

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 22-0087.02 Alana Rosen x2606

HOUSE BILL 22-1220

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING REMOVING BARRIERS IN EDUCATOR PREPARATION TO**
102 **SUPPORT EDUCATOR CANDIDATES ENTERING THE EDUCATOR**
103 **WORKFORCE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**
104 **APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill creates the student educator stipend program. The purpose of the student educator stipend program is to award stipend money to an eligible student to reduce the financial barriers of participating in required

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 22, 2022

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 21, 2022

clinical practice as a student educator. An eligible student placed as a student educator in a 16-week academic residency may receive a stipend of \$11,000, and an eligible student placed as a student educator in a 32-week academic residency may receive a stipend of \$22,000.

The bill also creates the educator test stipend program. The purpose of the educator test stipend program is to award stipend money to approved programs of preparation to reduce financial barriers for eligible students preparing for the assessment of professional competencies for licensure and each required endorsement area. The approved program of preparation shall distribute the stipend money to an eligible student to pay the fees and costs associated with the assessment of professional competencies, which may include travel and lodging costs.

The bill requires the department of education (department), in collaboration with the department of higher education and institutions of higher education, to create a multiple measures approach to measure the professional competencies of an applicant for an initial teacher license, in addition to the assessments currently approved by the state board of education.

Current law allows the department to issue a temporary educator eligibility authorization to a person enrolled in an approved program of preparation for a special education educator license who has not yet met the requirements for the applicable initial educator license. The bill allows the department to issue a temporary educator eligibility authorization to a person enrolled in an approved alternative teacher preparation program who has not yet met the requirements for the applicable initial educator license.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*
2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:
4 (a) Every student in Colorado deserves a high-quality educator;
5 (b) Colorado's educator shortage was dire before the COVID-19
6 pandemic, but now, it is a crisis plaguing our public education system.
7 According to Colorado's *Educator Shortage Survey (2020-21)*, local
8 education agencies had 6,910 vacant educator positions from among the
9 55,541 educator positions in the state at the beginning of the 2020-21
10 school year. The vacant educator positions represented 12.44% of the

1 Colorado educator workforce.

2 (c) Of the total teaching positions to hire, 235 remained unfilled
3 for the entire 2020-21 academic year, and 893 were filled through a
4 shortage mechanism, such as hiring long-term substitutes and retired
5 educators;

6 (d) Shortages in core subject areas, such as early childhood,
7 mathematics, special education, and world languages, are evident
8 statewide;

9 (e) According to Colorado's *Talent Pipeline Report (2021)*, there
10 is also a critical shortage of school counselors in the workforce despite an
11 exacerbated behavioral health crisis in Colorado;

12 (f) School counselors provide critical social, emotional, and
13 academic supports to students. School counselors play a significant role
14 in increasing positive academic outcomes, improving attendance,
15 reducing disciplinary incidents, and increasing graduation rates. School
16 counselors also generate awareness about student depression and suicide.

17 (g) Educator candidates who are entering the field do so by
18 enrolling in approved programs of preparation. Part of the educator
19 candidate experience is to participate in clinical experiences in schools,
20 which provides educator candidates with valuable experience, while at the
21 same time providing valuable services to the schools in which they teach.

22 (h) Research suggests that clinical experiences provide greater
23 gender and racial diversity in the educator workforce;

24 (i) Many educator candidates, however, struggle financially
25 during their required clinical experience in schools because educator
26 candidates work without pay, creating financial barriers that could delay
27 completion of their degrees or result in higher student loan or consumer

1 debt;

2 (j) Research also suggests that a performance-based assessment
3 approach allows educator candidates to demonstrate competency through
4 rigorous, but authentic, performance assessments and can help increase
5 diversity in the educator workforce; ■

6 (k) Competency-based evaluations apply a performance-based,
7 subject-specific assessment and support system that is used by educator
8 preparation programs throughout the United States to emphasize,
9 measure, and support the skills and knowledge that high-quality educators
10 need in the classroom. By requiring aspiring educators to prepare a
11 comprehensive portfolio of materials during their academic residency,
12 competency-based assessments allow aspiring educators to demonstrate
13 readiness to teach with lesson plans that support students' strengths and
14 needs; engage students in ambitious learning; analyze whether students
15 are learning; and adjust instruction to become more efficient; and

16 (l) While the COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted the
17 number of educators entering the educator workforce, the temporary
18 educator loan forgiveness program allows educators whose loans are
19 forgiven the flexibility and peace of mind to enter the educator workforce.

20 (2) (a) The general assembly finds, therefore, that barriers must be
21 reduced for educator candidates who demonstrate a commitment to enter
22 the educator workforce. Providing financial assistance to an educator
23 candidate as the educator candidate participates in required clinical
24 experience and enters the assessment of professional competencies
25 preparation phase of the educator preparation program allows the
26 educator candidate to focus on entering the educator workforce.
27 Additionally, using multiple methods to measure and assess professional

1 competencies may be a viable option available to educator candidates.

2 (b) The COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted the educator
3 workforce, causing a severe shortage of educators and a number of vacant
4 educator positions. The expenditures for the educator programs and
5 services to support educators entering the workforce are considered
6 allowable uses under the "American Rescue Plan Act of 2021", Pub.L.
7 117-2, and are necessary to respond to the negative impacts of the
8 COVID-19 public health emergency.

9 (c) The general assembly further declares that the funding for
10 educator programs and services to support educators entering the
11 workforce described in this act are important government services.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 3 to article
13 3.9 of title 23 as follows:

14 PART 3

15 EDUCATOR PREPARATION

16 STIPEND PROGRAMS

17 **23-3.9-301. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 3, UNLESS THE
18 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

19 (1) "ACADEMIC RESIDENCY" MEANS A SIXTEEN-WEEK OR A
20 THIRTY-TWO-WEEK INTENTIONAL CLINICAL EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENT
21 EDUCATORS WHO ARE PLACED IN A SCHOOL- OR COMMUNITY-BASED
22 SETTING.

23 (2) "APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION" MEANS AN APPROVED
24 EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-1-121
25 (1)(a), INCLUDING A PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS,
26 OR AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
27 22-60.5-102 (5).

1 (3) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON
2 HIGHER EDUCATION CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 1 OF
3 THIS TITLE 23.

4 (4) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER
5 EDUCATION CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-114.

6 (5) "EDUCATOR" MEANS A TEACHER OR A SCHOOL COUNSELOR.

7 (6) "EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM" MEANS THE EDUCATOR
8 TEST STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-3.9-303.

9 (7) "ELIGIBLE STUDENT" MEANS A STUDENT WHO IS:

10 (a) ENROLLED IN AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION; AND

11 (b) ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BECAUSE THE STUDENT'S
12 EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION DOES NOT EXCEED TWO HUNDRED
13 PERCENT OF THE MAXIMUM FEDERAL PELL-ELIGIBLE EXPECTED FAMILY
14 CONTRIBUTION.

15 (8) "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION" MEANS A PUBLIC
16 POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION AUTHORIZED BY THE COMMISSION TO OFFER
17 APPROVED PROGRAMS OF PREPARATION.

18 (9) "SCHOOL COUNSELOR" MEANS A PERSON WHO HOLDS A SPECIAL
19 SERVICES PROVIDER LICENSE WITH A SCHOOL COUNSELOR ENDORSEMENT
20 ISSUED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22 OR WHO IS OTHERWISE
21 ENDORSED OR ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE
22 SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES.

23 (10) "STUDENT EDUCATOR" MEANS AN EDUCATOR CANDIDATE
24 WHO IS PARTICIPATING IN AN ACADEMIC RESIDENCY AND PLACED IN A
25 SCHOOL- OR COMMUNITY-BASED SETTING.

26 (11) "STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM" MEANS THE
27 STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-3.9-302.

1 (12) "TEACHER" MEANS A PERSON EMPLOYED TO INSTRUCT
2 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE.

3 **23-3.9-302. Student educator stipend program - created -**
4 **guidelines - definition.** (1) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT
5 THE STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS
6 SECTION AS THE "STIPEND PROGRAM". THE PURPOSE OF THE STIPEND
7 PROGRAM IS TO AWARD STIPEND MONEY TO AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT TO
8 REDUCE THE FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO ENTERING THE EDUCATOR
9 WORKFORCE WHILE THE STUDENT IS A STUDENT EDUCATOR.

10 (b) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT ANY NECESSARY POLICIES AND
11 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT ANY NECESSARY GUIDELINES TO
12 IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE STIPEND PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT
13 SHALL COLLECT DATA TO MEASURE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STIPEND
14 PROGRAM, WHICH DATA MUST INCLUDE, BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO:

15 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS SERVED BY EACH
16 APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION;

17 (II) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF STIPEND MONEY EACH ELIGIBLE
18 STUDENT RECEIVES EACH YEAR;

19 (III) A SURVEY OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS TO MEASURE THE ELIGIBLE
20 STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE WITH THE STIPEND PROGRAM;

21 (IV) THE DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT
22 AGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, AND GENDER;

23 (V) THE REPORTED NUMBER OF HOURS EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT
24 WORKS A SECOND JOB TO EARN INCOME;

25 (VI) A COMPARISON OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS' FINANCIAL BURDENS
26 WITH THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF FINANCIAL BURDENS IMPOSED ON
27 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN TEACHER AND COUNSELOR PREPARATION

1 PROGRAMS; AND

2 (VII) THE DATA CORRELATION BETWEEN ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO
3 RECEIVE STIPENDS THROUGH THE STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM
4 AND THE SUBSEQUENT PLACEMENT AND RETENTION OF THOSE ELIGIBLE
5 STUDENTS AS EDUCATORS, TO THE EXTENT THE DATA IS AVAILABLE.

6 (2) (a) TO QUALIFY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STIPEND PROGRAM, A
7 STUDENT MUST BE AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT AND PLACED AS A STUDENT
8 EDUCATOR. NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2022, AND NO LATER THAN JULY 1
9 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION
10 SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO
11 QUALIFY FOR THE STIPEND PROGRAM.

12 (b) (I) NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2022, AND NO LATER THAN
13 AUGUST 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT, SUBJECT TO
14 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL DISBURSE TO EACH APPROVED
15 PROGRAM OF PREPARATION MONEY TO DISTRIBUTE AS STIPEND MONEY TO
16 EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT, PLUS ADDITIONAL MONEY TO PAY THE DIRECT
17 COSTS OF OPERATING THE STIPEND PROGRAM. THE APPROVED PROGRAM
18 OF PREPARATION SHALL DISTRIBUTE STIPEND MONEY, USING THE
19 STANDARD METHODS FOR ALLOCATING STATE-BASED FINANCIAL AID OR
20 AS WAGES FOR EMPLOYMENT, TO EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT IN MONTHLY
21 INSTALLMENTS.

22 (II) AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT PLACED AS A STUDENT EDUCATOR IN A
23 SIXTEEN-WEEK ACADEMIC RESIDENCY MAY RECEIVE A STIPEND OF ELEVEN
24 THOUSAND DOLLARS, AND AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT PLACED AS A STUDENT
25 EDUCATOR IN A THIRTY-TWO-WEEK ACADEMIC RESIDENCY MAY RECEIVE
26 A STIPEND OF TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS.

27 (III) THE STIPEND AMOUNTS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (2)(b)(II)

1 OF THIS SECTION MUST BE ANNUALLY ADJUSTED BY THE RATE OF
2 INFLATION. THE AMOUNTS MUST BE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST DOLLAR.
3 AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b)(III), "INFLATION" MEANS THE ANNUAL
4 PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
5 BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR
6 DENVER-AURORA-LAKEWOOD FOR ALL ITEMS PAID BY ALL URBAN
7 CONSUMERS, OR ITS APPLICABLE SUCCESSOR INDEX.

8 (IV) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTIONS
9 (2)(b)(II) AND (2)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION, IF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED
10 IN A STATE FISCAL YEAR IS INSUFFICIENT TO FULLY FUND STIPENDS FOR
11 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS FOR THAT STATE FISCAL YEAR,
12 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REDUCE THE AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED TO EACH
13 APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION BY THE SAME PERCENTAGE THAT
14 THE DEFICIT BEARS TO THE AMOUNT REQUIRED TO FULLY FUND THE TOTAL
15 NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR THE STIPEND
16 PROGRAM. EACH APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION SHALL REDUCE
17 THE STIPEND AMOUNTS DISTRIBUTED TO EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT IN
18 PROPORTION TO THE DEFICIT.

19 (3) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE
20 MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION, INCLUDING
21 MONEY TO PAY THE COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING AND ADMINISTERING THE
22 STIPEND PROGRAM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE DIRECT COSTS INCURRED BY
23 THE APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION IN OPERATING THE STIPEND
24 PROGRAM.

25 (4) (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL
26 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT THIRTY-NINE
27 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH

1 FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-75-228 TO FUND STIPENDS FOR
2 ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.

3 (b) THE DEPARTMENT OR THE STIPEND RECIPIENTS SHALL SPEND
4 OR OBLIGATE ANY MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (4)
5 BY DECEMBER 30, 2024. ANY MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 31, 2024
6 MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

7 (c) THE DEPARTMENT AND ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES MONEY
8 FROM THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING EACH STIPEND RECIPIENT, SHALL
9 COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE, REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND
10 PROGRAM EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF
11 STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN
12 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (5).

13 (d) THIS SUBSECTION (4) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 31,
14 2027.

15 **23-3.9-303. Educator test stipend program - created -**
16 **guidelines.** (1) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE
17 EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE
18 "STIPEND PROGRAM". THE PURPOSE OF THE STIPEND PROGRAM IS TO
19 AWARD STIPEND MONEY TO AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION TO
20 REDUCE FINANCIAL BARRIERS FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS BY PAYING THE
21 FEES AND COSTS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE TRAVEL AND LODGING COSTS,
22 ASSOCIATED WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES
23 REQUIRED FOR LICENSURE AND REQUIRED ENDORSEMENTS PURSUANT TO
24 SECTIONS 22-60.5-203 AND 22-60.5-212.

25 (b) (I) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT ANY NECESSARY POLICIES
26 AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT ANY NECESSARY GUIDELINES TO
27 IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE STIPEND PROGRAM.

1 (II) IN ITS ADOPTION OF ANY NECESSARY POLICIES PURSUANT TO
2 SUBSECTION (1)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL CREATE
3 A FORMULA FOR CALCULATING THE AMOUNT OF STIPEND MONEY
4 AWARDED TO EACH APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION BASED ON THE
5 TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS IN AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF
6 PREPARATION AND THE AMOUNT REQUIRED TO PAY THE FEES AND COSTS
7 ASSOCIATED WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES FOR
8 LICENSURE AND THE REQUIRED ENDORSEMENT FOR EACH ELIGIBLE
9 STUDENT.

10 (c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT DATA TO MEASURE THE
11 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STIPEND PROGRAM, WHICH DATA INCLUDES, BUT
12 NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO:

13 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS SERVED BY EACH
14 APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION;

15 (II) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF STIPEND MONEY EACH ELIGIBLE
16 STUDENT RECEIVES EACH YEAR;

17 (III) A SURVEY OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS TO MEASURE THE ELIGIBLE
18 STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE WITH THE STIPEND PROGRAM;

19 (IV) THE DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT
20 AGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, AND GENDER;

21 (V) THE REPORTED NUMBER OF HOURS EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT
22 WORKS A SECOND JOB TO EARN INCOME;

23 (VI) A COMPARISON OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS' FINANCIAL BURDENS
24 WITH THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF FINANCIAL BURDENS IMPOSED ON
25 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN TEACHER AND COUNSELOR PREPARATION
26 PROGRAMS; AND

27 (VII) THE DATA CORRELATION BETWEEN THE ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

1 WHO RECEIVE STIPEND MONEY THROUGH THE EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND
2 PROGRAM AND THE SUBSEQUENT PLACEMENT AND RETENTION OF THOSE
3 ELIGIBLE STUDENTS AS EDUCATORS, TO THE EXTENT THE DATA IS
4 AVAILABLE.

5 (2) (a) TO QUALIFY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STIPEND PROGRAM, A
6 STUDENT MUST BE AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT. NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2022,
7 AND NO LATER THAN JULY 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH APPROVED
8 PROGRAM OF PREPARATION SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
9 NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR THE STIPEND
10 PROGRAM.

11 (b) (I) NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2022, AND NO LATER THAN
12 AUGUST 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT, SUBJECT TO
13 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL DISBURSE TO EACH APPROVED
14 PROGRAM OF PREPARATION STIPEND MONEY, PLUS ADDITIONAL MONEY TO
15 PAY THE DIRECT COSTS OF OPERATING THE STIPEND PROGRAM. THE
16 APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE STIPEND
17 MONEY TO EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT TO PAY THE FEES AND COSTS
18 ASSOCIATED WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES FOR
19 LICENSURE AND THE REQUIRED ENDORSEMENT.

20 (II) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2)(b)(I)
21 OF THIS SECTION, IF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED IS INSUFFICIENT TO FULLY
22 FUND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS, THE APPROVED
23 PROGRAM OF PREPARATION SHALL REDUCE THE STIPEND AMOUNTS PAID TO
24 EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT IN PROPORTION TO THE DEFICIT.

25 (c) THE APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION SHALL DETERMINE
26 THE NUMBER OF TIMES AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT MAY BE REIMBURSED IF THE
27 STUDENT MUST RETAKE THE ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL

1 COMPETENCIES.

2 (3) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE
3 MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION, INCLUDING
4 MONEY TO PAY THE COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING AND ADMINISTERING THE
5 STIPEND PROGRAM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE DIRECT COSTS INCURRED BY
6 APPROVED PROGRAMS OF PREPARATION IN OPERATING THE STIPEND
7 PROGRAM.

8 (4) (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT THREE MILLION
10 DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND
11 CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-75-228 TO FUND STIPENDS FOR
12 ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.

13 (b) THE DEPARTMENT OR THE STIPEND RECIPIENT SHALL SPEND OR
14 OBLIGATE ANY STIPEND MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION
15 (4) BY DECEMBER 30, 2024. ANY MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 31,
16 2024 MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

17 (c) THE DEPARTMENT AND ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES MONEY
18 FROM THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING EACH STIPEND RECIPIENT, SHALL
19 COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE, REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND
20 PROGRAM EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF
21 STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN
22 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (5).

23 (d) THIS SUBSECTION (4) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 31,
24 2027.

25 **23-3.9-304. Reporting requirements.** (1) THE DEPARTMENT
26 SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING DATA CONCERNING THE STUDENT
27 EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM AND THE EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND

1 PROGRAM IN THE ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED IN SECTION 23-1-121 (6)(a):

2 (a) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS RECEIVING STIPEND
3 MONEY FOR THE STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM IN THE
4 PRECEDING STATE FISCAL YEAR;

5 (b) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPROVED PROGRAMS OF PREPARATION
6 AND ELIGIBLE STUDENTS RECEIVING STIPEND MONEY FOR THE EDUCATOR
7 TEST STIPEND PROGRAM IN THE PRECEDING STATE FISCAL YEAR;

8 (c) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS, DISAGGREGATED
9 BY RACE, ETHNICITY, AND GENDER, PARTICIPATING IN THE STUDENT
10 EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM AND EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM;

11 (d) THE DATA CORRELATION BETWEEN THE ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
12 WHO RECEIVE STIPENDS THROUGH THE STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND
13 PROGRAM AND EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM AND THE SUBSEQUENT
14 PLACEMENT AND RETENTION OF THOSE ELIGIBLE STUDENTS AS
15 EDUCATORS, TO THE EXTENT THE DATA IS AVAILABLE;

16 (e) THE NAME OF THE APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION
17 WHERE EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT IS ENROLLED;

18 (f) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF STIPEND MONEY AWARDED TO EACH
19 APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION;

20 (g) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF STIPEND MONEY AWARDED TO EACH
21 ELIGIBLE STUDENT FOR THE STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM IN THE
22 PRECEDING STATE FISCAL YEAR;

23 (h) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF STIPEND MONEY AWARDED TO EACH
24 ELIGIBLE STUDENT FOR THE EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM IN THE
25 PRECEDING STATE FISCAL YEAR;

26 (i) A SUMMARY OF DATA COLLECTED FROM THE ELIGIBLE
27 STUDENTS AND THE APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION CONCERNING

1 THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EACH STIPEND PROGRAM, AS DESCRIBED IN
2 SECTIONS 23-3.9-302 (1)(b) AND 23-3.9-303 (1)(c);

3 (j) FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 23-3.9-302, THE NAME OF THE
4 SCHOOL- OR COMMUNITY-BASED SETTING WHERE EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT
5 IS COMPLETING THE ELIGIBLE STUDENT'S ACADEMIC RESIDENCY;

6 (k) FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 23-3.9-303, THE TOTAL
7 NUMBER OF TIMES EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT SITS FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF
8 PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS
9 22-60.5-203 AND 22-60.5-212;

10 (l) FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 23-3.9-303, THE ASSESSMENT
11 PASSAGE RATE FOR EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT WHO SITS FOR THE
12 ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO
13 SECTIONS 22-60.5-203 AND 22-60.5-212;

14 (m) FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 23-3.9-303, THE DEMOGRAPHIC
15 DATA OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS, DISAGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, AND
16 GENDER, WHO SIT FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES
17 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 22-60.5-203 AND 22-60.5-212;

18 (n) FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 23-3.9-303, THE ASSESSMENT
19 PASSAGE RATE FOR EACH APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION; AND

20 (o) RECOMMENDATIONS, IF ANY, FOR LEGISLATIVE OR
21 REGULATORY CHANGES TO FACILITATE THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION
22 OF THE STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM AND THE EDUCATOR TEST
23 STIPEND PROGRAM.

24 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I) TO THE
25 CONTRARY, THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1)
26 OF THIS SECTION CONTINUE INDEFINITELY.

27 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 4 to article

1 3.9 of title 23 as follows:

2

PART 4

3

TEMPORARY EDUCATOR LOAN

4

FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

5

23-3.9-401. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS PART 4, UNLESS THE

6

CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7

(1) "APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION" MEANS A PROGRAM

8

OF STUDY FOR PREPARATION THAT IS APPROVED BY THE COLORADO

9

COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-121,

10

INCLUDING A PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS OR AN

11

ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102

12

(5), AND THAT UPON COMPLETION LEADS TO A RECOMMENDATION FOR

13

LICENSURE BY AN ACCEPTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS

14

DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102 (1).

15

(2) "AT-RISK PUPILS" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN

16

SECTION 22-54-103 (1.5)(a)(VI).

17

(3) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON

18

HIGHER EDUCATION.

19

(4) "EDUCATOR" MEANS A TEACHER OR SCHOOL COUNSELOR.

20

(5) "FACILITY SCHOOL" MEANS AN APPROVED FACILITY SCHOOL,

21

AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-2-402 (1).

22

(6) "QUALIFIED LOAN" MEANS AN EDUCATIONAL LOAN INCURRED

23

WHILE COMPLETING A PROGRAM OF PREPARATION, INCLUDING AN

24

ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVED PURSUANT TO

25

ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22, THAT LEADS TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE

26

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22, OR A BACHELOR'S OR MASTER'S

27

DEGREE IN THE AREA IN WHICH THE EDUCATOR IS EMPLOYED IN A

1 QUALIFIED POSITION.

2 (7) "QUALIFIED POSITION" MEANS:

3 (a) A HARD-TO-STAFF EDUCATOR POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL OR
4 RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR IN A FACILITY SCHOOL THAT IS IN A RURAL
5 SCHOOL DISTRICT, IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
6 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6); OR

7 (b) A HARD-TO-STAFF EDUCATOR POSITION IN A CONTENT
8 SHORTAGE AREA IDENTIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6) IN A
9 COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL, A SCHOOL OPERATED BY A BOARD OF
10 COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22, OR
11 A FACILITY SCHOOL.

12 (8) "RURAL SCHOOL" OR "RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A
13 PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
14 EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6).

15 (9) "SCHOOL" OR "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT
16 SERVES ANY OF GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE AND THAT
17 DERIVES ITS SUPPORT, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, FROM MONEY RAISED BY A
18 GENERAL STATE OR SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX. A PUBLIC SCHOOL INCLUDES A
19 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART
20 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE
21 PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, OR BY THE COLORADO
22 SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-80-102
23 (4).

24 **23-3.9-402. Temporary educator loan forgiveness program -**
25 **administration - eligibility.** (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
26 AUTHORIZES THE COMMISSION TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A TEMPORARY
27 EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE

1 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR FOR PAYMENT OF ALL OR PART OF THE
2 PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OF THE QUALIFIED LOANS OF AN EDUCATOR WHO
3 IS HIRED FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION. THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE
4 WHETHER A LOAN IS A QUALIFIED LOAN FOR PURPOSES OF THE TEMPORARY
5 EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM. THE COMMISSION SHALL
6 DEVELOP LOAN REPAYMENT POLICIES THAT ENSURE THE MONEY IS USED
7 FOR THE REPAYMENT OF QUALIFIED LOANS OF EDUCATORS EMPLOYED IN
8 QUALIFIED POSITIONS.

9 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE
10 COMMISSION TEN MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND
11 RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-75-228 TO FUND
12 THE TEMPORARY EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM. THE
13 COMMISSION OR A LOAN FORGIVENESS RECIPIENT SHALL SPEND OR
14 OBLIGATE ANY MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION BY
15 DECEMBER 30, 2024. ANY MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 31, 2024,
16 MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

17 (c) NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2022, THE COMMISSION SHALL
18 APPROVE APPLICATIONS. IF MORE NEW PARTICIPANTS APPLY THAN CAN BE
19 APPROVED BASED ON THE MONEY AVAILABLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL:

20 (I) FIRST, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR A
21 QUALIFIED POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR RURAL SCHOOL
22 WHOSE PERCENTAGE OF AT-RISK PUPILS EXCEEDED SIXTY PERCENT IN THE
23 2021-22 BUDGET YEAR;

24 (II) SECOND, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR
25 A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A CONTENT SHORTAGE AREA WITH A SCHOOL
26 WHOSE PERCENTAGE OF AT-RISK PUPILS EXCEEDED SIXTY PERCENT IN THE
27 2021-22 BUDGET YEAR;

1 (III) THIRD, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR A
2 QUALIFIED POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR RURAL SCHOOL; AND

3 (IV) FOURTH, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED WITH
4 A SCHOOL FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A CONTENT SHORTAGE AREA.

5 (2) IN ADDITION TO ANY QUALIFICATIONS THE COMMISSION
6 SPECIFIES, TO QUALIFY FOR THE TEMPORARY EDUCATOR LOAN
7 FORGIVENESS PROGRAM, AN EDUCATOR MUST:

8 (a) GRADUATE FROM A PROGRAM OF PREPARATION THAT LEADS TO
9 EDUCATOR LICENSURE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22;

10 (b) MEET LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION
11 22-60.5-201 (1)(a) OR (1)(b) OR 22-60.5-210 (1)(a);

12 (c) ENTER THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE ON OR AFTER THE 2019-20
13 STATE FISCAL YEAR AND CONTRACT FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION NO LATER
14 THAN THE END OF THE 2021-22 STATE FISCAL YEAR; AND

15 (d) BE LIABLE FOR AN OUTSTANDING BALANCE ON A QUALIFIED
16 LOAN.

17 (3) AN EDUCATOR WHO HAS RECEIVED MONEY FROM THE
18 EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
19 23-3.9-102, STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
20 23-3.9-302, OR EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
21 23-3.9-303 IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR LOAN FORGIVENESS MONEY PURSUANT TO
22 THIS PART 4.

23 (4) AN EDUCATOR WHO QUALIFIES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)
24 OF THIS SECTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN LOAN
25 FORGIVENESS.

26 **23-3.9-403. Reporting.** THE COMMISSION, AND ANY PERSON WHO
27 RECEIVES MONEY FROM THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING EACH LOAN

1 FORGIVENESS RECIPIENT, SHALL COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE,
2 REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
3 REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND
4 BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION
5 24-75-226 (5).

6 **23-3.9-404. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 4 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE
7 JANUARY 31, 2027.

8 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-111, **amend**
9 (7) as follows:

10 **22-60.5-111. Authorization - types - applicants' qualifications**
11 **- rules. (7) Interim authorization.** (a) An interim authorization
12 authorizes a school district to employ a person who is:

13 (I) Certified or licensed, or is eligible for certification or
14 licensure, as a teacher, principal, or administrator in another state and
15 who has not successfully completed the assessment of professional
16 competencies to obtain an initial license under section 22-60.5-201 (1)(b),
17 22-60.5-301 (1)(a), or 22-60.5-306 (1)(a) but who meets the other
18 requirements for an initial license specified in said sections; OR

19 (II) SEEKING AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER LICENSE PURSUANT TO
20 SECTION 22-60.5-201 (1)(a) AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN
21 ALTERNATIVE TEACHER LICENSE, EXCEPT THAT THE PERSON HAS NOT
22 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
23 COMPETENCIES TO OBTAIN AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER LICENSE.

24 (b) An interim authorization is valid for one year, and the
25 department of education may renew the authorization for one additional
26 year. The employing school district may include the period during which
27 a person works under an interim authorization toward the three full years

1 of continuous employment necessary to cease being a probationary
2 teacher pursuant to section 22-63-103 (7).

3 (b) (c) A school district that employs a person who holds an
4 interim authorization may provide an induction program for the person,
5 as described in section 22-60.5-204, 22-60.5-304, or 22-60.5-309,
6 whichever is applicable. If the person successfully completes the
7 induction program while employed under the interim authorization, the
8 person may apply completion of the induction program toward meeting
9 the requirements for a professional educator license.

10 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-203, **amend**
11 (4), (6) introductory portion, (6)(a), and (6)(b)(II); and **repeal and**
12 **reenact, with amendments,** (3) as follows:

13 **22-60.5-203. Assessment of professional competencies -**
14 **multiple measures to assess professional competencies - rules.**

15 (3) (a) BEGINNING IN THE 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR, APPLICANTS FOR
16 INITIAL TEACHER LICENSES, AND APPLICANTS FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHER
17 LICENSES WHO DID NOT DEMONSTRATE PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES
18 PRIOR TO OBTAINING AN INITIAL TEACHER LICENSE, MAY DEMONSTRATE
19 PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES BY:

20 (I) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING AN APPROVED CONTENT-BASED OR
21 PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENT;

22 (II) SUBMITTING A PORTFOLIO OF COURSE WORK FOR EXAMINATION
23 BY A REVIEW PANEL;

24 (III) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING AN EXAMINATION BY A REVIEW
25 PANEL OF AN APPROVED PORTFOLIO OF COURSE WORK; OR

26 (IV) A COMBINATION OF THE METHODS DESCRIBED IN
27 SUBSECTIONS (3)(a)(I), (3)(a)(II), AND (3)(a)(III) OF THIS SECTION.

1 (b) UP TO FIFTEEN PERCENT OF APPLICANTS FOR AN INITIAL
2 TEACHER LICENSE MAY USE THE PORTFOLIO OF COURSE WORK PATHWAY
3 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

4 (c) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT
5 OF HIGHER EDUCATION, INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS DEFINED
6 IN SECTION 23-3.9-301 (8), THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES
7 AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION CREATED IN SECTION 23-60-104, AND
8 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE STATE BOARD OF
9 EDUCATION STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE
10 MULTIPLE MEASURES OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES SET FORTH IN
11 SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION. RECOMMENDATIONS MAY INCLUDE
12 A DEFINITION OF "SUFFICIENTLY HIGH EDUCATION COURSE WORK GRADES"
13 AND THE PROCESS FOR A REVIEW PANEL TO EXAMINE A PORTFOLIO OF
14 COURSE WORK. IN RECOMMENDING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO THE
15 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER
16 FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS IN THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY.

17 (d) THE DEPARTMENT MAY RECOMMEND TO THE STATE BOARD OF
18 EDUCATION EXISTING PROGRAMS, RESOURCES, AND MATERIALS THAT ARE
19 AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
20 MULTIPLE MEASURES OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES SET FORTH IN
21 SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

22 (e) THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL PROMULGATE RULES
23 TO ESTABLISH THE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO MEASURE
24 PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES THROUGH THE MULTIPLE MEASURES SET
25 FORTH IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

26 (f) BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2025, AND IN JANUARY EVERY YEAR
27 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE AS PART OF ITS "STATE

1 MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT
2 (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203
3 INFORMATION CONCERNING:

4 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PANELISTS HIRED TO SIT ON A REVIEW
5 PANEL TO EXAMINE PORTFOLIOS OF COURSE WORK;

6 (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS THE REVIEW PANEL REVIEWS
7 EDUCATOR PORTFOLIOS;

8 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO SUBMIT
9 A PORTFOLIO OF COURSE WORK FOR EXAMINATION BY THE REVIEW PANEL;

10 (IV) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO SUBMIT
11 EVIDENCE OF ACHIEVING SUFFICIENTLY HIGH EDUCATION COURSE WORK
12 GRADES ON COURSE WORK ALIGNED WITH RELEVANT STANDARDS;

13 (V) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO
14 COMPLETE AN APPROVED CONTENT-BASED ASSESSMENT;

15 (VI) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO
16 COMPLETE AN APPROVED PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENT; AND

17 (VII) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO
18 DEMONSTRATE PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES BY A COMBINATION OF THE
19 METHODS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

20 (g) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION (3) DO NOT AFFECT THE
21 TEACHER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 22-7-1208 (6).

22 (4) The state board of education shall annually review the
23 ~~assessment~~ program FOR MEASURING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES
24 developed pursuant to ~~subsection (3)~~ SUBSECTION (3)(a) of this section to
25 assure the appropriateness of the assessments and the standards
26 established to determine a satisfactory level of proficiency.

27 (6) For purposes of establishing minimum competency in a

1 licensure endorsement area, the state board of education shall establish
2 minimum course work standards that align with the content standards
3 established by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109
4 (3). ATTAINMENT OF THE minimum course work standards may be shown
5 in one of the following ways:

6 (a) For EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, EARLY CHILDHOOD
7 SPECIAL EDUCATION, AND elementary teachers, including special
8 education generalist teachers, ~~passage of the elementary content test~~
9 DEMONSTRATION OF COMPETENCIES USING THE MULTIPLE MEASURES SET
10 FORTH IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION;

11 (b) For secondary teachers:

12 (II) ~~Passage of a content test in the endorsement area~~
13 DEMONSTRATION OF COMPETENCIES USING THE MULTIPLE MEASURES SET
14 FORTH IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION; or

15 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-102, **amend**
16 (4), (5), and (6) as follows:

17 **22-60.5-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 60.5, unless the
18 context otherwise requires:

19 (4) "Alternative teacher contract" means a contract, as described
20 in section 22-60.5-207, entered into for an alternative teacher position by
21 a ~~holder of~~ PERSON WHO HOLDS an alternative teacher license pursuant to
22 section 22-60.5-201 (1)(a), OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO
23 SECTION 22-60.5-111 (7), and a school district, board of cooperative
24 services, or nonpublic school that provides, or charter school that
25 provides or participates in, a one-year or two-year alternative teacher
26 program.

27 (5) "Alternative teacher program" means a one-year or two-year

1 program of study and training for teacher preparation, as described in
2 section 22-60.5-205, for a person of demonstrated knowledge and ability
3 who holds an alternative teacher license pursuant to section 22-60.5-201
4 (1)(a), OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTION
5 22-60.5-111 (7). An "alternative teacher program" shall MUST meet the
6 standards of and obtain the approval of the state board of education and,
7 upon completion, lead to a recommendation for licensure by the
8 designated agency providing the alternative teacher program.

9 (6) "Alternative teacher support team" means a team established
10 by the designated agency for each holder of an alternative teacher license,
11 OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-111 (7),
12 employed as an alternative teacher. At a minimum, each alternative
13 teacher support team shall be composed of the alternative teacher's
14 mentor teacher and the principal and a representative of an accepted
15 institution of higher education.

16 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-205, **amend**
17 (2) introductory portion and (2)(d)(I) as follows:

18 **22-60.5-205. One-year and two-year alternative teacher**
19 **programs - legislative declaration - standards and evaluation - duties**
20 **of department - duties of the state board of education - fees.**

21 (2) Designated agencies are hereby authorized to implement one-year
22 alternative teacher programs or two-year alternative teacher programs,
23 which two-year programs were formerly known as teacher in residence
24 programs, as follows:

25 (d) (I) A person employed as an alternative teacher shall MUST
26 hold an alternative teacher license issued pursuant to section 22-60.5-201
27 (1)(a), OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTION

1 22-60.5-111 (7). Except as otherwise provided in ~~subparagraph (H) of this~~
2 ~~paragraph (d)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(d)(II) OF THIS SECTION and section
3 22-60.5-207 (2), a person may be employed as an alternative teacher for
4 a total of two years. A person employed as an alternative teacher ~~shall~~
5 MUST meet the content-area education requirements specified by rule of
6 the state board of education.

7 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-206, **amend**
8 (1), (2)(e), and (3) as follows:

9 **22-60.5-206. Alternative teacher support teams - duties -**
10 **advisory councils.** (1) The designated agency shall establish an
11 alternative teacher support team for each ~~holder of~~ PERSON WHO HOLDS
12 an alternative teacher license, ~~OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT~~
13 ~~TO SECTION 22-60.5-111 (7)~~, WHO IS employed as an alternative teacher
14 through an alternative teacher program. At a minimum, each alternative
15 teacher support team must include an alternative teacher's mentor teacher
16 and the principal and a representative of an accepted institution of higher
17 education, if applicable.

18 (2) The alternative teacher support team shall:

19 (e) Make a recommendation to the school district that employs an
20 alternative teacher concerning ~~his or her~~ THE ALTERNATIVE TEACHER'S
21 eligibility to receive an initial teacher license or whether ~~he or she~~ THE
22 ALTERNATIVE TEACHER is unable to complete the one-year alternative
23 teacher program due to unforeseen circumstances, but should apply for an
24 extension of the alternative teacher license, ~~OR AN INTERIM~~
25 ~~AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-111 (7)~~, with the
26 expectation that ~~he or she~~ THE ALTERNATIVE TEACHER will complete ~~his~~
27 ~~or her~~ THE program within one additional year.

1 (3) As a member of an alternative teacher support team, the
2 mentor teacher has primary responsibility for representing the faculty and
3 parents in evaluating and making recommendations regarding the
4 issuance of an initial teacher license to an alternative teacher or renewal
5 of an alternative teacher license, OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION
6 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-111 (7), for one additional year. In
7 recognition of the significant duties and responsibilities of mentor
8 teachers, the designating school district shall make appropriate provisions
9 as are necessary to ensure the proper discharge of the duties and
10 responsibilities by the mentor teacher.

11 **SECTION 9. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2022-23 state fiscal
12 year, \$720,612 is appropriated to the department of education. This
13 appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this act, the
14 department may use this appropriation as follows:

15 (a) \$689,737 for the office of professional services, which amount
16 is based on an assumption that the department will require an additional
17 3.6 FTE; and

18 (b) \$30,875 for information technology services.

19 (2) (a) For the 2022-23 state fiscal year, \$52,000,000 is
20 appropriated to the department of higher education. This appropriation is
21 from the economic recovery and relief cash fund created in section
22 24-75-228 (2)(a), C.R.S., and is of money the state received from the
23 federal coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund. To implement this act, the
24 department may use this appropriation as follows:

25 (I) \$39,000,000 for the student educator stipend program, which
26 amount is based on an assumption that the department will require an
27 additional 0.5 FTE;

1 (II) \$3,000,000 for the educator test stipend program, which
2 amount is based on an assumption that the department will require an
3 additional 0.5 FTE; and

4 (III) \$10,000,000 for the temporary educator loan forgiveness
5 program.

6 (b) Any money appropriated in this subsection (2) not expended
7 prior to July 1, 2023, is further appropriated to the department from July
8 1, 2023, through December 30, 2024, for the same purposes.

9 **SECTION 10. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
10 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety. ■