

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING
AB 2060 (Muratsuchi)
As Amended April 27, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Establishes the Experienced Mentor Teacher Stipend Program to, upon appropriation, provide an annual stipend for student teacher mentors.

Major Provisions

- 1) Expands the Student Teacher Stipend Program (STSP) to provide an annual stipend for student teacher mentors of \$3,000.
- 2) Requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to partner with a Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) approved teacher preparation program to establish a mentor teacher recruitment, selection and support program.
- 3) Requires the CTC to, on or before January 1 of each year, report to the education policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature regarding the status of the grant program, including, but not limited to, the number of teacher mentors paid, the degree to which the student teacher candidates meet the teacher shortage needs of the LEA, and the ethnic and racial composition of the participants in the program.

COMMENTS

California Student Teacher Stipend Program (STSP). The California state budget signed by the Governor in July 2025 included \$300 million to establish the STSP. Commencing July 1, 2026, LEAs may apply for STSP grant funding to provide stipends of \$10,000 to be paid to credential candidates during the school year in which they are completing their student teaching. \$100 million will be available in fiscal year 2026-27, and to the extent that funds are available, \$100 million will be made available annually for this grant program.

Unlike other grant programs administered by the CTC, authorizing legislation states that grant funds will be disbursed on a first come, first served basis. Authorizing legislation included funding for the Kern County Superintendent of Schools to collaborate with the CTC to develop a grants management system to streamline the application process. There will be space within the online application process for both educator preparation programs and local education agencies to communicate to the CTC the number of student teachers completing their clinical practice within the LEA during the academic year, and to provide required information about each student teacher outlined in authorizing legislation.

Are teacher mentors currently compensated? Teachers who serve as mentors for student teachers typically do not receive a stipend. This bill creates a grant program to provide student teacher mentors a stipend.

Typically, in California, teachers who serve as induction mentors receive an annual stipend between \$1,500 and \$2,500. For example, mentor teachers through the Yolo Solano Center for Teacher Credentialing receive a \$2,000 stipend. Santa Rosa City Schools provides a \$1,500 stipend for induction mentors. Sacramento City Schools provides a \$2,100 stipend for induction

mentors. Elk Grove Unified School District provides an annual induction mentor stipend of \$6,000 for supporting up to three teachers, a stipend of \$7,000 for supporting four teachers, and a stipend of \$8,000 for supporting five teachers.

What are other states doing? The state of Louisiana requires mentor teachers to hold an ancillary mentor teacher certificate. Mentors who support year-long undergraduate and post-baccalaureate candidates receive \$2,000 through the Believe and Prepare Initiative. In 2022, the State of Michigan established the MI Future Educator Stipend to pay student teachers and mentor teachers.

According to the Author

According to the author, "California continues to face persistent challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified teachers, disproportionately impacting its most vulnerable students. 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."

Arguments in Support

The California Teachers Association states, "Robust mentorship is essential for the health of the teaching profession and the success of our students. Mentor teachers perform critical work, including facilitating weekly meetings and sharing best practices in curriculum, instruction, and behavior management. Formalizing compensation for these roles through the bargaining process will improve educator retention and directly result in better student achievement, particularly for multi-language learners and underperforming student groups."

Arguments in Opposition

None

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee,

- 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.

VOTES

ASM EDUCATION: 9-0-0

YES: Patel, Hoover, Alvarez, Bonta, Castillo, Garcia, Lowenthal, Pellerin, Zbur

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 14-0-1

YES: Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta

ABS, ABST OR NV: Tangipa

UPDATED

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