



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB3215

Introduced 2/6/2024, by Sen. Doris Turner

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 205/9.44 new

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Provides that, subject to appropriation, the Board of Higher Education shall create a student teaching stipend program to alleviate the financial burden of student teaching, to encourage students to pursue teaching careers to alleviate this State's teacher shortage, and to encourage teachers to be matched with student teachers. Provides that, subject to available appropriations, the Board shall disburse to each educator preparation program funds to distribute to each eligible student a stipend of up to \$10,000 per semester for up to 2 consecutive semesters, plus additional funds to pay the direct costs of operating the stipend program. Provides that, subject to available appropriations, the Board shall disburse to each educator preparation program funds to distribute to each eligible cooperating teacher a stipend of up to \$2,000 per semester for up to 2 consecutive semesters per academic year, plus additional funds to pay the direct costs of operating the stipend program. Sets forth provisions concerning the distribution of funds to eligible students and eligible cooperating teachers. Provides that an educator preparation program may not prohibit an eligible student or an eligible cooperating teacher from participating in the stipend program or receiving a stipend from the stipend program. Sets forth provisions concerning cooperating teacher training. Provides that, subject to available appropriations, the Board, in collaboration with the State Board of Education, shall submit a report evaluating the impact of the stipend program on educator preparation programs to the General Assembly and Governor on or before June 30, 2028. Provides for rulemaking. Effective immediately.

LRB103 37031 RJT 67146 b

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 Board of Higher Education Act is amended by
5 adding Section 9.44 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 205/9.44 new)

7 Sec. 9.44. Student teaching stipend program.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

9 "Educator preparation program" means an approved educator
10 preparation program offered by a recognized school or
11 institution under Article 21B of the School Code.

12 "Eligible cooperating teacher" means a teacher who is
13 licensed under Article 21B of the School Code or has attained
14 the Department of Human Services' Gateways to Opportunity
15 Early Childhood Education Credential Level 5 or 6, who is
16 qualified to teach in the subject area assigned, and who is
17 matched with an eligible student.

18 "Eligible student" means a student who is enrolled in an
19 educator preparation program, who is maintaining satisfactory
20 academic progress, who is in a student teaching placement, and
21 who is not contracted as the teacher of record for the student
22 teaching placement.

23 "Student teaching" means a supervised clinical experience

1 that prepares a candidate to take full responsibility in an
2 instructional setting.

3 (b) Subject to appropriation, the Board shall create a
4 student teaching stipend program to alleviate the financial
5 burden of student teaching, to encourage students to pursue
6 teaching careers to alleviate this State's teacher shortage,
7 and to encourage teachers to be matched with student teachers.

8 (c) An educator preparation program shall notify the Board
9 of all eligible students and eligible cooperating teachers who
10 qualify for the stipend program.

11 (d) Under the stipend program and subject to available
12 appropriations, the Board shall disburse to each educator
13 preparation program funds to distribute to each eligible
14 student a stipend of up to \$10,000 per semester for up to 2
15 consecutive semesters, plus additional funds to pay the direct
16 costs of operating the stipend program. The educator
17 preparation program shall distribute stipend funds using the
18 standard methods for allocating State-based financial aid or
19 as wages for employment to each eligible student in monthly
20 installments.

21 (e) Under the stipend program and subject to available
22 appropriations, the Board shall disburse to each educator
23 preparation program funds to distribute to each eligible
24 cooperating teacher a stipend of up to \$2,000 per semester for
25 up to 2 consecutive semesters per academic year, plus
26 additional funds to pay the direct costs of operating the

1 stipend program. The educator preparation program shall
2 distribute stipend funds to an eligible cooperating teacher in
3 one payment.

4 (f) If there is a surplus appropriated in a fiscal year for
5 the stipend program, then the Board shall increase the amount
6 distributed to each educator preparation program by the same
7 percentage that the surplus bears to the amount required to
8 fully fund the total number of eligible students and eligible
9 cooperating teachers who qualify for the stipend program that
10 fiscal year. An educator preparation program shall increase
11 the stipend amount distributed to each eligible student or
12 eligible cooperating teacher in proportion to the surplus.

13 (g) If the amount appropriated in a fiscal year for the
14 stipend program is insufficient to fully fund stipends for the
15 total number of eligible students and eligible cooperating
16 teachers for that fiscal year, then the Board shall reduce the
17 amount distributed to each educator preparation program by the
18 same percentage that the deficit bears to the amount required
19 to fully fund the total number of eligible students and
20 eligible cooperating teachers who qualify for the stipend
21 program. An educator preparation program shall reduce the
22 stipend amount distributed to each eligible student or
23 eligible cooperating teacher in proportion to the deficit.

24 (h) Funds not distributed in a particular fiscal year by
25 an educator preparation program under this Section shall be
26 returned to the Board to be used for the subsequent fiscal

1 year's stipend program.

2 (i) An educator preparation program may not prohibit an
3 eligible student or an eligible cooperating teacher from
4 participating in the stipend program or receiving a stipend
5 from the stipend program.

6 (j) Nothing in this Section is intended to preclude an
7 educator preparation program from providing an eligible
8 cooperating teacher with additional incentives.

9 (k) An eligible cooperating teacher participating in the
10 stipend program may receive professional development hours for
11 completing cooperating teacher training that count toward the
12 eligible cooperating teacher's license renewal or the
13 equivalent for early childhood education. The State Board of
14 Education shall provide guidance for the development and
15 implementation of evidence-based cooperating teacher training
16 for an eligible cooperating teacher that aligns with training
17 for instructional coaches, covers basic responsibilities of a
18 cooperating teacher, includes evidence-based practices in
19 supporting student teachers in school or early childhood
20 settings, and includes the effective assessment of student
21 teachers that aligns with State educator performance
22 evaluation requirements or the equivalent for early childhood
23 education.

24 (l) Subject to available appropriations, the Board shall
25 issue a report evaluating the impact of the stipend program on
26 educator preparation programs, including enrollment and

1 completion rates, hiring rates, and retention rates. The Board
2 shall issue this report in collaboration with the State Board
3 of Education. The Board shall submit this report to the
4 General Assembly and Governor on or before June 30, 2028.

5 (m) The Board shall adopt rules regarding the
6 administration of the stipend program.

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
8 becoming law.