

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2060 (Muratsuchi) – As Amended April 27, 2026

Policy Committee: Education

Vote: 9 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill establishes the Experienced Mentor Teacher Stipend Program, subject to an appropriation, to compensate experienced teachers who mentor teacher candidates enrolled in teacher preparation programs.

The bill requires local educational agencies (LEAs) awarded funding under the program to provide a stipend of \$3,000 to each experienced mentor teacher while they mentor a prospective teacher during their completion of 500 or more hours of student teaching. The bill also requires the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), on or before January 1 of each year, to report to the Legislature regarding the status of the program and specified components.

FISCAL EFFECT:

- 1) One-time Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures of an unknown amount, but likely in the tens of millions of dollars, for the Legislature to appropriate funding to support the grant program established by this bill.
- 2) Ongoing General Fund costs of approximately \$460,000 annually to CTC to hire additional staff to administer the program.

AB 121 (Committee on Budget), Chapter 8, Statutes of 2025, provided \$5 million to Kern County Superintendent of Schools to conduct a multimedia campaign promoting teacher preparation programs accredited by CTC and to develop a grants management system for use by CTC to administer the Student Teacher Stipend Program (STSP). The grants management system could incorporate an expanded grant program to include the stipends provided by this bill, however, according to CTC, while the Legislature has appropriated funds for mentor teacher grant programs in recent years, these appropriations have not included additional staffing resources at CTC to support the implementation of the grant programs.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

A critical yet under-supported component of the teacher pipeline is the role of experienced classroom teachers who mentor student teacher candidates during clinical practice, often with little or no compensation. Strong mentorship is essential to improving teacher preparedness, increasing retention, and ensuring new teachers are

successful in the classroom. AB 2060 establishes the California Teacher Mentor Grant Program to compensate mentor teachers who support teacher preparation, helping improve long-term retention and strengthen the state's educator workforce.

- 2) **Background.** Established in the Budget Act of 2025, the STSP represents a one-time appropriation of \$300 million to support participating LEAs to provide stipends of \$10,000 to teacher preparation candidates completing their 600 hours of clinical practice preparation. Implementation of the STSP begins July 1, 2026, and authorizing legislation prescribes allocation of \$100 million each year through fiscal year 2028-29.

Student teacher preparation requires at least four weeks of solo or co-teaching or its equivalent, and teaching interns' training begins in an experienced mentor's classroom. However, teachers serving as mentor teachers for student teachers typically do not receive a stipend. This bill establishes the Experienced Mentor Teacher Stipend Program to award grants to LEAs to provide \$3,000 stipends to mentor teachers.

Analysis Prepared by: Aaron Heredia / APPR. / (916) 319-2081