

SB1460



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB1460

Introduced 2/13/2019, by Sen. Andy Manar

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-70

Amends the School Code. Provides that priority in the distribution of funds appropriated for the Illinois Teaching Excellence Program must be given to a qualified educator employed by an Organizational Unit assigned to Tier 1 under the evidence-based funding formula of the Code.

LRB101 08878 AXK 53968 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 21B-70 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-70)

7 Sec. 21B-70. Illinois Teaching Excellence Program.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

9 "Poverty or low-performing school" means a school
10 identified as a priority school under Section 2-3.25d-5 of this
11 Code or a school in which 50% or more of its students are
12 eligible for free or reduced-price school lunches.

13 "Qualified educator" means a teacher or school counselor
14 currently employed in a school district who is in the process
15 of obtaining certification through the National Board for
16 Professional Teaching Standards or who has completed
17 certification and holds a current Professional Educator
18 License with a National Board for Professional Teaching
19 Standards designation or a retired teacher or school counselor
20 who holds a Professional Educator License with a National Board
21 for Professional Teaching Standards designation.

22 (b) Beginning on July 1, 2011, any funds appropriated for
23 the Illinois Teaching Excellence Program must be used to

1 provide monetary assistance and incentives for qualified
2 educators who are employed by school districts and who have or
3 are in the process of obtaining licensure through the National
4 Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Priority in the
5 distribution of those funds must be given to a qualified
6 educator employed by an Organizational Unit assigned to Tier 1
7 under Section 18-8.15. The goal of the program is to improve
8 instruction and student performance.

9 The State Board of Education shall allocate an amount as
10 annually appropriated by the General Assembly for the Illinois
11 Teaching Excellence Program for (i) application fees for each
12 qualified educator seeking to complete certification through
13 the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, to be
14 paid directly to the National Board for Professional Teaching
15 Standards, and (ii) incentives for each qualified educator to
16 be distributed to the respective school district. The school
17 district shall distribute this payment to each eligible teacher
18 or school counselor as a single payment.

19 The State Board of Education's annual budget must set out
20 by separate line item the appropriation for the program. Unless
21 otherwise provided by appropriation, qualified educators are
22 eligible for monetary assistance and incentives outlined in
23 subsection (c) of this Section.

24 (c) When there are adequate funds available, monetary
25 assistance and incentives shall include the following:

- 26 (1) A maximum of \$2,000 towards the application fee for

1 up to 750 teachers or school counselors in a poverty or
2 low-performing school who apply on a first-come,
3 first-serve basis for National Board certification.

4 (2) A maximum of \$2,000 towards the application fee for
5 up to 250 teachers or school counselors in a school other
6 than a poverty or low-performing school who apply on a
7 first-come, first-serve basis for National Board
8 certification. However, if there were fewer than 750
9 individuals supported in item (1) of this subsection (c),
10 then the number supported in this item (2) may be increased
11 as such that the combination of item (1) of this subsection
12 (c) and this item (2) shall equal 1,000 applicants.

13 (3) A maximum of \$1,000 towards the National Board for
14 Professional Teaching Standards' renewal application fee.

15 (4) (Blank).

16 (5) An annual incentive equal to \$1,500, which shall be
17 paid to each qualified educator currently employed in a
18 school district who holds both a National Board for
19 Professional Teaching Standards designation and a current
20 corresponding certificate issued by the National Board for
21 Professional Teaching Standards and who agrees, in
22 writing, to provide at least 30 hours of mentoring or
23 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
24 professional development or both during the school year to
25 classroom teachers or school counselors, as applicable.
26 Funds must be disbursed on a first-come, first-serve basis,

1 with priority given to poverty or low-performing schools.
2 Mentoring shall include, either singly or in combination,
3 the following:

4 (A) National Board for Professional Teaching
5 Standards certification candidates.

6 (B) National Board for Professional Teaching
7 Standards re-take candidates.

8 (C) National Board for Professional Teaching
9 Standards renewal candidates.

10 (D) (Blank).

11 Funds may also be used for instructional leadership
12 training for qualified educators interested in supporting
13 implementation of the Illinois Learning Standards or teaching
14 and learning priorities of the State Board of Education or
15 both.

16 (Source: P.A. 99-193, eff. 7-30-15; 100-201, eff. 8-18-17.)