.  
 40 (13) "School official" refers to an employee of a school  
 41 corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school who  
 42 has access to an active event warning system.



(14) "School resource officer" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-26-18.2-1.

(15) "School safety plan" means the school safety plan described in section 10 of this chapter.

(16) "School safety specialist" means a school safety specialist designated under section 9 of this chapter.

(17) "Site vulnerability assessment" means an examination of the physical safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness of buildings and grounds.

(18) "Student safety management technology" refers to an information technology platform and related services to improve student safety by mitigating cyberbullying, school violence, human trafficking, and self-harm.

SECTION 2. IC 20-19-3-41 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 41. The department shall create and update annually a list of employers that have agreed to provide career support for or interview Indiana residents who:**

(1) graduate with an Indiana diploma established under IC 20-19-2-21(c); and

(2) meet the diploma designation described in IC 20-19-2-21(e)(1) and the requirements for the designation under 511 IAC 6-7.2-21(b)(4).

SECTION 3. IC 20-19-3-42 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 42. (a) Not later than December 1, 2026, the secretary of education shall develop a data science math pathway that prepares students for emerging workforce demands.**

**(b) This section expires July 1, 2027.**

SECTION 4. IC 20-19-3-44 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 44. (a) Not later than December 1, 2026, the secretary of education shall do the following:**

(1) Establish a process and strategies to support academically and fiscally underperforming schools.

(2) Develop a support plan to intervene, as necessary, regarding schools described in subdivision (1).

(3) Submit a written report regarding the process and plan to the general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

**(b) This section expires July 1, 2027.**

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SECTION 5. IC 20-20-5.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.199-2025,  
SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) ~~Not later than July 1, 2027, and each July 1~~  
~~thereafter~~, The department shall evaluate, approve, and publish a list  
of high quality curricular materials for use in the following subjects  
**and on the following timelines:**

(1) **Not later than July 1, 2029, and every three (3) years**  
**thereafter**, science.

(2) **Not later than July 1, 2029, and every three (3) years**  
**thereafter**, technology.

(3) **Not later than July 1, 2029, and every three (3) years**  
**thereafter**, engineering.

(4) **Not later than July 1, 2027, and every three (3) years**  
**thereafter**, math.

(5) **Not later than July 1, 2028, and every three (3) years**  
**thereafter**, English/language arts.

The department shall post the list approved under this subsection on  
the department's website.

(b) Subject to subsection (g), the department shall:

(1) determine the:

(A) process for evaluating and approving curricular  
materials under subsection (a); and

(B) requirements for curricular materials to be approved  
and included on the list described in subsection (a); and

(2) collaborate with teachers in evaluating and approving high  
quality curricular materials in English/language arts under  
subsection (a).

(c) The department shall publish ~~an annual~~ a report that describes  
the method used to conduct the evaluation required under subsection  
(a) and that contains the results of the evaluation. The report must do  
the following:

(1) Provide a list of each curricular material evaluated and a  
summary of the evaluation for each curricular material.

(2) Provide a listing and summary review for the high quality  
curricular materials approved by the department.

(3) Include any clarification or response from the publisher of a  
curricular material related to the department's summary review  
provided under subdivision (2).

(4) Include the written, exact, and standard statewide price  
provided by the publisher of the curricular material under  
subsection (e) for each high quality curricular material approved  
by the department under this section.

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(d) A governing body and superintendent may use the list approved under subsection (a) in complying with IC 20-26-12-24.

(e) Before the department may approve curricular material for inclusion on the list under subsection (a), the publisher of the curricular material must:

(1) provide the department a written, exact, and standard statewide price for each curricular material; and

(2) enter into a data share agreement with the department in the manner prescribed by the department.

(f) A publisher may request that an update to the publisher's curricular materials and corresponding prices replace the information on the curricular materials set forth in the report under subsection (c).

(g) At a minimum, the process for evaluating curricular materials and the requirements for curricular materials to be approved and included on the list described in subsection (a) must include the following:

(1) The availability and use of benchmark, formative, interim, or similar assessments to identify students that require remediation and provide individualized instruction.

(2) The incorporation of experiential learning opportunities.

(3) An evaluation of the benchmark, formative, interim, or similar assessment data provided by the publisher of the curricular material pursuant to the data share agreement described in subsection (e).

(4) The alignment of the curricular material to Indiana's academic standards developed by the department under IC 20-31-3-2.

(5) The age appropriateness of the content.

~~(h) Not later than July 1, 2024, the department shall conduct a statewide survey to determine which curricular materials have been adopted for use in teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in each state accredited school. Each state accredited school shall:~~

~~(1) participate in the statewide survey conducted under this subsection; and~~

~~(2) provide the information requested by the department as part of the statewide survey;~~

~~in the manner prescribed by the department. This subsection expires January 1, 2025.~~

SECTION 6. IC 20-20-5.5-3, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



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JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The secretary of education shall notify the governing bodies of each school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school immediately of:

(1) the initial publication and ~~annual~~ update on the department's ~~Internet web site~~ **website** of the report described in section 2(c) of this chapter, including the ~~Internet web site~~ **website** address where the report is published; and

(2) updates of the following types of information in the report described in section 2(c) of this chapter:

(A) The addition of materials.

(B) The removal of materials.

(C) Changes in the per unit price of curricular materials that exceed five percent (5%).

(b) A notification under this section must state that:

(1) the reviews of curricular materials included in the report described in section 2(c) of this chapter are departmental reviews only; and

(2) each governing body has authority to adopt curricular materials for a school corporation.

SECTION 7. IC 20-20-45.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.64-2024, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means: ~~or~~

(1) a public school, including a charter school (as defined in IC 20-24-1-4);

(2) a state accredited nonpublic school; ~~or~~

(3) a nonpublic school accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board;

**(4) the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1; or**

**(5) the Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.**

SECTION 8. IC 20-20-52-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided under subsection (e), ~~not later than October 31, 2025~~, a local centralized school facilities board is established for participating school corporations and schools.

(b) Each local board must be independent from any school corporation and school.

(c) The local board consists of ~~seven (7)~~ **an odd number of not less than five (5)** members:

**(1) who represent a partnering community organization; or**



(1) (2) who are:

(A) members or designees of members of the governing body of a participating school corporation, or the equivalent for a participating charter school or nonpublic school; and

(B) proportionately appointed as either representatives of participating school corporations, charter schools, or nonpublic schools described in section 3(2) of this chapter based on:

(A) (i) the total pupil enrollment of the participating school corporations;

(B) (ii) the total pupil enrollment of participating charter schools; and

(C) (iii) the total pupil enrollment of participating nonpublic schools;

that are partnering under the pilot program. and

(2) are members of the:

(A) governing body of a participating school corporation;

(B) charter school board of a participating charter school; or

(C) equivalent of a governing body for a participating nonpublic school;

described in subdivision (1):

(d) Each local board must collaborate with individuals or entities that have expertise in the following:

(1) Facility management, construction, or real estate.

(2) Public finance or public debt issuance.

(3) Demographic analysis and urban planning.

(4) Organizational effectiveness, operations management, and implementing best practices.

(5) Government contracts.

(6) Budget development and oversight.

(e) If a school corporation or school, in partnership with other school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and schools, receives approval to participate in the:

(1) pilot program; and

(2) student transportation pilot program under IC 20-20-53;

the school corporation or schools may elect to establish ~~not later than October 31, 2025,~~ one (1) local centralized school facilities and transportation board consisting of the members described in subsection (c) that has the powers and duties and is subject to the requirements of a local centralized school facilities board under this chapter and local student transportation board under IC 20-20-53.

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SECTION 9. IC 20-20-53-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025,  
SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided under subsection (e), ~~not~~  
~~later than October 31, 2025~~, a local student transportation board is  
established for participating school corporations and schools.

(b) Each local board must be independent from any school  
corporation and school.

(c) The local board consists of ~~seven (7)~~ **an odd number of not  
less than five (5)** members:

(1) who **represent a partnering community organization; or**  
~~(1) (2) who are:~~

**(A) members or designees of members of the governing  
body of a participating school corporation, or the  
equivalent for a participating charter school or  
nonpublic school; and**

**(B) proportionately appointed as either representatives of  
participating school corporations, charter schools, or  
nonpublic schools described in section 3(2) of this chapter  
based on:**

~~(A) (i)~~ **(i)** the total pupil enrollment of the participating  
school corporations;

~~(B) (ii)~~ **(ii)** the total pupil enrollment of participating  
charter schools; and

~~(C) (iii)~~ **(iii)** the total pupil enrollment of participating  
nonpublic schools;

that are partnering under the pilot program. ~~and~~

~~(2) are members of the:~~

~~(A) governing body of a participating school corporation;~~

~~(B) charter school board of a participating charter school; or~~

~~(C) equivalent of a governing body for a participating  
nonpublic school;~~

~~described in subdivision (1);~~

(d) Each local board must collaborate with individuals or entities  
that have expertise in the following:

(1) Transportation logistics, particularly involving movement of  
passengers.

(2) Finance and business.

(3) Organizational effectiveness, operations management, and  
implementing best practices.

(4) Government contracts.

(5) Budget development and oversight.

(e) If a school corporation or school, in partnership with other



school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and schools, receives approval to participate in the:

(1) pilot program; and

(2) centralized school facilities pilot program under IC 20-20-52; the school corporation or schools may elect to establish ~~not later than October 31, 2025~~, one (1) local centralized school facilities and transportation board that has the powers and duties and is subject to the requirements of a local centralized school facilities board under IC 20-20-52 and local student transportation board under this chapter.

SECTION 10. IC 20-28-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.192-2014, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. An individual who wishes to participate in the program must have one (1) of the following qualifications:

(1) For a program participant who seeks to obtain a license to teach in grades 5 through 12, one (1) of the following:

(A) A bachelor's degree or the equivalent with a grade point average of at least three (3.0) on a four (4.0) point scale from an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the subject area that the individual intends to teach.

(B) A graduate degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the subject area or a related field that the individual intends to teach.

(C) ~~Both:~~

(i) A bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution with a grade point average of at least two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4.0) point scale and **either:**

**(i) eighteen (18) credit hours in the subject area the individual intends to teach; or**

**(ii) five (5) years professional experience in the subject or a related area that the individual intends to teach.**

(D) Both:

(i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution; and

(ii) proof that the individual has passed the state approved content area examination in the subject area that the individual intends to teach.

(2) For a program participant who seeks to obtain a license to teach in kindergarten through grade 6, one (1) of the following:

(A) A bachelor's degree or the equivalent with a grade point average of at least three (3.0) on a four (4.0) point scale from an accredited institution of higher education.

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(B) Both:

(i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution with a grade point average of at least two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4.0) point scale; and

(ii) five (5) years professional experience in an education related field, as determined by the department.

(C) Both:

(i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution; and

(ii) proof that the individual has passed the state approved content area examination in the subject area that the individual intends to teach.

(3) For a program participant who seeks to obtain a license to teach in prekindergarten through grade 3, one (1) of the following:

(A) A bachelor's degree or the equivalent with a grade point average of at least three (3.0) on a four (4.0) point scale from an accredited institution of higher education.

(B) Both:

(i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution with a grade point average of at least two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4.0) point scale; and

(ii) five (5) years professional experience in an education related field, as determined by the department.

(C) Both:

(i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution; and

(ii) proof that the individual has passed the state approved content area examination in the subject area that the individual intends to teach.

SECTION 11. IC 20-28-5-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.275-2019, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 21. To be eligible for a career specialist permit to teach in a secondary school, an applicant must meet one (1) of the following:

(1) The applicant:

(A) has a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent if



another grading scale is used) in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;

(B) has passed the approved content area examination in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;

(C) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and

(D) has, within the immediately preceding five (5) years, at least four thousand (4,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

(2) The applicant:

(A) meets the requirements under subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B);

(B) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and

(C) has, within the immediately preceding seven (7) years, at least five thousand (5,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

(3) The applicant:

(A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;

(B) will teach aviation ground instruction; and

(C) meets at least one (1) of the following conditions:

(i) The applicant has passed the Federal Aviation Administration advanced ground instructor and fundamentals of instruction tests and been issued a valid Federal Aviation Administration advanced ground instructor certificate.

(ii) The applicant possesses a valid Federal Aviation Administration certified flight instructor or certified flight instructor instrument certificate.

(4) The applicant:

(A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;

(B) will teach flight instruction; and

(C) possesses a valid Federal Aviation Administration:

(i) certified flight instructor; or

(ii) certified flight instructor instrument;

certificate with the appropriate Federal Aviation Administration aircraft ratings for the flight instruction being provided.

SECTION 12. IC 20-28-5-30 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 30. (a) As used in this section, "emergency permit" refers to an emergency permit described in 511 IAC 16-4-1 or its successor rule.**

**(b) An emergency permit may be renewed up to two (2) times to an individual enrolled in an alternative teacher certification program under section 12.5 of this chapter if the program provides documentation verifying the individual's good standing in the program to the department.**

SECTION 13. IC 20-28-9-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025, SECTION 123, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 1.5. (a)** This subsection governs salary increases for a teacher employed by a school corporation. Compensation attributable to additional degrees or graduate credits earned before the effective date of a local compensation plan created under this chapter before July 1, 2015, shall continue for school years beginning after June 30, 2015. Compensation attributable to additional degrees for which a teacher has started course work before July 1, 2011, and completed course work before September 2, 2014, shall also continue for school years beginning after June 30, 2015. For school years beginning after June 30, 2022, a school corporation may provide a supplemental payment to a teacher in excess of the salary specified in the school corporation's compensation plan when doing so is in the best interest of students. A supplement provided under this subsection is not subject to collective bargaining and, under IC 20-29-6-3(d), a school corporation may exclude, for this purpose, a portion of the revenue available for bargaining from education fund revenues included in IC 20-29-2-6. Such a supplement is in addition to any increase permitted under subsection (b).

**(b)** Subject to subsection (e), increases or increments in a local salary range must be based upon a combination of the following factors:

(1) A combination of the following factors taken together may account for not more than fifty percent (50%) of the calculation used to determine a teacher's increase or increment:

(A) The number of years of a teacher's experience.

(B) The possession of either:

(i) additional content area degrees beyond the requirements for employment; or

(ii) additional content area degrees and credit hours beyond the requirements for employment, if required under an agreement bargained under IC 20-29.

(2) The results of an evaluation conducted under IC 20-28-11.5.

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- 1 (3) The assignment of instructional leadership roles, including  
 2 the responsibility for conducting evaluations under  
 3 IC 20-28-11.5.
- 4 (4) The academic needs of students in the school corporation,  
 5 including employment in a high need area such as those  
 6 identified under IC 20-29-3-15(b)(27). This factor may not  
 7 account for less than ten percent (10%) of the calculation used  
 8 to determine a teacher's increase or increment.
- 9 (c) To provide greater flexibility and options, a school corporation  
 10 may further differentiate the amount of salary increases or increments  
 11 determined for teachers. A school corporation shall base a  
 12 differentiated amount under this subsection on reasons the school  
 13 corporation determines are appropriate, which may include the:
- 14 (1) subject or subjects taught by a given teacher;  
 15 (2) importance of retaining a given teacher at the school  
 16 corporation;  
 17 (3) need to attract an individual with specific qualifications to  
 18 fill a teaching vacancy; and  
 19 (4) offering of a new program or class.
- 20 (d) A school corporation may provide differentiated increases or  
 21 increments under subsection (b), and in excess of the percentage  
 22 specified in subsection (b)(1), in order to:
- 23 (1) reduce the gap between the school corporation's minimum  
 24 teacher salary and the average of the school corporation's  
 25 minimum and maximum teacher salaries; or  
 26 (2) allow teachers currently employed by the school corporation  
 27 to receive a salary adjusted in comparison to starting base  
 28 salaries of new teachers.
- 29 (e) A school corporation shall differentiate the amount of salary  
 30 ~~increases or increments~~ for teachers who possess a ~~required~~ literacy  
 31 endorsement ~~under described in~~ IC 20-28-5-19.7.
- 32 (f) The Indiana education employment relations board established  
 33 in IC 20-29-3-1 shall publish a model compensation plan with a model  
 34 salary range that a school corporation may adopt.
- 35 (g) Each school corporation shall submit its local compensation  
 36 plan to the Indiana education employment relations board. A local  
 37 compensation plan must specify the range for teacher salaries. The  
 38 Indiana education employment relations board shall publish the local  
 39 compensation plans on the Indiana education employment relations  
 40 board's website.
- 41 (h) The Indiana education employment relations board shall  
 42 review a compensation plan for compliance with this section as part of

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its review under IC 20-29-6-6.1. The Indiana education employment relations board has jurisdiction to determine compliance of a compensation plan submitted under this section.

(i) This chapter may not be construed to require or allow a school corporation to decrease the salary of any teacher below the salary the teacher was earning on or before July 1, 2015, if that decrease would be made solely to conform to the new compensation plan.

(j) After June 30, 2011, all rights, duties, or obligations established under IC 20-28-9-1 before its repeal are considered rights, duties, or obligations under this section.

(k) An employment agreement described in IC 20-28-6-7.3 between an adjunct teacher and a school corporation is not subject to this section.

SECTION 14. IC 20-28-9-27, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 171, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 27. (a) As used in this section, "funding floor" means the amount a school corporation expended for full-time teacher salaries during a particular state fiscal year.

(b) Subject to subsections (d) and (e), if the amount of state tuition support distributed to a school corporation for a particular state fiscal year is greater than the amount of state tuition support distributed to the school corporation for the preceding state fiscal year, the school corporation may not expend an amount for full-time teacher salaries during the particular state fiscal year that is less than the funding floor for the preceding state fiscal year.

(c) For purposes of this section, the amount a school corporation expends for full-time teacher salaries shall include the amount the school corporation expends for participating in:

- (1) a special education cooperative; **or**
- (2) a career and technical education cooperative; **or**
- (3) **an interlocal cooperative;**

that is directly attributable to the salaries of full-time teachers employed by the cooperative, as determined by the department.

(d) For purposes of this subsection, stipends paid using teacher appreciation grants under IC 20-43-16 are not considered. If a school corporation has awarded stipends to a majority of the school corporation's teachers in each of the two (2) preceding consecutive state fiscal years, an amount equal to the lesser of the total amount of stipends awarded in each of those state fiscal years shall be added to the school corporation's funding floor for the preceding state fiscal year described under subsection (b).

(e) Beginning after June 30, 2024, for each state fiscal year that a

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1 school corporation fails to meet the expenditure requirements regarding  
 2 full-time teacher salaries under subsection (b), the department shall  
 3 submit in both a written and an electronic format a notice to the school  
 4 corporation's:

- 5 (1) superintendent;
- 6 (2) school business officer; and
- 7 (3) governing body;

8 that the school corporation failed to meet the requirements set forth in  
 9 subsection (b) for the applicable state fiscal year.

10 (f) If a school corporation's governing body receives a notice from  
 11 the department under subsection (e), the school corporation shall do the  
 12 following:

- 13 (1) Publicly acknowledge receipt of the notice from the
- 14 department at the governing body's next public meeting.
- 15 (2) Enter into the governing body's official minutes for the
- 16 meeting described in subdivision (1) acknowledgment of the
- 17 notice.
- 18 (3) Not later than thirty (30) days after the meeting described in
- 19 subdivision (1), publish on the school corporation's website:
- 20 (A) the department's notice; and
- 21 (B) any relevant individual reports prepared by the
- 22 department.

23 (g) If the department determines a school corporation that received  
 24 one (1) or more notices from the department under subsection (e) has  
 25 met the expenditure requirements required under subsection (b) for a  
 26 subsequent state fiscal year, the school corporation may remove from  
 27 the school corporation's website any:

- 28 (1) notices the school corporation received under subsection (e);
- 29 and
- 30 (2) relevant individual reports prepared by the department under
- 31 subsection (f)(3).

32 SECTION 15. IC 20-30-7-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2025,  
 33 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), the  
 35 ~~state board may~~ **department shall** prescribe a program of summer  
 36 school education for public schools. Subject to subsection (b), ~~the state~~  
 37 ~~board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to~~ **the department shall**  
 38 provide for:

- 39 (1) summer school programs **guidelines**; and
- 40 (2) the state distribution formula for any money appropriated by
- 41 the general assembly for summer school education to allow for
- 42 funding for approved summer school programs on a per student

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basis, which may include differentiated funding based on the course the student is enrolled in and the length of time of the summer school program.

(b) The ~~state board~~ **department** shall give priority reimbursement for summer school courses that include curriculum aligned with the science of reading designated by the department to support students in:

- (1) grade 2 who are at risk of not being reading proficient; and
- (2) grade 3 who are not reading proficient;

as indicated on the determinant evaluation of reading skills approved by the state board under IC 20-32-8.5-2.

(c) A state accredited nonpublic school and an eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7) shall be eligible for summer school funding for courses that include curriculum aligned with the science of reading designated by the department to support students in:

- (1) grade 2 who are at risk of not being reading proficient; and
- (2) grade 3 who are not reading proficient;

as indicated on the determinant evaluation of reading skills approved by the state board under IC 20-32-8.5-2.

SECTION 16. IC 20-31-4.1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.11-2023, SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Subject to subsection (b) and section 7 of this chapter, a school or group of schools accredited under this chapter may submit an application to the state board, in a manner prescribed by the state board, requesting flexibility and to waive compliance with any provision in this title or 511 IAC in order to do one (1) or more of the following:

- (1) Improve student performance and outcomes.
- (2) Offer the applicant flexibility in the administration of educational programs or improve the efficiency of school operations.
- (3) Promote innovative educational approaches to student learning.
- (4) Advance the mission or purpose of the school or group of schools.

(b) The application submitted under subsection (a) must include the following:

- (1) A list of the one (1) or more provisions in this title, 511 IAC, or this title and 511 IAC that the school or group of schools is requesting that the state board waive.
- (2) The following information:

- (A) The specific goal or outcome or goals or outcomes that the school or group of schools intends to achieve by



1           waiving the provisions described in subdivision (1).

2           (B) How the specific goals or outcomes described in clause

3           (A) are likely to be achieved by waiving compliance with  
4           the provisions described in subdivision (1).

5           (3) For an application submitted by:

6           (A) the governing body of a school corporation, a copy of  
7           the resolution adopted by the governing body approving the  
8           submission of the application;

9           (B) a charter school, written authorization by the charter  
10          school organizer approving the submission of the  
11          application; or

12          (C) a nonpublic school, written authorization by the person  
13          or agency in active charge and management of the  
14          nonpublic school approving the submission of the  
15          application.

16           **(c) To be eligible to waive IC 20-30-2-3 for the purposes of**  
17           **conducting a four (4) day school week at a school, a school must**  
18           **meet the following requirements:**

19           **(1) Provide transportation to a school that conducts a five (5)**  
20           **day school week that serves the same grade level for any**  
21           **student who would otherwise be assigned to a school that**  
22           **conducts a four (4) day school week.**

23           **(2) Be placed in the highest performance and improvement**  
24           **category or designation by the department under IC 20-31-8.**

25           **(3) Meet the minimum teacher salary threshold under**  
26           **IC 20-28-9-26.**

27           **(4) Provide enrichment and remediation opportunities on the**  
28           **day that a regular school day is not conducted at no cost to**  
29           **a parent of a student or student.**

30           SECTION 17. IC 20-32-5.1-13, AS AMENDED BY  
31           P.L.150-2024, SECTION 51, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
32           FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) The proficiency  
33           of students under a statewide summative assessment must be reported  
34           to the state board not later than

35           ~~(1) for the 2018-2019 school year, August 15, 2019; and~~

36           ~~(2) for each school year beginning after June 30, 2019; July 1 of~~  
37           the year in which the statewide summative assessment is  
38           administered.

39           (b) Reports of student scores on the statewide summative  
40           assessment must be:

41           (1) returned to the school corporation, charter school, state  
42           accredited nonpublic school, or eligible school (as defined in



- 1 IC 20-51-1-4.7) that administered the test; and  
 2 (2) accompanied by a guide for interpreting scores.  
 3 (c) Subject to approval by the state board, reports of student results  
 4 on computer scored items under a statewide summative assessment  
 5 may be returned to schools regardless of whether the hand scored items  
 6 are returned.  
 7 (d) After reports of final student scores on the statewide  
 8 summative assessment are returned to a school corporation, charter  
 9 school, state accredited nonpublic school, or eligible school (as defined  
 10 in IC 20-51-1-4.7), the school corporation or school shall promptly do  
 11 the following:  
 12 (1) Give each student and the student's parent the student's  
 13 statewide summative assessment test scores, including the  
 14 summary described in section 14.5 of this chapter.  
 15 (2) Make available for inspection to each student and the  
 16 student's parent the following:  
 17 (A) A copy of the student's scored responses.  
 18 (B) A copy of the anchor papers and scoring rubrics used to  
 19 score the student's responses.  
 20 A student's parent or the student's principal may request a rescoring of  
 21 a student's responses to a statewide summative assessment, including  
 22 a student's essay. A student's final score on a rescored statewide  
 23 summative assessment must reflect the student's actual score on the  
 24 rescored statewide summative assessment regardless of whether the  
 25 student's score decreased or improved on the rescored assessment.  
 26 (e) The department shall develop criteria to provide a student's  
 27 parent the opportunity to inspect questions in a manner that will not  
 28 compromise the validity or integrity of a statewide summative  
 29 assessment.  
 30 (f) A student's statewide summative assessment scores may not be  
 31 disclosed to the public.  
 32 ~~(g) The department may not release less than ten (10) items per~~  
 33 ~~subject matter per grade level. The state board and department shall:~~  
 34 ~~(1) post:~~  
 35 ~~(A) the questions; and~~  
 36 ~~(B) with the permission of each student's parent, student~~  
 37 ~~answers that are exemplary responses to the released~~  
 38 ~~questions;~~  
 39 ~~on the websites of the state board and department; and~~  
 40 ~~(2) publicize the availability of the questions and answers to~~  
 41 ~~schools, educators, and the public.~~  
 42 A student answer posted under this subsection may not identify the

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1 student who provided the answer:

2 SECTION 18. IC 20-32-6.5-4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
3 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 4. (a) The department shall**  
5 **develop a teaching and learning framework for the implementation**  
6 **of mathematics academic standards created under IC 20-31-3-2.**

7 **(b) The framework described in subsection (a) must include a**  
8 **kindergarten through grade 5 mathematics:**

9 **(1) proficiency implementation guide; and**  
10 **(2) daily instruction recommendation that requires a**  
11 **minimum of:**

12 **(A) sixty (60) minutes for Tier 1 instruction; and**  
13 **(B) twenty (20) minutes for mathematics interventions.**

14 SECTION 19. IC 20-36-3-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
15 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.5. As used in this chapter,**  
17 **"eligible school" means the following:**

18 **(1) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by**  
19 **IC 20-22-2-1.**

20 **(2) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired**  
21 **established by IC 20-21-2-1.**

22 SECTION 20. IC 20-36-3-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007,  
23 SECTION 234, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5. (a) Each school year:**

25 **(1) each school corporation and eligible school may provide the**  
26 **College Board's science and math advanced placement courses;**  
27 **and**

28 **(2) each school corporation and eligible school may provide**  
29 **additional College Board advanced placement courses;**  
30 **in secondary schools for students who qualify to take the advanced**  
31 **placement courses.**

32 **(b) Each school corporation shall provide the College Board's**  
33 **science and math advanced placement courses in secondary schools for**  
34 **students who qualify to take the advanced placement courses.**

35 **(c) In addition to the College Board's math and science advanced**  
36 **placement tests, the state board may approve advanced placement**  
37 **courses offered by a state educational institution in collaboration with**  
38 **a school corporation if the state educational institution and the**  
39 **collaborating school corporation demonstrate to the state board that the**  
40 **particular advanced placement course satisfies the objectives of this**  
41 **chapter.**

42 SECTION 21. IC 20-36-3-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.20-2007,

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SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Money appropriated to the department to implement the program shall be distributed for purposes listed in the following order:

(1) To pay the fees for each math or science advanced placement examination that is taken by a student who is:

(A) enrolled in a public secondary school, **including schools listed in section 2.5 of this chapter**; and

(B) a resident of Indiana.

Priority shall be given to paying the fees for each math or science advanced placement examination that is taken by a student in grade 11 or 12.

(2) To pay stipends for teachers assigned to teach a math or science advanced course to attend the institutes under section 7 of this chapter.

(3) To pay school corporations **and eligible schools** for instructional materials needed for the math or science advanced course.

(4) To pay for or rent equipment that a school corporation **or eligible school** may need to develop a math or science advanced course.

(5) To pay the fees for the costs incurred in implementing the advanced placement program for the subjects other than math and science as authorized under section 5 of this chapter.

(b) The department shall establish guidelines concerning the distribution of funds under this chapter, including guidelines to ensure that money distributed under this chapter is distributed as evenly as possible throughout Indiana. In establishing these distribution guidelines, the department shall consider the following factors:

(1) The number of students and teachers participating in the program.

(2) Even geographic representation.

(3) Financial need of students participating in the program.

(4) Any other factor affecting the distribution of money under this chapter.

(c) The department may seek funding to carry out the purposes of this chapter through the following federal programs:

(1) The Advanced Placement Incentive Program.

(2) The Math-Science Partnership Program.

(d) The department may give priority in the distribution of funds to a school that serves a high concentration of low income students.

SECTION 22. IC 20-36-3-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.20-2007,

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SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The department shall develop and provide each public middle school, junior high school, and secondary school, **including schools listed in section 2.5 of this chapter**, with curriculum guidelines designed to satisfy the requirements of this chapter.

(b) The guidelines developed under subsection (a) shall include a plan for increasing the:

(1) availability of advanced placement program in schools with a high concentration of low income students; and

(2) participation of low income students in advanced placement programs;

through information dissemination through print, electronic, and broadcast media that informs parents and students of the importance of advanced placement and preadvanced placement courses to a student's ability to gain access to and to succeed in postsecondary education.

SECTION 23. IC 20-36-6-2.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.3. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means the following:**

(1) **The Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.**

(2) **The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1.**

SECTION 24. IC 20-36-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.246-2023, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The Cambridge International program is established to encourage students to pursue advanced courses.

(b) The program shall be administered by the department.

(c) Subject to appropriation by the general assembly, the department shall provide schools, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**, the same per pupil exam fee amounts for international baccalaureate and Cambridge International exams as the per pupil per exam funding amount for a student to take advanced placement exams.

SECTION 25. IC 20-36-6-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. Each school year each school corporation, ~~or~~ school, **and eligible school** may provide Cambridge International courses.

SECTION 26. IC 20-36-6-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Money appropriated to the department to implement the program shall be distributed first to pay the fees for each Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student to satisfy Indiana graduation requirements, including Core 40 with academic honors, and who is:

- (1) enrolled in a public or state accredited nonpublic secondary school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter;** and
- (2) a resident of Indiana.

Priority under this subsection shall be given to paying fees for each Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student in grade 11 or 12.

(b) After money appropriated for the program is distributed for the purposes described in subsection (a), any remaining money appropriated for the program shall be distributed and prioritized for distribution in the following order:

- (1) To pay stipends for teachers assigned to teach a math, science, or English Cambridge International course to attend the training described in section 7 of this chapter.
- (2) To pay school corporations, ~~or~~ schools, **and eligible schools** for instructional materials needed for a math, science, or English Cambridge International course.
- (3) To pay for or rent equipment that a school corporation, ~~or~~ school, **or eligible school** may need to develop a math, science, or English Cambridge International course.
- (4) To pay any other stipends, costs, or fees incurred in implementing the Cambridge International program for subjects other than math, science, or English as authorized under this chapter.

(c) The department shall establish guidelines concerning the distribution of funds under this chapter, including guidelines to ensure that money distributed under this chapter is distributed as evenly as possible throughout Indiana.

(d) The department may also seek funding to carry out the purposes of this chapter through federal programs.

(e) The department may give priority in the distribution of funds to a school that serves a high concentration of low income students.

SECTION 27. IC 20-36-6-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The department shall develop and provide each public and state accredited nonpublic elementary school and high school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**, with



guidelines designed to satisfy the requirements of this chapter.

(b) The guidelines developed under this section and the dissemination of the guidelines shall be developed and disseminated in the same manner as other college credit bearing programs.

SECTION 28. IC 20-43-8-7.5, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. (a) The ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** shall designate each career and technical education program as:

- (1) an apprenticeship program;
- (2) a cooperative education program;
- (3) a work based learning program;
- (4) a high value program;
- (5) a moderate value program;
- (6) a less than moderate value program;
- (7) an introductory program; or
- (8) a foundational career and technical education course.

The designation of career and technical education programs by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this section must be reviewed and approved by the state board as provided in this section.

(b) Not later than ~~December 1, 2019; and each~~ December 1 ~~thereafter; of each year,~~ the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** shall designate each career and technical education program as:

- (1) an apprenticeship program;
- (2) a work based learning program;
- (3) a high value level 1 program;
- (4) a high value level 2 program;
- (5) a moderate value level 1 program;
- (6) a moderate value level 2 program;
- (7) a less than moderate value level 1 program;
- (8) a less than moderate value level 2 program;
- (9) a planning for college and career course; or
- (10) an introductory program.

The designation of career and technical education programs by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this section must be reviewed and approved by the state board as provided in this section.

(c) If a new career and technical education program is created by rule, the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**

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1 **education** shall determine the category in which the program is  
 2 designated under subsection (a) or (b). A career and technical  
 3 education program must be approved by the ~~department of workforce~~  
 4 **development commission for higher education** in order for a school  
 5 corporation to be eligible to receive a grant amount for the career and  
 6 technical education program under section 15 of this chapter.

7 (d) Not later than December 1 of each year, the ~~department of~~  
 8 **workforce development commission for higher education** shall  
 9 provide a report to the state board that includes the following  
 10 information:

11 (1) A list of the career and technical education courses for the  
 12 next school year that are designated by the ~~department of~~  
 13 **workforce development commission for higher education**  
 14 under this section.

15 (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and  
 16 technical education program under this section.

17 (3) The average wage level used to designate each career and  
 18 technical education program under this section.

19 (4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage  
 20 level data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.

21 (5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by  
 22 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**  
 23 **higher education** to designate each career and technical  
 24 education program under this section.

25 (e) Not later than January 1 of each year, the state board shall  
 26 review and approve the report provided by the ~~department of workforce~~  
 27 **development commission for higher education** under subsection (d)  
 28 at a public meeting to ensure that the list of courses is in compliance  
 29 with the long range state plan developed under IC 20-20-38-4. Not later  
 30 than January 1 of each year, the state board shall send its determination  
 31 to the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**  
 32 **education**. Upon receipt of the state board's determination, the  
 33 ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**  
 34 **education** shall provide the approved report to the department.

35 (f) The ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**  
 36 **higher education** shall publish the approved report under subsection  
 37 (e) on the ~~department of workforce development's Internet web site;~~  
 38 **commission for higher education's website**, including the following:

39 (1) The list of career and technical education programs that are  
 40 designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~  
 41 **commission for higher education** under this section.

42 (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and



technical education program under this section.

(3) The average wage level used to designate each career and technical education program under this section.

(4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage level data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.

(5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** to designate each career and technical education program under this section.

In addition, the department shall notify all school corporations of the state board's approval of the report under subsection (e) and provide a link within the notice to the approved report published on the ~~department of workforce development's Internet web site~~ **commission for higher education's website** under this subsection.

SECTION 29. IC 20-43-8-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2017, SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. If a school corporation determines that the categories of career and technical education programs issued by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** and approved by the state board under section 7.5 of this chapter are not representative of the employment demand in the region surrounding the school corporation, the school corporation may petition the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** to recategorize for the school corporation the career and technical education programs offered by the school corporation according to the employment demand in the region surrounding the school corporation. The petition must include information supporting the school corporation's determination that the categories of career and technical education programs by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under section 7.5 of this chapter are not representative of the employment demand in the region surrounding the school corporation. The state board shall review and approve any course recategorization by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this section.

SECTION 30. IC 20-43-8-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 189, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) This subsection applies to the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. A school corporation's career and technical education enrollment grant for a state fiscal year is the sum of the amounts determined under the following STEPS:

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1 STEP ONE: Determine for each career and technical education  
2 program provided by the school corporation:

- 3 (A) the number of credit hours of the program (one (1)  
4 credit, two (2) credits, or three (3) credits); multiplied by  
5 (B) the number of pupils enrolled in the program;  
6 multiplied by  
7 (C) the following applicable amount:

8 (i) Seven hundred ten dollars (\$710) for a career and  
9 technical education program designated by the  
10 department of workforce development as a high value  
11 level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

12 (ii) One thousand sixty-five dollars (\$1,065) for a  
13 career and technical education program designated by  
14 the department of workforce development as a high  
15 value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

16 (iii) Three hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$398) for a  
17 career and technical education program designated by  
18 the department of workforce development as a  
19 moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of  
20 this chapter.

21 (iv) Five hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$597) for a  
22 career and technical education program designated by  
23 the department of workforce development as a  
24 moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5 of  
25 this chapter.

26 (v) One hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$199) for a career  
27 and technical education program designated by the  
28 department of workforce development as a less than  
29 moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of  
30 this chapter.

31 (vi) Two hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$298) for a  
32 career and technical education program designated by  
33 the department of workforce development as a less  
34 than moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5  
35 of this chapter.

36 STEP TWO: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an  
37 apprenticeship program or a work based learning program  
38 designated under section 7.5 of this chapter multiplied by four  
39 hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$497).

40 STEP THREE: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an  
41 introductory program designated under section 7.5 of this  
42 chapter multiplied by two hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$298).



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STEP FOUR: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in a planning for college and career course under section 7.5 of this chapter at the school corporation that is approved by the department of workforce development multiplied by one hundred forty-nine dollars (\$149).

STEP FIVE: Determine the number of pupils who travel from the school in which they are currently enrolled to another school to participate in a career and technical education program in which pupils from multiple schools are served at a common location multiplied by one hundred forty-nine dollars (\$149).

(b) This subsection applies to state fiscal years beginning after June 30, 2026. A school corporation's career and technical education enrollment grant for a state fiscal year is the sum of the amounts determined under the following STEPS:

STEP ONE: Determine for each career and technical education program provided by the school corporation:

(A) the number of credit hours of the program (one (1) credit, two (2) credits, or three (3) credits); multiplied by

(B) the number of pupils enrolled in the program; multiplied by

(C) the following applicable amount:

(i) Seven hundred twelve dollars (\$712) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a high value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(ii) One thousand sixty-nine dollars (\$1,069) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a high value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(iii) Three hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$399) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(iv) Five hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$599) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(v) Two hundred dollars (\$200) for a career and



technical education program designated by the  
~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for  
higher education** as a less than moderate value level  
1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(vi) Two hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$299) for a  
career and technical education program designated by  
the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission  
for higher education** as a less than moderate value  
level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

STEP TWO: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an  
apprenticeship program or a work based learning program  
designated under section 7.5 of this chapter multiplied by four  
hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$499).

STEP THREE: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an  
introductory program designated under section 7.5 of this  
chapter multiplied by Two hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$299).

STEP FOUR: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in a  
planning for college and career course under section 7.5 of this  
chapter at the school corporation that is approved by the  
~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher  
education** multiplied by one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

STEP FIVE: Determine the number of pupils who travel from  
the school in which they are currently enrolled to another school  
to participate in a career and technical education program in  
which pupils from multiple schools are served at a common  
location multiplied by one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

SECTION 31. IC 20-43-8-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.230-2017,  
SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. The ~~department of workforce development~~  
**commission for higher education** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2  
that are necessary to implement the duties of the ~~department of  
workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this  
chapter.

SECTION 32. IC 20-43-16-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,  
SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "grant"  
means a teacher appreciation grant awarded by the department to a  
school corporation, ~~or charter a school,~~ **or the department of  
correction** under this chapter.

SECTION 33. IC 20-43-16-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.5. As used in this chapter,**



"school" means the following:

(1) A charter school.

(2) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.

(3) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1.

SECTION 34. IC 20-43-16-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The teacher appreciation grant program is established to provide grants for each state fiscal year to school corporations, ~~and charter schools,~~ **and the department of correction** to attract, reward, and retain teachers who significantly impact student outcomes.

(b) The department, in consultation with the state board, shall administer the program.

SECTION 35. IC 20-43-16-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. To be eligible for a grant under the program, a school corporation, ~~or charter a school,~~ **or the department of correction** must meet the following:

(1) Apply in a manner prescribed by the department.

(2) Identify not more than twenty percent (20%) of certified teachers as eligible grant recipients annually based on criteria outlined in section 5 of this chapter.

(3) Report how each recipient met the criteria outlined in section 5 of this chapter.

(4) Meet any other requirements established by the department.

SECTION 36. IC 20-43-16-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 5. (a) A grant received by a school corporation, or charter school, may only be used to pay stipends within the amounts described in section 8 of this chapter to one (1) or more teachers selected by the school corporation or charter school who:

(1) have instructed students in a school or district for at least one

(1) school year prior to the grant distribution year;

(2) maintain employment at the same school or district at the time of the grant distribution;

(3) are determined to significantly impact student outcomes using national, state, or local assessment measures; and

(4) are designated in one (1) of the categories described in section 6 of this chapter.

(b) A grant received by a school corporation, a school, or the

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department of correction may be used to pay the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and Indiana state teachers' retirement fund costs associated with distributing a stipend under this chapter.

SECTION 37. IC 20-43-16-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Grant amounts distributed to a teacher described in section 5 of this chapter must meet the criteria as set forth in this section for:

- (1) a "recognition" stipend;
- (2) an "exemplary" stipend; or
- (3) an "exemplary plus" stipend.

(b) A school corporation, ~~or charter a school~~, **or the department of correction** must apply the following criteria in evaluating a teacher for a stipend designation under subsection (a):

- (1) For a recognition stipend designation, whether the teacher demonstrates high performance in teaching based on student outcomes.
- (2) For an exemplary stipend designation, whether the teacher:
  - (A) demonstrates high performance in teaching based on student outcomes; and
  - (B) meets one (1) of the following:
    - (i) Mentors or coaches another teacher to improve student outcomes, or provides instructional leadership to improve student outcomes across multiple classrooms.
    - (ii) Serves in a high need or geographic shortage area as determined by the department based on educator supply and demand.
- (3) For an exemplary plus stipend designation, whether the teacher:
  - (A) demonstrates high performance in teaching based on student outcomes;
  - (B) mentors or coaches another teacher to improve student outcomes, or provides instructional leadership to improve student outcomes across multiple classrooms; and
  - (C) serves in a high need or geographic shortage area as determined by the department based on educator supply and demand.

(c) A school corporation, ~~or charter a school~~, **or the department of correction** may establish additional criteria in evaluating a teacher for a designation under subsection (a).

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SECTION 38. IC 20-43-16-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The department shall create a rubric for use by school corporations, ~~and charter schools,~~ **and the department of correction** under this chapter.

(b) The rubric must include:

(1) student assessment data if student assessment data is available for the applicable grade level or class; and

(2) expectations for the roles, responsibilities, and duties of a mentor teacher, which include providing professional development and guidance to new teachers.

SECTION 39. IC 20-43-16-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The amount of the stipend that a school corporation, ~~or charter schools~~ **a school, or the department of correction** may distribute to a teacher for a state fiscal year under this chapter must be within the following amounts:

(1) For a teacher who receives a stipend for a recognition designation, three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500).

(2) For a teacher who receives a stipend for an exemplary designation, five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

(3) For a teacher who receives a stipend for an exemplary plus designation, seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500).

SECTION 40. IC 20-43-16-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The department may award a grant under this chapter each state fiscal year to a school corporation, ~~or charter a school,~~ **or the department of correction upon the school corporation, school, or department of correction meeting that meets** the requirements of this chapter.

(b) If the total amount to be distributed as teacher appreciation grants for a particular state fiscal year exceeds the amount appropriated by the general assembly for teacher appreciation grants for that state fiscal year, the total amount to be distributed as teacher appreciation grants to school corporations, ~~and charter schools,~~ **and the department of correction** shall be proportionately reduced so that the total reduction equals the amount of the excess.

(c) The department shall distribute all teacher appreciation grants awarded for a state fiscal year to the school corporations, ~~and charter schools,~~ **and department of correction** ~~awarded the grants~~ before April 15 of the applicable state fiscal year.

SECTION 41. IC 20-43-16-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,

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SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. **If** a school corporation, **or**  
~~charter a school, or the department of correction that~~ receives a grant  
 for a state fiscal year under this chapter, **it** shall do the following:

(1) Distribute all stipends from the grant to individual teachers  
 not later than sixty (60) business days after the date the  
 department distributes the grant to the school corporation, **or**  
~~charter school, or department of correction.~~

(2) Not later than June 30 of the applicable state fiscal year,  
 return any part of the grant not distributed as stipends to  
 teachers.

SECTION 42. IC 20-46-1-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,  
 SECTION 221, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 21. (a) This section:

(1) except as provided in subdivision (2), applies to revenue  
 received from a resolution that is approved by the governing  
 body to impose a referendum levy under section 8 or 8.5 of this  
 chapter after May 10, 2023, for a school corporation located in:

- (A) Lake County;
- (B) Marion County;
- (C) St. Joseph County; or
- (D) Vanderburgh County;

through the full term of the referendum levy; and

(2) does not apply to revenue received from a referendum levy  
 if:

- (A) the governing body of the school corporation approves  
 the referendum levy in a resolution adopted under section  
 8 or 8.5 of this chapter; and
- (B) the referendum levy is imposed for the first time with  
 property taxes first due and payable in a calendar year  
 beginning after December 31, 2027.

(b) Subject to subsections (f) and (h), the county auditor in the  
 county in which the school corporation is located shall distribute an  
 amount of revenue as provided under subsection (e) from the revenue  
 collected from a tax levy imposed under this chapter by a school  
 corporation that is attributable to the territory of the school corporation  
 that is located within the boundaries of a county listed in subsection  
 (a)(1) to each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult  
 high schools, that a student who resides within the attendance area of  
 the school corporation attends if the charter school elects to participate  
 in the referendum under section 8(h) of this chapter.

(c) The department shall provide the county auditor with data and

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- 1 information necessary for the county auditor to determine:
- 2 (1) which charter schools are eligible to receive a distribution
- 3 under this section; and
- 4 (2) the number of students who:
- 5 (A) reside within the attendance area of the school
- 6 corporation who are included in the ADM for each charter
- 7 school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high
- 8 schools, described in subdivision (1); and
- 9 (B) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual
- 10 instruction.
- 11 (d) The following schools are not eligible to receive a distribution
- 12 under this section:
- 13 (1) A virtual charter school.
- 14 (2) An adult high school.
- 15 (e) For the purposes of the calculations made in this subsection,
- 16 each eligible school that has entered into an agreement with a school
- 17 corporation to participate as a participating innovation network charter
- 18 school under IC 20-25.7-5 is considered to have an ADM that is
- 19 separate from the school corporation. The amount that the county
- 20 auditor shall distribute to a charter school, excluding virtual charter
- 21 schools or adult high schools, under this section is the amount
- 22 determined in the last STEP of the following STEPS:
- 23 STEP ONE: Determine, for each charter school, excluding
- 24 virtual charter schools or adult high schools, that is eligible to
- 25 receive a distribution under this section, the number of students
- 26 who:
- 27 (A) reside within the attendance area of the school
- 28 corporation;
- 29 (B) ~~who~~ are currently included in the ADM of the charter
- 30 school; and
- 31 (C) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual
- 32 instruction.
- 33 STEP TWO: Determine the sum of:
- 34 (A) the current ADM count for the school corporation; plus
- 35 (B) ~~the~~ total number of ~~all~~ students who:
- 36 (i) reside within the attendance area of the school
- 37 corporation;
- 38 (ii) ~~who~~ are currently included in the ADM of a charter
- 39 school, **excluding virtual charter schools or adult**
- 40 **high schools;** and
- 41 (iii) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual
- 42 instruction. ~~excluding virtual charter schools or adult~~

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- 1                    ~~high schools.~~
- 2                    STEP THREE: Determine the result of:
- 3                    (A) the STEP ONE amount; divided by
- 4                    (B) the STEP TWO amount.
- 5                    STEP FOUR: Determine the result of:
- 6                    (A) the sum of:
- 7                    (i) the STEP THREE amount; plus
- 8                    (ii) any amount withheld in the previous year under
- 9                    subsection (i); multiplied by
- 10                    (B) the amount collected by the county auditor during the
- 11                    most recent installment period that is attributable to the
- 12                    territory of the school corporation that is located within the
- 13                    boundaries of a county listed in subsection (a).
- 14                    (f) A charter school is not eligible for a distribution under this
- 15                    section from property tax revenue collected from a particular
- 16                    referendum levy if the charter school does not have a certified fall
- 17                    ADM count in the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar
- 18                    year in which the public question for the referendum appears on the
- 19                    ballot.
- 20                    (g) Not later than August 15, 2025, and not later than August 15
- 21                    of each calendar year thereafter, the department shall provide to each
- 22                    school corporation and eligible charter school an estimate of the
- 23                    amount of property tax levy revenue the school corporation and charter
- 24                    school are expected to receive under this section in the subsequent
- 25                    calendar year based on the most recent fall ADM count.
- 26                    (h) This subsection applies beginning with distributions of
- 27                    property tax revenue under this section in 2026 and thereafter. In order
- 28                    to receive a distribution under this section, the governing body of a
- 29                    charter school shall, not later than October 15, 2025, and not later than
- 30                    October 15 of each calendar year thereafter, adopt a budget for the
- 31                    current school year. Not later than ten (10) days before its adoption, the
- 32                    budget must be fixed and presented to the charter board in a public
- 33                    meeting in the county in which the charter school is incorporated. Not
- 34                    later than November 1, 2025, and not later than November 1 of each
- 35                    calendar year thereafter, the governing body of the charter school shall
- 36                    submit:
- 37                    (1) the budget that is adopted under this subsection;
- 38                    (2) the dates on which each requirement under this subsection
- 39                    were met; and
- 40                    (3) a statement from the governing body of the charter school
- 41                    attesting that the dates provided in subdivision (2) are true and
- 42                    accurate and that the budget was properly adopted under this

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1 subsection;  
 2 to the charter authorizer for review and to the department of local  
 3 government finance to be posted publicly on the computer gateway  
 4 under IC 6-1.1-17-3.

5 (i) If a charter school does not satisfy the requirements of  
 6 subsection (h) to receive distributions under this section during a  
 7 calendar year, as determined by the department of local government  
 8 finance, the charter school may not receive a distribution of property  
 9 tax revenue in that calendar year and the county auditor shall withhold  
 10 the charter school's distribution amount. The department of local  
 11 government finance's determination of compliance consists only of a  
 12 confirmation that the adopted budget and attestation statement are  
 13 submitted not later than the applicable date under subsection (h). Any  
 14 distribution amount withheld under this subsection shall be:

15 (1) added to the property tax revenue collections as described in  
 16 STEP TWO of subsection (e); and

17 (2) distributed among the school corporation and remaining  
 18 charter schools according to subsection (e);

19 in the calendar year that immediately follows the calendar year in  
 20 which the distribution amount was withheld.

21 SECTION 43. IC 20-46-9-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,  
 22 SECTION 232, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 22. (a) This section:

24 (1) applies to revenue received from a resolution that is approved  
 25 by the governing body to impose a referendum levy under  
 26 section 6 or 7 of this chapter after May 10, 2023, for a school  
 27 corporation located in:

28 (A) Lake County;

29 (B) Marion County;

30 (C) St. Joseph County; or

31 (D) Vanderburgh County;

32 through the full term of the referendum levy; and

33 (2) does not apply to revenue received from a referendum levy  
 34 if:

35 (A) the governing body of the school corporation approves  
 36 the referendum levy in a resolution adopted under section  
 37 6 or 7 of this chapter; and

38 (B) the referendum levy is imposed for the first time with  
 39 property taxes first due and payable in a calendar year  
 40 beginning after December 31, 2027.

41 (b) The county auditor shall distribute an amount under subsection

42 (d) to each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult

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high schools, that a student who resides within the attendance area of the school corporation attends if the charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, elects to participate in the referendum under section 6(i) of this chapter. The department shall provide the county auditor with data and information necessary for the county auditor to determine:

(1) which charter schools, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, are eligible to receive a distribution under this section; and

(2) the number of all students who reside within the attendance area of the school corporation who are included in the ADM for each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, described in subdivision (1).

(c) The following schools are not eligible to receive a distribution under this section:

(1) A virtual charter school.

(2) An adult high school.

(d) For the purposes of the calculations made in this subsection, each eligible school that has entered into an agreement with a school corporation to participate as a participating innovation network charter school under IC 20-25.7-5 is considered to have an ADM that is separate from the school corporation. The amount that the county auditor shall distribute to a charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, under this section is the amount determined in the last STEP of the following STEPS:

STEP ONE: Determine, for each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, that is eligible to receive a distribution under this section, the number of students who:

(A) reside within the attendance area of the school corporation; ~~who~~

(B) are currently included in the ADM of the charter school; **and**

(C) **receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual instruction.**

STEP TWO: Determine the sum of:

(A) the current ADM count for the school corporation; plus

(B) the total number of students who:

(i) reside within the attendance area of the school corporation; ~~who~~

(ii) are currently included in the ADM of a charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high

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1 schools; **and**  
 2 **(iii) receive not more than fifty percent (50%)**  
 3 **virtual instruction.**

4 STEP THREE: Determine the result of:  
 5 (A) the STEP ONE amount; divided by  
 6 (B) the STEP TWO amount.  
 7 STEP FOUR: Determine the result of:  
 8 (A) the STEP THREE amount; multiplied by  
 9 (B) the amount collected by the county auditor during the  
 10 most recent installment period.

11 (e) If a charter school receives a distribution under this section, the  
 12 distribution may be used only for the purposes described in  
 13 IC 20-40-20-6(a).

14 SECTION 44. IC 20-51-4-5.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025,  
 15 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 16 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.5. (a) A parent of an eligible choice scholarship  
 17 student or an eligible school on behalf of a parent of an eligible choice  
 18 scholarship student may petition the department to reconsider the  
 19 **eligibility of a choice scholarship student payment of a choice**  
 20 **scholarship for a student** enrolled in the eligible school if the parent  
 21 has reason to believe that the student was determined ineligible due to  
 22 **enrollment membership** data inaccuracies reported by a school.  
 23 **Petitions must be received by the department not later than thirty**  
 24 **(30) days after the date of notification of payment based on the**  
 25 **official fall and spring ADM count dates.**

26 (b) If the department determines that a student described in  
 27 subsection (a) is eligible for a choice scholarship under this chapter, the  
 28 department may adjust the **enrollment membership** count of choice  
 29 scholarship students for the applicable eligible school.

30 (c) If the department adjusts a count used for a distribution under  
 31 this chapter, the department shall adjust subsequent distributions to the  
 32 eligible school that is affected by the adjusted count, on the schedule  
 33 determined by the department, to reflect the differences between the  
 34 distribution that the eligible school received and the distribution that  
 35 the eligible school would have received if the adjusted count had been  
 36 used.

37 SECTION 45. IC 20-51.4-4.5-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.127-2024,  
 38 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. (a) A parent of a career scholarship student  
 40 or an emancipated career scholarship student may use a CSA annual  
 41 grant amount received under this chapter for costs related to obtaining  
 42 a driver's license if the following conditions are met:



- 1 (1) The amount used for the costs does not exceed one thousand
- 2 dollars (\$1,000).
- 3 (2) The parent or emancipated CSA student demonstrates proof
- 4 of hardship, as determined by the department.
- 5 (3) A driver's license is a prerequisite for being able to perform
- 6 the regular functions of the sequence, course, apprenticeship, or
- 7 program of study, as determined by the department.
- 8 (4) Any other criteria that the department considers relevant are
- 9 satisfied.
- 10 (b) A parent of a career scholarship student or an emancipated
- 11 career scholarship student may use a CSA annual grant amount
- 12 received under this chapter for costs related to transportation if the
- 13 following conditions are met:
- 14 (1) The amount used for the costs from the CSA annual grant
- 15 amount does not exceed the following:
- 16 (A) ~~A matching amount paid by a CSA participating entity~~
- 17 ~~for the transportation costs of the career scholarship student.~~
- 18 (B) a total amount of six hundred twenty-five dollars
- 19 (\$625).
- 20 (2) The parent or emancipated CSA student demonstrates proof
- 21 of hardship, as determined by the department.
- 22 (3) Any other criteria that the department considers relevant are
- 23 satisfied.
- 24 (c) A CSA annual grant amount received under this chapter may
- 25 not be used for the purchase or lease of a motor vehicle (as defined in
- 26 IC 4-4-32.2-6).
- 27 SECTION 46. IC 21-18-15.1-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
- 28 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 0.5. As used in this chapter,**
- 30 **"eligible school" means the following:**
- 31 (1) **A charter school.**
- 32 (2) **A state accredited nonpublic school (as defined in**
- 33 **IC 20-18-2-18.7).**
- 34 (3) **A nonpublic school that is accredited by a national or**
- 35 **regional accreditation agency that is recognized by the state**
- 36 **board of education.**
- 37 SECTION 47. IC 21-18-15.1-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019,
- 38 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 39 JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5. (a) The teacher residency grant pilot program**
- 40 **fund is established for the purpose of providing funds to school**
- 41 **corporations and ~~charter~~ eligible schools for the development and**
- 42 **implementation of teacher residency programs as described in section**



- 1 6 of this chapter.
- 2 (b) The fund consists of the following:
- 3 (1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.
- 4 (2) Gifts, grants, devises, or bequests made to the commission to
- 5 achieve the purposes of the fund.
- 6 (c) The commission shall administer the fund.
- 7 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
- 8 money in the fund.
- 9 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
- 10 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
- 11 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that accrues
- 12 from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.
- 13 (f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
- 14 revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for the
- 15 purposes of this chapter.
- 16 SECTION 48. IC 21-18-15.1-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019,
- 17 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The commission may award grants under the
- 19 pilot program to an applicant that meets the following requirements:
- 20 (1) The applicant is a school corporation or **charter eligible**
- 21 school that has partnered with one (1) approved postsecondary
- 22 educational institution to establish and implement a teacher
- 23 residency program.
- 24 (2) The applicant submits a teacher residency plan that:
- 25 (A) establishes a teacher residency program in which:
- 26 (i) program participants receive teacher training under
- 27 the teacher residency program for a one (1) year
- 28 period; and
- 29 (ii) program participants and teachers who act as
- 30 mentors to program participants under the teacher
- 31 residency program receive stipends;
- 32 (B) includes the name and contact information of the
- 33 approved postsecondary educational institution with which
- 34 the school corporation or **charter eligible** school has
- 35 partnered; and
- 36 (C) includes any other information regarding the teacher
- 37 residency program that is required by the commission.
- 38 (3) Any other requirements established by the commission.
- 39 SECTION 49. IC 21-18-15.1-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019,
- 40 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 41 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. A school corporation or **charter eligible** school
- 42 that is awarded a grant under section 6 of this chapter:

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- (1) shall provide stipends to:
  - (A) program participants; and
  - (B) teachers who act as mentors to program participants under the teacher residency program; and
- (2) may use money from the grant award to pay the approved postsecondary educational institution with which the school corporation or **charter eligible** school has partnered for administrative costs incurred by the approved postsecondary educational institution in developing and implementing the teacher residency program.

SECTION 50. IC 21-18-15.1-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The commission shall, upon request, provide technical assistance to school corporations, **charter eligible** schools, and approved postsecondary educational institutions participating in the pilot program in the development of competency based curriculum and support systems for program participants.

SECTION 51. IC 21-18-15.1-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025, SECTION 213, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The commission shall annually prepare a report that includes the following:

- (1) Information regarding school corporations and **charter eligible** schools that participate in the pilot program.
- (2) The annual retention rate of teachers employed by a school corporation or **charter eligible** school who completed the school corporation's or **charter eligible** school's teacher residency program within the immediately preceding five (5) years.
- (3) The number of program participants who were not employed by a school corporation or **charter eligible** school after completing the school corporation's or **charter eligible** school's teacher residency program.
- (4) The number of teachers who:
  - (A) completed a teacher residency program under this chapter in the immediately preceding five (5) years; and
  - (B) took leadership roles, as determined by the commission, during their employment with a school corporation or **charter eligible** school in Indiana.

(b) Not later than July 1 of each year, the commission shall submit the report described in subsection (a) to the following:

- (1) The governor.
- (2) The general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

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1 SECTION 52. IC 21-18-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
2 1, 2026]. (Postsecondary Career and Technical Education).

3 SECTION 53. IC 21-18.5-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,  
4 SECTION 141, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The board for proprietary  
6 education consists of the following seven (7) members:

7 (1) The secretary of education or the secretary's designee.

8 (2) The executive officer of the commission for higher education  
9 or the executive officer's designee.

10 (3) Five (5) members **who are members of the public at large**  
11 appointed by the governor.

12 (b) The members appointed by the governor under subsection (a)  
13 serve for a term of four (4) years.

14 (c) Not more than three (3) of the members appointed by the  
15 governor may be members of the same political party.

16 ~~(d) Of the five (5) members appointed by the governor:~~

17 ~~(1) one (1) must have been engaged for a period of at least five~~  
18 ~~(5) years immediately preceding appointment in an executive or~~  
19 ~~a managerial position in a postsecondary proprietary educational~~  
20 ~~institution subject to IC 21-18.5-6;~~

21 ~~(2) one (1) must have been engaged in administering or~~  
22 ~~managing an industrial employee training program for a period~~  
23 ~~of at least five (5) years immediately preceding appointment; and~~

24 ~~(3) three (3) must be representatives of the public at large who~~  
25 ~~are not representatives of the types of postsecondary credit~~  
26 ~~bearing proprietary educational institutions to be authorized.~~

27 ~~For purposes of subdivision (3); an elected or appointed state or local~~  
28 ~~official or a member of a private or public school may not be appointed~~  
29 ~~as a representative of the public at large.~~

30 ~~(e) (d) An appointment to fill a vacancy occurring on the board for~~  
31 ~~proprietary education is for the unexpired term.~~

32 SECTION 54. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] **Notwithstanding**  
33 **the June 29, 2026, effective date contained in P.L.213-2025,**  
34 **SECTION 199, the revisor of statutes shall publish IC 20-51-1-4.3,**  
35 **as amended by P.L.213-2025, SECTION 199, effective May 1, 2026.**

36 SECTION 55. An emergency is declared for this act.

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