
HOUSE BILL No. 1266

AM126610 has been incorporated into January 22, 2026 printing.

Synopsis: Department of education and education matters.

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January 22, 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 (ii) establishment of bullying and cyberbullying
 24 investigation, intervention, and reporting procedures;
 25 (iii) adoption of discipline rules that comply with
 26 IC 20-33-8-13.5; and

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

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

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

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

40 (B) include site-specific labeling that matches:

41 (i) the structure of the school building, including room
 42 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.

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- 1 (14) "School resource officer" has the meaning set forth in
 2 IC 20-26-18.2-1.
 3 (15) "School safety plan" means the school safety plan described
 4 in section 10 of this chapter.
 5 (16) "School safety specialist" means a school safety specialist
 6 designated under section 9 of this chapter.
 7 (17) "Site vulnerability assessment" means an examination of the
 8 physical safety, security, accessibility, and emergency
 9 preparedness of buildings and grounds.
 10 (18) "Student safety management technology" refers to an
 11 information technology platform and related services to improve
 12 student safety by mitigating cyberbullying, school violence,
 13 human trafficking, and self-harm.

14 SECTION 2. IC 20-19-3-42 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 15 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 42. (a) Not later than December**
 17 **1, 2026, the secretary of education shall develop a data science**
 18 **math pathway that prepares students for emerging workforce**
 19 **demands.**

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

21 SECTION 3. IC 20-19-3-44 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 22 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 44. (a) Not later than December**
 24 **1, 2026, the secretary of education shall do the following:**

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

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

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

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

33 SECTION 4. IC 20-20-5.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.199-2025,
 34 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2. (a) Not later than July 1, 2027, and each July 1**
 36 **thereafter, The department shall evaluate, approve, and publish a list**
 37 **of high quality curricular materials for use in the following subjects**
 38 **and on the following timelines:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10 (1) determine the:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

42 (f) A publisher may request that an update to the publisher's

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1 curricular materials and corresponding prices replace the information
2 on the curricular materials set forth in the report under subsection (c).

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

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

10 (2) The incorporation of experiential learning opportunities.

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

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

18 (5) The age appropriateness of the content.

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

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

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

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

30 SECTION 5. IC 20-20-5.5-3, AS AMENDED BY THE
31 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
32 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The secretary of education shall notify the
34 governing bodies of each school corporation, charter school, and state
35 accredited nonpublic school immediately of:

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

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

42 (A) The addition of materials.

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- 1 (B) The removal of materials.
- 2 (C) Changes in the per unit price of curricular materials that
- 3 exceed five percent (5%).
- 4 (b) A notification under this section must state that:
- 5 (1) the reviews of curricular materials included in the report
- 6 described in section 2(c) of this chapter are departmental
- 7 reviews only; and
- 8 (2) each governing body has authority to adopt curricular
- 9 materials for a school corporation.
- 10 SECTION 6. IC 20-20-45.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.64-2024,
- 11 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 12 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "eligible school"
- 13 means: ~~a~~
- 14 (1) a public school, including a charter school (as defined in
- 15 IC 20-24-1-4);
- 16 (2) a state accredited nonpublic school; ~~or~~
- 17 (3) a nonpublic school accredited by a national or regional
- 18 accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board;
- 19 **(4) the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired**
- 20 **established by IC 20-21-2-1; or**
- 21 **(5) the Indiana School for the Deaf established by**
- 22 **IC 20-22-2-1.**
- 23 SECTION 7. IC 20-20-52-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025,
- 24 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided under subsection (e), ~~not~~
- 26 ~~later than October 31, 2025;~~ a local centralized school facilities board
- 27 is established for participating school corporations and schools.
- 28 (b) Each local board must be independent from any school
- 29 corporation and school.
- 30 (c) The local board consists of ~~seven (7)~~ **an odd number of not**
- 31 **less than five (5)** members:
- 32 **(1) who represent a partnering community organization; and**
- 33 **(~~1~~) (2) who are:**
- 34 **(A) members or designees of members of the governing**
- 35 **body of a participating school corporation, or the**
- 36 **equivalent for a participating charter school or**
- 37 **nonpublic school; and**
- 38 **(B) proportionately appointed as either representatives of**
- 39 **participating school corporations, charter schools, or**
- 40 **nonpublic schools described in section 3(2) of this chapter**
- 41 **based on:**
- 42 **(~~A~~) (i) the total pupil enrollment of the participating**

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- 1 school corporations;
 2 ~~(B)~~ **(ii)** the total pupil enrollment of participating
 3 charter schools; and
 4 ~~(C)~~ **(iii)** the total pupil enrollment of participating
 5 nonpublic schools;
 6 that are partnering under the pilot program. ~~and~~
 7 ~~(2)~~ **are members of the:**
 8 ~~(A)~~ governing body of a participating school corporation;
 9 ~~(B)~~ charter school board of a participating charter school; or
 10 ~~(C)~~ equivalent of a governing body for a participating
 11 nonpublic school;
 12 described in subdivision ~~(1)~~.
 13 (d) Each local board must collaborate with individuals or entities
 14 that have expertise in the following:
 15 (1) Facility management, construction, or real estate.
 16 (2) Public finance or public debt issuance.
 17 (3) Demographic analysis and urban planning.
 18 (4) Organizational effectiveness, operations management, and
 19 implementing best practices.
 20 (5) Government contracts.
 21 (6) Budget development and oversight.
 22 (e) If a school corporation or school, in partnership with other
 23 school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and
 24 schools, receives approval to participate in the:
 25 (1) pilot program; and
 26 (2) student transportation pilot program under IC 20-20-53;
 27 the school corporation or schools may elect to establish ~~not later than~~
 28 ~~October 31, 2025~~; one (1) local centralized school facilities and
 29 transportation board consisting of the members described in subsection
 30 (c) that has the powers and duties and is subject to the requirements of
 31 a local centralized school facilities board under this chapter and local
 32 student transportation board under IC 20-20-53.
 33 SECTION 8. IC 20-20-53-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025,
 34 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided under subsection (e), ~~not~~
 36 ~~later than October 31, 2025~~; a local student transportation board is
 37 established for participating school corporations and schools.
 38 (b) Each local board must be independent from any school
 39 corporation and school.
 40 (c) The local board consists of ~~seven (7)~~ **an odd number of not**
 41 **less than five (5)** members:
 42 (1) who **represent a partnering community organization; and**

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- 1 ~~(1)~~ **(2) who are:**
- 2 **(A) members or designees of members of the governing**
- 3 **body of a participating school corporation, or the**
- 4 **equivalent for a participating charter school or**
- 5 **nonpublic school; and**
- 6 **(B) proportionately appointed as either representatives of**
- 7 **participating school corporations, charter schools, or**
- 8 **nonpublic schools described in section 3(2) of this chapter**
- 9 **based on:**
- 10 ~~(A)~~ **(i) the total pupil enrollment of the participating**
- 11 **school corporations;**
- 12 ~~(B)~~ **(ii) the total pupil enrollment of participating**
- 13 **charter schools; and**
- 14 ~~(C)~~ **(iii) the total pupil enrollment of participating**
- 15 **nonpublic schools;**
- 16 **that are partnering under the pilot program. and**
- 17 ~~(2)~~ **are members of the:**
- 18 ~~(A) governing body of a participating school corporation;~~
- 19 ~~(B) charter school board of a participating charter school; or~~
- 20 ~~(C) equivalent of a governing body for a participating~~
- 21 ~~nonpublic school;~~
- 22 ~~described in subdivision (1)-~~
- 23 **(d) Each local board must collaborate with individuals or entities**
- 24 **that have expertise in the following:**
- 25 **(1) Transportation logistics, particularly involving movement of**
- 26 **passengers.**
- 27 **(2) Finance and business.**
- 28 **(3) Organizational effectiveness, operations management, and**
- 29 **implementing best practices.**
- 30 **(4) Government contracts.**
- 31 **(5) Budget development and oversight.**
- 32 **(e) If a school corporation or school, in partnership with other**
- 33 **school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and**
- 34 **schools, receives approval to participate in the:**
- 35 **(1) pilot program; and**
- 36 **(2) centralized school facilities pilot program under IC 20-20-52;**
- 37 **the school corporation or schools may elect to establish ~~not later than~~**
- 38 **~~October 31, 2025,~~ one (1) local centralized school facilities and**
- 39 **transportation board that has the powers and duties and is subject to the**
- 40 **requirements of a local centralized school facilities board under**
- 41 **IC 20-20-52 and local student transportation board under this chapter.**
- 42 **SECTION 9. IC 20-28-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.192-2014,**

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1 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. An individual who wishes to participate in the
3 program must have one (1) of the following qualifications:

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

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

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

13 (C) ~~Both:~~

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

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

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

22 (D) Both:

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

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

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

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

33 (B) Both:

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

38 (ii) five (5) years professional experience in a
39 education related field, as determined by the
40 department.

41 (C) Both:

42 (i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited

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- 1 postsecondary educational institution; and
- 2 (ii) proof that the individual has passed the state
- 3 approved content area examination in the subject area
- 4 that the individual intends to teach.
- 5 (3) For a program participant who seeks to obtain a license to
- 6 teach in prekindergarten through grade 3, one (1) of the
- 7 following:
- 8 (A) A bachelor's degree or the equivalent with a grade point
- 9 average of at least three (3.0) on a four (4.0) point scale
- 10 from an accredited institution of higher education.
- 11 (B) Both:
- 12 (i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited
- 13 postsecondary educational institution with a grade
- 14 point average of at least two and five-tenths (2.5) on a
- 15 four (4.0) point scale; and
- 16 (ii) five (5) years professional experience in an
- 17 education related field, as determined by the
- 18 department.
- 19 (C) Both:
- 20 (i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited
- 21 postsecondary educational institution; and
- 22 (ii) proof that the individual has passed the state
- 23 approved content area examination in the subject area
- 24 that the individual intends to teach.
- 25 SECTION 10. IC 20-28-5-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.275-2019,
- 26 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 21. To be eligible for a career specialist permit to
- 28 teach in a secondary school, an applicant must meet one (1) of the
- 29 following:
- 30 (1) The applicant:
- 31 (A) has a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point
- 32 average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent if
- 33 another grading scale is used) in the content area in which
- 34 the applicant intends to teach;
- 35 (B) has passed the approved content area examination in the
- 36 content area in which the applicant intends to teach;
- 37 (C) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under
- 38 procedures prescribed by the department; and
- 39 (D) has, within the immediately preceding five (5) years, at
- 40 least four thousand (4,000) clock hours of documented
- 41 occupational experience in the content area in which the
- 42 applicant intends to teach.

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- 1 (2) The applicant:
 2 (A) meets the requirements under subdivision (1)(A) or
 3 (1)(B);
 4 (B) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under
 5 procedures prescribed by the department; and
 6 (C) has, within the immediately preceding seven (7) years,
 7 at least five thousand (5,000) clock hours of documented
 8 occupational experience in the content area in which the
 9 applicant intends to teach.
- 10 (3) **The applicant:**
 11 (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
 12 (B) will teach aviation ground instruction; and
 13 (C) meets at least one (1) of the following conditions:
 14 (i) The applicant has passed the Federal Aviation
 15 Administration advanced ground instructor and
 16 fundamentals of instruction tests and been issued a
 17 valid Federal Aviation Administration advanced
 18 ground instructor certificate.
 19 (ii) The applicant possesses a valid Federal Aviation
 20 Administration certified flight instructor or
 21 certified flight instructor instrument certificate.
- 22 (4) **The applicant:**
 23 (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
 24 (B) will teach flight instruction; and
 25 (C) possesses a valid Federal Aviation Administration:
 26 (i) certified flight instructor; or
 27 (ii) certified flight instructor instrument;
 28 certificate with the appropriate Federal Aviation
 29 Administration aircraft ratings for the flight instruction
 30 being provided.
- 31 SECTION 11. IC 20-28-5-30 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 32 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 30. (a) As used in this section,**
 34 **"emergency permit" refers to an emergency permit described in**
 35 **511 IAC 16-4-1 or its successor rule.**
 36 **(b) An emergency permit may be renewed up to two (2) times**
 37 **to an individual enrolled in an alternative teacher certification**
 38 **program under section 12.5 of this chapter if the program provides**
 39 **documentation verifying the individual's good standing in the**
 40 **program to the department.**
- 41 SECTION 12. IC 20-28-9-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025,
 42 SECTION 123, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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1 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.5. (a) This subsection governs
 2 salary increases for a teacher employed by a school corporation.
 3 Compensation attributable to additional degrees or graduate credits
 4 earned before the effective date of a local compensation plan created
 5 under this chapter before July 1, 2015, shall continue for school years
 6 beginning after June 30, 2015. Compensation attributable to additional
 7 degrees for which a teacher has started course work before July 1,
 8 2011, and completed course work before September 2, 2014, shall also
 9 continue for school years beginning after June 30, 2015. For school
 10 years beginning after June 30, 2022, a school corporation may provide
 11 a supplemental payment to a teacher in excess of the salary specified
 12 in the school corporation's compensation plan when doing so is in the
 13 best interest of students. A supplement provided under this subsection
 14 is not subject to collective bargaining and, under IC 20-29-6-3(d), a
 15 school corporation may exclude, for this purpose, a portion of the
 16 revenue available for bargaining from education fund revenues
 17 included in IC 20-29-2-6. Such a supplement is in addition to any
 18 increase permitted under subsection (b).

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

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

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

26 (B) The possession of either:

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

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

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

33 (3) The assignment of instructional leadership roles, including
 34 the responsibility for conducting evaluations under
 35 IC 20-28-11.5.

36 (4) The academic needs of students in the school corporation,
 37 including employment in a high need area such as those
 38 identified under IC 20-29-3-15(b)(27). This factor may not
 39 account for less than ten percent (10%) of the calculation used
 40 to determine a teacher's increase or increment.

41 (c) To provide greater flexibility and options, a school corporation
 42 may further differentiate the amount of salary increases or increments

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1 determined for teachers. A school corporation shall base a
 2 differentiated amount under this subsection on reasons the school
 3 corporation determines are appropriate, which may include the:

- 4 (1) subject or subjects taught by a given teacher;
- 5 (2) importance of retaining a given teacher at the school
 6 corporation;
- 7 (3) need to attract an individual with specific qualifications to
 8 fill a teaching vacancy; and
- 9 (4) offering of a new program or class.

10 (d) A school corporation may provide differentiated increases or
 11 increments under subsection (b), and in excess of the percentage
 12 specified in subsection (b)(1), in order to:

- 13 (1) reduce the gap between the school corporation's minimum
 14 teacher salary and the average of the school corporation's
 15 minimum and maximum teacher salaries; or
- 16 (2) allow teachers currently employed by the school corporation
 17 to receive a salary adjusted in comparison to starting base
 18 salaries of new teachers.

19 (e) A school corporation shall differentiate the amount of salary
 20 ~~increases or increments~~ for teachers who possess a ~~required~~ literacy
 21 endorsement **under described in IC 20-28-5-19.7.**

22 (f) The Indiana education employment relations board established
 23 in IC 20-29-3-1 shall publish a model compensation plan with a model
 24 salary range that a school corporation may adopt.

25 (g) Each school corporation shall submit its local compensation
 26 plan to the Indiana education employment relations board. A local
 27 compensation plan must specify the range for teacher salaries. The
 28 Indiana education employment relations board shall publish the local
 29 compensation plans on the Indiana education employment relations
 30 board's website.

31 (h) The Indiana education employment relations board shall
 32 review a compensation plan for compliance with this section as part of
 33 its review under IC 20-29-6-6.1. The Indiana education employment
 34 relations board has jurisdiction to determine compliance of a
 35 compensation plan submitted under this section.

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

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

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

4 SECTION 13. IC 20-28-9-27, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025,
5 SECTION 171, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
6 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 27. (a) As used in this section,
7 "funding floor" means the amount a school corporation expended for
8 full-time teacher salaries during a particular state fiscal year.

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

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

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

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

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

32 (e) Beginning after June 30, 2024, for each state fiscal year that a
33 school corporation fails to meet the expenditure requirements regarding
34 full-time teacher salaries under subsection (b), the department shall
35 submit in both a written and an electronic format a notice to the school
36 corporation's:

- 37 (1) superintendent;
- 38 (2) school business officer; and
- 39 (3) governing body;

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

42 (f) If a school corporation's governing body receives a notice from

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1 the department under subsection (e), the school corporation shall do the
 2 following:
 3 (1) Publicly acknowledge receipt of the notice from the
 4 department at the governing body's next public meeting.
 5 (2) Enter into the governing body's official minutes for the
 6 meeting described in subdivision (1) acknowledgment of the
 7 notice.
 8 (3) Not later than thirty (30) days after the meeting described in
 9 subdivision (1), publish on the school corporation's website:
 10 (A) the department's notice; and
 11 (B) any relevant individual reports prepared by the
 12 department.
 13 (g) If the department determines a school corporation that received
 14 one (1) or more notices from the department under subsection (e) has
 15 met the expenditure requirements required under subsection (b) for a
 16 subsequent state fiscal year, the school corporation may remove from
 17 the school corporation's website any:
 18 (1) notices the school corporation received under subsection (e);
 19 and
 20 (2) relevant individual reports prepared by the department under
 21 subsection (f)(3).
 22 SECTION 14. IC 20-30-7-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2025,
 23 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 24 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c),
 25 the ~~state board may~~ **department shall** prescribe a program of summer
 26 school education for public schools. Subject to subsection (b), ~~the state~~
 27 ~~board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to~~ **the department shall**
 28 provide for:
 29 (1) summer school programs **guidelines**; and
 30 (2) the state distribution formula for any money appropriated by
 31 the general assembly for summer school education to allow for
 32 funding for approved summer school programs on a per student
 33 basis, which may include differentiated funding based on the
 34 course the student is enrolled in and the length of time of the
 35 summer school program.
 36 (b) The ~~state board~~ **department** shall give priority reimbursement
 37 for summer school courses that include curriculum aligned with the
 38 science of reading designated by the department to support students in:
 39 (1) grade 2 who are at risk of not being reading proficient; and
 40 (2) grade 3 who are not reading proficient;
 41 as indicated on the determinant evaluation of reading skills approved
 42 by the state board under IC 20-32-8.5-2.

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

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

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

9 SECTION 15. IC 20-31-4.1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.11-2023,
10 SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Subject to subsection (b) and section 7 of
12 this chapter, a school or group of schools accredited under this chapter
13 may submit an application to the state board, in a manner prescribed by
14 the state board, requesting flexibility and to waive compliance with any
15 provision in this title or 511 IAC in order to do one (1) or more of the
16 following:

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

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

- 27 (1) A list of the one (1) or more provisions in this title, 511 IAC,
- 28 or this title and 511 IAC that the school or group of schools is
- 29 requesting that the state board waive.
- 30 (2) The following information:
 - 31 (A) The specific goal or outcome or goals or outcomes that
 - 32 the school or group of schools intends to achieve by
 - 33 waiving the provisions described in subdivision (1).
 - 34 (B) How the specific goals or outcomes described in clause
 - 35 (A) are likely to be achieved by waiving compliance with
 - 36 the provisions described in subdivision (1).
- 37 (3) For an application submitted by:
 - 38 (A) the governing body of a school corporation, a copy of
 - 39 the resolution adopted by the governing body approving the
 - 40 submission of the application;
 - 41 (B) a charter school, written authorization by the charter
 - 42 school organizer approving the submission of the

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1 application; or
2 (C) a nonpublic school, written authorization by the person
3 or agency in active charge and management of the
4 nonpublic school approving the submission of the
5 application.

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

9 **(1) Provide transportation to a school that conducts a five (5)**
10 **day school week that serves the same grade level for any**
11 **student who would otherwise be assigned to a school that**
12 **conducts a four (4) day school week.**

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

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

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

20 SECTION 16. IC 20-32-5.1-13, AS AMENDED BY
21 P.L.150-2024, SECTION 51, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) The proficiency
23 of students under a statewide summative assessment must be reported
24 to the state board not later than:

25 (1) for the ~~2018-2019~~ **2025-2026** school year, ~~August 15, 2019;~~
26 **September 1, 2026;** and

27 (2) for each school year beginning after ~~June 30, 2019;~~ **June 30,**
28 **2026,** July 1 of the year in which the statewide summative
29 assessment is administered.

30 (b) Reports of student scores on the statewide summative
31 assessment must be:

32 (1) returned to the school corporation, charter school, state
33 accredited nonpublic school, or eligible school (as defined in
34 IC 20-51-1-4.7) that administered the test; and

35 (2) accompanied by a guide for interpreting scores.

36 (c) Subject to approval by the state board, reports of student results
37 on computer scored items under a statewide summative assessment
38 may be returned to schools regardless of whether the hand scored items
39 are returned.

40 (d) After reports of final student scores on the statewide
41 summative assessment are returned to a school corporation, charter
42 school, state accredited nonpublic school, or eligible school (as defined

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1 in IC 20-51-1-4.7), the school corporation or school shall promptly do
2 the following:

3 (1) Give each student and the student's parent the student's
4 statewide summative assessment test scores, including the
5 summary described in section 14.5 of this chapter.

6 (2) Make available for inspection to each student and the
7 student's parent the following:

8 (A) A copy of the student's scored responses.

9 (B) A copy of the anchor papers and scoring rubrics used to
10 score the student's responses.

11 A student's parent or the student's principal may request a rescoring of
12 a student's responses to a statewide summative assessment, including
13 a student's essay. A student's final score on a rescored statewide
14 summative assessment must reflect the student's actual score on the
15 rescored statewide summative assessment regardless of whether the
16 student's score decreased or improved on the rescored assessment.

17 (e) The department shall develop criteria to provide a student's
18 parent the opportunity to inspect questions in a manner that will not
19 compromise the validity or integrity of a statewide summative
20 assessment.

21 (f) A student's statewide summative assessment scores may not be
22 disclosed to the public.

23 (g) The department may not release less than ten (10) items per
24 subject matter per grade level. The state board and department shall:

25 (1) post:

26 (A) the questions; and

27 (B) with the permission of each student's parent, student
28 answers that are exemplary responses to the released
29 questions;

30 on the websites of the state board and department; and

31 (2) publicize the availability of the questions and answers to
32 schools, educators, and the public.

33 A student answer posted under this subsection may not identify the
34 student who provided the answer.

35 SECTION 17. IC 20-32-6.5-4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
36 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
37 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 4. (a) The department shall
38 develop a teaching and learning framework for the implementation
39 of mathematics academic standards created under IC 20-31-3-2.**

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

42 **(1) proficiency implementation guide; and**



- 1 (2) **daily instruction recommendation that requires a**
- 2 **minimum of:**
- 3 **(A) sixty (60) minutes for Tier 1 instruction; and**
- 4 **(B) twenty (20) minutes for mathematics interventions.**
- 5 SECTION 18. IC 20-36-3-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
- 6 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.5. As used in this chapter,**
- 8 **"eligible school" means the following:**
- 9 **(1) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by**
- 10 **IC 20-22-2-1.**
- 11 **(2) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired**
- 12 **established by IC 20-21-2-1.**
- 13 SECTION 19. IC 20-36-3-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007,
- 14 SECTION 234, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 15 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5. (a) Each school year:**
- 16 (1) each school corporation **and eligible school** may provide the
- 17 College Board's science and math advanced placement courses;
- 18 and
- 19 (2) each school corporation **and eligible school** may provide
- 20 additional College Board advanced placement courses;
- 21 in secondary schools for students who qualify to take the advanced
- 22 placement courses.
- 23 (b) Each school corporation shall provide the College Board's
- 24 science and math advanced placement courses in secondary schools for
- 25 students who qualify to take the advanced placement courses.
- 26 (c) In addition to the College Board's math and science advanced
- 27 placement tests, the state board may approve advanced placement
- 28 courses offered by a state educational institution in collaboration with
- 29 a school corporation if the state educational institution and the
- 30 collaborating school corporation demonstrate to the state board that the
- 31 particular advanced placement course satisfies the objectives of this
- 32 chapter.
- 33 SECTION 20. IC 20-36-3-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.20-2007,
- 34 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 35 JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8. (a) Money appropriated to the department to**
- 36 **implement the program shall be distributed for purposes listed in the**
- 37 **following order:**
- 38 (1) To pay the fees for each math or science advanced placement
- 39 examination that is taken by a student who is:
- 40 **(A) enrolled in a public secondary school, including**
- 41 **schools listed in section 2.5 of this chapter; and**
- 42 **(B) a resident of Indiana.**

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- 1 Priority shall be given to paying the fees for each math or
 2 science advanced placement examination that is taken by a
 3 student in grade 11 or 12.
- 4 (2) To pay stipends for teachers assigned to teach a math or
 5 science advanced course to attend the institutes under section 7
 6 of this chapter.
- 7 (3) To pay school corporations **and eligible schools** for
 8 instructional materials needed for the math or science advanced
 9 course.
- 10 (4) To pay for or rent equipment that a school corporation **or**
 11 **eligible school** may need to develop a math or science advanced
 12 course.
- 13 (5) To pay the fees for the costs incurred in implementing the
 14 advanced placement program for the subjects other than math
 15 and science as authorized under section 5 of this chapter.
- 16 (b) The department shall establish guidelines concerning the
 17 distribution of funds under this chapter, including guidelines to ensure
 18 that money distributed under this chapter is distributed as evenly as
 19 possible throughout Indiana. In establishing these distribution
 20 guidelines, the department shall consider the following factors:
- 21 (1) The number of students and teachers participating in the
 22 program.
- 23 (2) Even geographic representation.
- 24 (3) Financial need of students participating in the program.
- 25 (4) Any other factor affecting the distribution of money under
 26 this chapter.
- 27 (c) The department may seek funding to carry out the purposes of
 28 this chapter through the following federal programs:
- 29 (1) The Advanced Placement Incentive Program.
- 30 (2) The Math-Science Partnership Program.
- 31 (d) The department may give priority in the distribution of funds
 32 to a school that serves a high concentration of low income students.
- 33 SECTION 21. IC 20-36-3-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.20-2007,
 34 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The department shall develop and provide
 36 each public middle school, junior high school, and secondary school,
 37 **including schools listed in section 2.5 of this chapter**, with
 38 curriculum guidelines designed to satisfy the requirements of this
 39 chapter.
- 40 (b) The guidelines developed under subsection (a) shall include a
 41 plan for increasing the:
- 42 (1) availability of advanced placement program in schools with

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1 a high concentration of low income students; and
 2 (2) participation of low income students in advanced placement
 3 programs;

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

8 SECTION 22. IC 20-36-6-2.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 9 CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS** [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.3. As used in this chapter,**
 10 **"eligible school" means the following:**
 11

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

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

16 SECTION 23. IC 20-36-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.246-2023,
 17 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The Cambridge International program is
 19 established to encourage students to pursue advanced courses.

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

21 (c) Subject to appropriation by the general assembly, the
 22 department shall provide schools, **including schools listed in section**
 23 **2.3 of this chapter**, the same per pupil exam fee amounts for
 24 international baccalaureate and Cambridge International exams as the
 25 per pupil per exam funding amount for a student to take advanced
 26 placement exams.

27 SECTION 24. IC 20-36-6-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021,
 28 SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. Each school year each school corporation, ~~or~~
 30 school, **and eligible school** may provide Cambridge International
 31 courses.

32 SECTION 25. IC 20-36-6-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021,
 33 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Money appropriated to the department to
 35 implement the program shall be distributed first to pay the fees for each
 36 Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student to
 37 satisfy Indiana graduation requirements, including Core 40 with
 38 academic honors, and who is:

39 (1) enrolled in a public or state accredited nonpublic secondary
 40 school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter;**
 41 and

42 (2) a resident of Indiana.

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1 Priority under this subsection shall be given to paying fees for each
2 Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student in grade
3 11 or 12.

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

8 (1) To pay stipends for teachers assigned to teach a math,
9 science, or English Cambridge International course to attend the
10 training described in section 7 of this chapter.

11 (2) To pay school corporations, ~~or~~ schools, **and eligible schools**
12 for instructional materials needed for a math, science, or English
13 Cambridge International course.

14 (3) To pay for or rent equipment that a school corporation, ~~or~~
15 school, **or eligible school** may need to develop a math, science,
16 or English Cambridge International course.

17 (4) To pay any other stipends, costs, or fees incurred in
18 implementing the Cambridge International program for subjects
19 other than math, science, or English as authorized under this
20 chapter.

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

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

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

29 SECTION 26. IC 20-36-6-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021,
30 SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The department shall develop and provide
32 each public and state accredited nonpublic elementary school and high
33 school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**, with
34 guidelines designed to satisfy the requirements of this chapter.

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

38 SECTION 27. IC 20-43-8-7.5, AS AMENDED BY THE
39 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
40 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
41 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. (a) The ~~department of workforce development~~
42 **commission for higher education** shall designate each career and

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1 technical education program as:

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

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

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

- 18 (1) an apprenticeship program;
- 19 (2) a work based learning program;
- 20 (3) a high value level 1 program;
- 21 (4) a high value level 2 program;
- 22 (5) a moderate value level 1 program;
- 23 (6) a moderate value level 2 program;
- 24 (7) a less than moderate value level 1 program;
- 25 (8) a less than moderate value level 2 program;
- 26 (9) a planning for college and career course; or
- 27 (10) an introductory program.

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

32 (c) If a new career and technical education program is created by
33 rule, the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**
34 **education** shall determine the category in which the program is
35 designated under subsection (a) or (b). A career and technical
36 education program must be approved by the ~~department of workforce~~
37 **development commission for higher education** in order for a school
38 corporation to be eligible to receive a grant amount for the career and
39 technical education program under section 15 of this chapter.

40 (d) Not later than December 1 of each year, the ~~department of~~
41 **workforce development commission for higher education** shall
42 provide a report to the state board that includes the following

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1 information:

- 2 (1) A list of the career and technical education courses for the
 3 next school year that are designated by the ~~department of~~
 4 ~~workforce development~~ **commission for higher education**
 5 under this section.
- 6 (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and
 7 technical education program under this section.
- 8 (3) The average wage level used to designate each career and
 9 technical education program under this section.
- 10 (4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage
 11 level data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.
- 12 (5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by
 13 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**
 14 **higher education** to designate each career and technical
 15 education program under this section.
- 16 (e) Not later than January 1 of each year, the state board shall
 17 review and approve the report provided by the ~~department of workforce~~
 18 ~~development~~ **commission for higher education** under subsection (d)
 19 at a public meeting to ensure that the list of courses is in compliance
 20 with the long range state plan developed under IC 20-20-38-4. Not later
 21 than January 1 of each year, the state board shall send its determination
 22 to the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**
 23 **education**. Upon receipt of the state board's determination, the
 24 ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**
 25 **education** shall provide the approved report to the department.
- 26 (f) The ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**
 27 **higher education** shall publish the approved report under subsection
 28 (e) on the ~~department of workforce development's Internet web site;~~
 29 **commission for higher education's website**, including the following:
- 30 (1) The list of career and technical education programs that are
 31 designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~
 32 **commission for higher education** under this section.
- 33 (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and
 34 technical education program under this section.
- 35 (3) The average wage level used to designate each career and
 36 technical education program under this section.
- 37 (4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage
 38 level data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.
- 39 (5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by
 40 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**
 41 **higher education** to designate each career and technical
 42 education program under this section.

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

6 SECTION 28. IC 20-43-8-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2017,
 7 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 8 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. If a school corporation determines that the
 9 categories of career and technical education programs issued by the
 10 ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**
 11 **education** and approved by the state board under section 7.5 of this
 12 chapter are not representative of the employment demand in the region
 13 surrounding the school corporation, the school corporation may petition
 14 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**
 15 **education** to recategorize for the school corporation the career and
 16 technical education programs offered by the school corporation
 17 according to the employment demand in the region surrounding the
 18 school corporation. The petition must include information supporting
 19 the school corporation's determination that the categories of career and
 20 technical education programs by the ~~department of workforce~~
 21 ~~development~~ **commission for higher education** under section 7.5 of
 22 this chapter are not representative of the employment demand in the
 23 region surrounding the school corporation. The state board shall review
 24 and approve any course recategorization by the ~~department of~~
 25 ~~workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this
 26 section.

27 SECTION 29. IC 20-43-8-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025,
 28 SECTION 189, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) This subsection applies to
 30 the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.
 31 A school corporation's career and technical education enrollment grant
 32 for a state fiscal year is the sum of the amounts determined under the
 33 following STEPS:

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

- 36 (A) the number of credit hours of the program (one (1)
 37 credit, two (2) credits, or three (3) credits); multiplied by
 38 (B) the number of pupils enrolled in the program;
 39 multiplied by
 40 (C) the following applicable amount:
 41 (i) Seven hundred ten dollars (\$710) for a career and
 42 technical education program designated by the

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1 department of workforce development as a high value
 2 level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.
 3 (ii) One thousand sixty-five dollars (\$1,065) for a
 4 career and technical education program designated by
 5 the department of workforce development as a high
 6 value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.
 7 (iii) Three hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$398) for a
 8 career and technical education program designated by
 9 the department of workforce development as a
 10 moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of
 11 this chapter.
 12 (iv) Five hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$597) for a
 13 career and technical education program designated by
 14 the department of workforce development as a
 15 moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5 of
 16 this chapter.
 17 (v) One hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$199) for a career
 18 and technical education program designated by the
 19 department of workforce development as a less than
 20 moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of
 21 this chapter.
 22 (vi) Two hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$298) for a
 23 career and technical education program designated by
 24 the department of workforce development as a less
 25 than moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5
 26 of this chapter.
 27 STEP TWO: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an
 28 apprenticeship program or a work based learning program
 29 designated under section 7.5 of this chapter multiplied by four
 30 hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$497).
 31 STEP THREE: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an
 32 introductory program designated under section 7.5 of this
 33 chapter multiplied by two hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$298).
 34 STEP FOUR: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in a
 35 planning for college and career course under section 7.5 of this
 36 chapter at the school corporation that is approved by the
 37 department of workforce development multiplied by one
 38 hundred forty-nine dollars (\$149).
 39 STEP FIVE: Determine the number of pupils who travel from
 40 the school in which they are currently enrolled to another school
 41 to participate in a career and technical education program in
 42 which pupils from multiple schools are served at a common

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1 location multiplied by one hundred forty-nine dollars (\$149).
 2 (b) This subsection applies to state fiscal years beginning after
 3 June 30, 2026. A school corporation's career and technical education
 4 enrollment grant for a state fiscal year is the sum of the amounts
 5 determined under the following STEPS:
 6 STEP ONE: Determine for each career and technical education
 7 program provided by the school corporation:
 8 (A) the number of credit hours of the program (one (1)
 9 credit, two (2) credits, or three (3) credits); multiplied by
 10 (B) the number of pupils enrolled in the program;
 11 multiplied by
 12 (C) the following applicable amount:
 13 (i) Seven hundred twelve dollars (\$712) for a career
 14 and technical education program designated by the
 15 ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**
 16 **higher education** as a high value level 1 program
 17 under section 7.5 of this chapter.
 18 (ii) One thousand sixty-nine dollars (\$1,069) for a
 19 career and technical education program designated by
 20 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission**
 21 **for higher education** as a high value level 2 program
 22 under section 7.5 of this chapter.
 23 (iii) Three hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$399) for a
 24 career and technical education program designated by
 25 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission**
 26 **for higher education** as a moderate value level 1
 27 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.
 28 (iv) Five hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$599) for a
 29 career and technical education program designated by
 30 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission**
 31 **for higher education** as a moderate value level 2
 32 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.
 33 (v) Two hundred dollars (\$200) for a career and
 34 technical education program designated by the
 35 ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**
 36 **higher education** as a less than moderate value level
 37 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.
 38 (vi) Two hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$299) for a
 39 career and technical education program designated by
 40 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission**
 41 **for higher education** as a less than moderate value
 42 level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

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

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

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

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

18 SECTION 30. IC 20-43-8-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.230-2017,
 19 SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 20 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. The ~~department of workforce development~~
 21 **commission for higher education** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
 22 that are necessary to implement the duties of the ~~department of~~
 23 ~~workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this
 24 chapter.

25 SECTION 31. IC 20-43-16-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
 26 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 27 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "grant"
 28 means a teacher appreciation grant awarded by the department to a
 29 school corporation, ~~or charter~~ a school, ~~or the department of~~
 30 **correction** under this chapter.

31 SECTION 32. IC 20-43-16-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 32 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.5. As used in this chapter,
 34 "school" means the following:

- 35 (1) A charter school.
 36 (2) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by
 37 IC 20-22-2-1.
 38 (3) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 39 established by IC 20-21-2-1.

40 SECTION 33. IC 20-43-16-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
 41 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 42 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The teacher appreciation

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1 grant program is established to provide grants for each state fiscal year
2 to school corporations, ~~and charter schools,~~ **and the department of**
3 **correction** to attract, reward, and retain teachers who significantly
4 impact student outcomes.

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

7 SECTION 34. IC 20-43-16-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
8 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. To be eligible for a grant under
10 the program, a school corporation, ~~or charter a school,~~ **or the**
11 **department of correction** must meet the following:

- 12 (1) Apply in a manner prescribed by the department.
- 13 (2) Identify not more than twenty percent (20%) of certified
- 14 teachers as eligible grant recipients annually based on criteria
- 15 outlined in section 5 of this chapter.
- 16 (3) Report how each recipient met the criteria outlined in section
- 17 5 of this chapter.
- 18 (4) Meet any other requirements established by the department.

19 SECTION 35. IC 20-43-16-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
20 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
21 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 5. (a) A grant received by a
22 school corporation, or charter school, may only be used to pay stipends
23 within the amounts described in section 8 of this chapter to one (1) or
24 more teachers selected by the school corporation or charter school who:

- 25 (1) have instructed students in a school or district for at least one
- 26 (1) school year prior to the grant distribution year;
- 27 (2) maintain employment at the same school or district at the
- 28 time of the grant distribution;
- 29 (3) are determined to significantly impact student outcomes
- 30 using national, state, or local assessment measures; and
- 31 (4) are designated in one (1) of the categories described in
- 32 section 6 of this chapter.

33 (b) **A grant received by a school corporation, a school, or the**
34 **department of correction may be used to pay the Federal**
35 **Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and Indiana state teachers'**
36 **retirement fund costs associated with distributing a stipend under**
37 **this chapter.**

38 SECTION 36. IC 20-43-16-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
39 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
40 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Grant amounts distributed to
41 a teacher described in section 5 of this chapter must meet the criteria
42 as set forth in this section for:

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- 1 (1) a "recognition" stipend;
 2 (2) an "exemplary" stipend; or
 3 (3) an "exemplary plus" stipend.
 4 (b) A school corporation, ~~or charter a school~~, **or the department**
 5 **of correction** must apply the following criteria in evaluating a teacher
 6 for a stipend designation under subsection (a):
 7 (1) For a recognition stipend designation, whether the teacher
 8 demonstrates high performance in teaching based on student
 9 outcomes.
 10 (2) For an exemplary stipend designation, whether the teacher:
 11 (A) demonstrates high performance in teaching based on
 12 student outcomes; and
 13 (B) meets one (1) of the following:
 14 (i) Mentors or coaches another teacher to improve
 15 student outcomes, or provides instructional leadership
 16 to improve student outcomes across multiple
 17 classrooms.
 18 (ii) Serves in a high need or geographic shortage area
 19 as determined by the department based on educator
 20 supply and demand.
 21 (3) For an exemplary plus stipend designation, whether the
 22 teacher:
 23 (A) demonstrates high performance in teaching based on
 24 student outcomes;
 25 (B) mentors or coaches another teacher to improve student
 26 outcomes, or provides instructional leadership to improve
 27 student outcomes across multiple classrooms; and
 28 (C) serves in a high need or geographic shortage area as
 29 determined by the department based on educator supply and
 30 demand.
 31 (c) A school corporation, ~~or charter a school~~, **or the department**
 32 **of correction** may establish additional criteria in evaluating a teacher
 33 for a designation under subsection (a).
 34 SECTION 37. IC 20-43-16-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
 35 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The department shall create
 37 a rubric for use by school corporations, ~~and charter schools~~, **and the**
 38 **department of correction** under this chapter.
 39 (b) The rubric must include:
 40 (1) student assessment data if student assessment data is
 41 available for the applicable grade level or class; and
 42 (2) expectations for the roles, responsibilities, and duties of a

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1 mentor teacher, which include providing professional
2 development and guidance to new teachers.

3 SECTION 38. IC 20-43-16-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
4 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The amount of the stipend that
6 a school corporation, ~~or charter schools a school,~~ **or the department**
7 **of correction** may distribute to a teacher for a state fiscal year under
8 this chapter must be within the following amounts:

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

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

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

15 SECTION 39. IC 20-43-16-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
16 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The department may award
18 a grant under this chapter each state fiscal year to a school corporation,
19 ~~or charter a school,~~ **or the department of correction upon the school**
20 **corporation, school, or department of correction meeting that meets**
21 the requirements of this chapter.

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

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

33 SECTION 40. IC 20-43-16-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,
34 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. **If** a school corporation, ~~or~~
36 ~~charter a school,~~ **or the department of correction that** receives a grant
37 for a state fiscal year under this chapter, **it shall do the following:**

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

42 (2) Not later than June 30 of the applicable state fiscal year,

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1 return any part of the grant not distributed as stipends to
2 teachers.

3 SECTION 41. IC 20-46-1-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,
4 SECTION 221, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
5 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 21. (a) This section:

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

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

14 through the full term of the referendum levy; and

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

- 17 (A) the governing body of the school corporation approves
18 the referendum levy in a resolution adopted under section
19 8 or 8.5 of this chapter; and
- 20 (B) the referendum levy is imposed for the first time with
21 property taxes first due and payable in a calendar year
22 beginning after December 31, 2027.

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

33 (c) The department shall provide the county auditor with data and
34 information necessary for the county auditor to determine:

- 35 (1) which charter schools are eligible to receive a distribution
36 under this section; and
- 37 (2) the number of students who:
 - 38 (A) reside within the attendance area of the school
39 corporation who are included in the ADM for each charter
40 school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high
41 schools, described in subdivision (1); and
 - 42 (B) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual

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

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1 (B) the amount collected by the county auditor during the
2 most recent installment period that is attributable to the
3 territory of the school corporation that is located within the
4 boundaries of a county listed in subsection (a).

5 (f) A charter school is not eligible for a distribution under this
6 section from property tax revenue collected from a particular
7 referendum levy if the charter school does not have a certified fall
8 ADM count in the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar
9 year in which the public question for the referendum appears on the
10 ballot.

11 (g) Not later than August 15, 2025, and not later than August 15
12 of each calendar year thereafter, the department shall provide to each
13 school corporation and eligible charter school an estimate of the
14 amount of property tax levy revenue the school corporation and charter
15 school are expected to receive under this section in the subsequent
16 calendar year based on the most recent fall ADM count.

17 (h) This subsection applies beginning with distributions of
18 property tax revenue under this section in 2026 and thereafter. In order
19 to receive a distribution under this section, the governing body of a
20 charter school shall, not later than October 15, 2025, and not later than
21 October 15 of each calendar year thereafter, adopt a budget for the
22 current school year. Not later than ten (10) days before its adoption, the
23 budget must be fixed and presented to the charter board in a public
24 meeting in the county in which the charter school is incorporated. Not
25 later than November 1, 2025, and not later than November 1 of each
26 calendar year thereafter, the governing body of the charter school shall
27 submit:

- 28 (1) the budget that is adopted under this subsection;
- 29 (2) the dates on which each requirement under this subsection
- 30 were met; and
- 31 (3) a statement from the governing body of the charter school
- 32 attesting that the dates provided in subdivision (2) are true and
- 33 accurate and that the budget was properly adopted under this
- 34 subsection;

35 to the charter authorizer for review and to the department of local
36 government finance to be posted publicly on the computer gateway
37 under IC 6-1.1-17-3.

38 (i) If a charter school does not satisfy the requirements of
39 subsection (h) to receive distributions under this section during a
40 calendar year, as determined by the department of local government
41 finance, the charter school may not receive a distribution of property
42 tax revenue in that calendar year and the county auditor shall withhold

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1 the charter school's distribution amount. The department of local
 2 government finance's determination of compliance consists only of a
 3 confirmation that the adopted budget and attestation statement are
 4 submitted not later than the applicable date under subsection (h). Any
 5 distribution amount withheld under this subsection shall be:

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

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

10 in the calendar year that immediately follows the calendar year in
 11 which the distribution amount was withheld.

12 SECTION 42. IC 20-46-9-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,
 13 SECTION 232, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 14 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 22. (a) This section:

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

19 (A) Lake County;

20 (B) Marion County;

21 (C) St. Joseph County; or

22 (D) Vanderburgh County;

23 through the full term of the referendum levy; and

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

26 (A) the governing body of the school corporation approves
 27 the referendum levy in a resolution adopted under section
 28 6 or 7 of this chapter; and

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

32 (b) The county auditor shall distribute an amount under subsection
 33 (d) to each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult
 34 high schools, that a student who resides within the attendance area of
 35 the school corporation attends if the charter school, excluding virtual
 36 charter schools or adult high schools, elects to participate in the
 37 referendum under section 6(i) of this chapter. The department shall
 38 provide the county auditor with data and information necessary for the
 39 county auditor to determine:

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

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

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

- 7 (1) A virtual charter school.
- 8 (2) An adult high school.

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

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

- 21 (A) reside within the attendance area of the school
22 corporation; ~~who~~
- 23 (B) are currently included in the ADM of the charter school;
24 **and**
- 25 (C) **receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual**
26 **instruction.**

27 STEP TWO: Determine the sum of:

- 28 (A) the current ADM count for the school corporation; plus
- 29 (B) the total number of students who:
 - 30 (i) reside within the attendance area of the school
31 corporation; ~~who~~
 - 32 (ii) are currently included in the ADM of a charter
33 school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high
34 schools; **and**
 - 35 (iii) **receive not more than fifty percent (50%)**
36 **virtual instruction.**

37 STEP THREE: Determine the result of:

- 38 (A) the STEP ONE amount; divided by
- 39 (B) the STEP TWO amount.

40 STEP FOUR: Determine the result of:

- 41 (A) the STEP THREE amount; multiplied by
- 42 (B) the amount collected by the county auditor during the

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1 most recent installment period.
2 (e) If a charter school receives a distribution under this section, the
3 distribution may be used only for the purposes described in
4 IC 20-40-20-6(a).

5 SECTION 43. IC 20-51-4-5.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025,
6 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
7 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.5. (a) A parent of an eligible choice scholarship
8 student or an eligible school on behalf of a parent of an eligible choice
9 scholarship student may petition the department to reconsider the
10 **eligibility of a choice scholarship student payment of a choice**
11 **scholarship for a student** enrolled in the eligible school if the parent
12 has reason to believe that the student was determined ineligible due to
13 **enrollment membership** data inaccuracies reported by a school.
14 **Petitions must be received by the department not later than thirty**
15 **(30) days after the date of notification of payment based on the**
16 **official fall and spring ADM count dates.**

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

21 (c) If the department adjusts a count used for a distribution under
22 this chapter, the department shall adjust subsequent distributions to the
23 eligible school that is affected by the adjusted count, on the schedule
24 determined by the department, to reflect the differences between the
25 distribution that the eligible school received and the distribution that
26 the eligible school would have received if the adjusted count had been
27 used.

28 SECTION 44. IC 20-51.4-4.5-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.127-2024,
29 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. (a) A parent of a career scholarship student
31 or an emancipated career scholarship student may use a CSA annual
32 grant amount received under this chapter for costs related to obtaining
33 a driver's license if the following conditions are met:

- 34 (1) The amount used for the costs does not exceed one thousand
35 dollars (\$1,000).
- 36 (2) The parent or emancipated CSA student demonstrates proof
37 of hardship, as determined by the department.
- 38 (3) A driver's license is a prerequisite for being able to perform
39 the regular functions of the sequence, course, apprenticeship, or
40 program of study, as determined by the department.
- 41 (4) Any other criteria that the department considers relevant are
42 satisfied.

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1 (b) A parent of a career scholarship student or an emancipated
 2 career scholarship student may use a CSA annual grant amount
 3 received under this chapter for costs related to transportation if the
 4 following conditions are met:

5 (1) The amount used for the costs from the CSA annual grant
 6 amount does not exceed ~~the following:~~

7 ~~(A) A matching amount paid by a CSA participating entity~~
 8 ~~for the transportation costs of the career scholarship student.~~

9 ~~(B) a total amount of six hundred twenty-five dollars~~
 10 ~~(\$625).~~

11 (2) The parent or emancipated CSA student demonstrates proof
 12 of hardship, as determined by the department.

13 (3) Any other criteria that the department considers relevant are
 14 satisfied.

15 (c) A CSA annual grant amount received under this chapter may
 16 not be used for the purchase or lease of a motor vehicle (as defined in
 17 IC 4-4-32.2-6).

18 SECTION 45. IC 21-18-15.1-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 19 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 0.5. As used in this chapter,**
 21 **"eligible school" means the following:**

22 **(1) A charter school.**

23 **(2) A state accredited nonpublic school (as defined in**
 24 **IC 20-18-2-18.7).**

25 **(3) A nonpublic school that is accredited by a national or**
 26 **regional accreditation agency that is recognized by the state**
 27 **board of education.**

28 SECTION 46. IC 21-18-15.1-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019,
 29 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The teacher residency grant pilot program
 31 fund is established for the purpose of providing funds to school
 32 corporations and ~~charter~~ **eligible** schools for the development and
 33 implementation of teacher residency programs as described in section
 34 6 of this chapter.

35 (b) The fund consists of the following:

36 (1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.

37 (2) Gifts, grants, devises, or bequests made to the commission to
 38 achieve the purposes of the fund.

39 (c) The commission shall administer the fund.

40 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
 41 money in the fund.

42 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not

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1 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
 2 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that accrues
 3 from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

4 (f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
 5 revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for the
 6 purposes of this chapter.

7 SECTION 47. IC 21-18-15.1-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019,
 8 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The commission may award grants under the
 10 pilot program to an applicant that meets the following requirements:

11 (1) The applicant is a school corporation or **charter eligible**
 12 school that has partnered with one (1) approved postsecondary
 13 educational institution to establish and implement a teacher
 14 residency program.

15 (2) The applicant submits a teacher residency plan that:

16 (A) establishes a teacher residency program in which:

17 (i) program participants receive teacher training under
 18 the teacher residency program for a one (1) year
 19 period; and

20 (ii) program participants and teachers who act as
 21 mentors to program participants under the teacher
 22 residency program receive stipends;

23 (B) includes the name and contact information of the
 24 approved postsecondary educational institution with which
 25 the school corporation or **charter eligible** school has
 26 partnered; and

27 (C) includes any other information regarding the teacher
 28 residency program that is required by the commission.

29 (3) Any other requirements established by the commission.

30 SECTION 48. IC 21-18-15.1-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019,
 31 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. A school corporation or **charter eligible** school
 33 that is awarded a grant under section 6 of this chapter:

34 (1) shall provide stipends to:

35 (A) program participants; and

36 (B) teachers who act as mentors to program participants
 37 under the teacher residency program; and

38 (2) may use money from the grant award to pay the approved
 39 postsecondary educational institution with which the school
 40 corporation or **charter eligible** school has partnered for
 41 administrative costs incurred by the approved postsecondary
 42 educational institution in developing and implementing the

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- 1 teacher residency program.
- 2 SECTION 49. IC 21-18-15.1-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019,
3 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The commission shall, upon request, provide
5 technical assistance to school corporations, **charter eligible** schools,
6 and approved postsecondary educational institutions participating in
7 the pilot program in the development of competency based curriculum
8 and support systems for program participants.
- 9 SECTION 50. IC 21-18-15.1-9, AS AMENDED BY
10 P.L.214-2025, SECTION 213, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
11 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The commission
12 shall annually prepare a report that includes the following:
- 13 (1) Information regarding school corporations and **charter**
14 **eligible** schools that participate in the pilot program.
 - 15 (2) The annual retention rate of teachers employed by a school
16 corporation or **charter eligible** school who completed the school
17 corporation's or **charter eligible** school's teacher residency
18 program within the immediately preceding five (5) years.
 - 19 (3) The number of program participants who were not employed
20 by a school corporation or **charter eligible** school after
21 completing the school corporation's or **charter eligible** school's
22 teacher residency program.
 - 23 (4) The number of teachers who:
24 (A) completed a teacher residency program under this
25 chapter in the immediately preceding five (5) years; and
26 (B) took leadership roles, as determined by the commission,
27 during their employment with a school corporation or
28 **charter eligible** school in Indiana.
- 29 (b) Not later than July 1 of each year, the commission shall submit
30 the report described in subsection (a) to the following:
- 31 (1) The governor.
 - 32 (2) The general assembly in an electronic format under
33 IC 5-14-6.
- 34 SECTION 51. IC 21-18-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
35 1, 2026]. (Postsecondary Career and Technical Education).
- 36 SECTION 52. IC 21-18.5-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,
37 SECTION 141, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
38 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The board for proprietary
39 education consists of the following seven (7) members:
- 40 (1) The secretary of education or the secretary's designee.
 - 41 (2) The executive officer of the commission for higher education
42 or the executive officer's designee.

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- 1 (3) Five (5) members **who are members of the public at large**
- 2 appointed by the governor.
- 3 (b) The members appointed by the governor under subsection (a)
- 4 serve for a term of four (4) years.
- 5 (c) Not more than three (3) of the members appointed by the
- 6 governor may be members of the same political party.
- 7 (d) ~~Of the five (5) members appointed by the governor:~~
- 8 ~~(1) one (1) must have been engaged for a period of at least five~~
- 9 ~~(5) years immediately preceding appointment in an executive or~~
- 10 ~~a managerial position in a postsecondary proprietary educational~~
- 11 ~~institution subject to IC 21-18.5-6;~~
- 12 ~~(2) one (1) must have been engaged in administering or~~
- 13 ~~managing an industrial employee training program for a period~~
- 14 ~~of at least five (5) years immediately preceding appointment; and~~
- 15 ~~(3) three (3) must be representatives of the public at large who~~
- 16 ~~are not representatives of the types of postsecondary credit~~
- 17 ~~bearing proprietary educational institutions to be authorized.~~
- 18 ~~For purposes of subdivision (3), an elected or appointed state or local~~
- 19 ~~official or a member of a private or public school may not be appointed~~
- 20 ~~as a representative of the public at large.~~
- 21 ~~(e) (d) An appointment to fill a vacancy occurring on the board for~~
- 22 ~~proprietary education is for the unexpired term.~~
- 23 **SECTION 53. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] Notwithstanding**
- 24 **the June 29, 2026, effective date contained in P.L.213-2025,**
- 25 **SECTION 199, the revisor of statutes shall publish IC 20-51-1-4.3,**
- 26 **as amended by P.L.213-2025, SECTION 199, effective May 1, 2026.**
- 27 **SECTION 54. An emergency is declared for this act.**

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