



Legislative
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HB 19-1036

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 19-0248	Date:	January 10, 2019
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Arndt; McLachlan Sen. Todd	Bill Status:	House Education
		Fiscal Analyst:	Anna Gerstle 303-866-4375 Anna.Gerstle@state.co.us

Bill Topic: ANNUAL STIPENDS FOR CERTIFIED SCHOOL PROFESSIONALS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure (<i>minimal</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School District (<i>minimal</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill makes school psychologists eligible for a stipend program for nationally certified school professionals, and makes other clarifications to the stipend program statute. The bill increases state workload beginning in FY 2019-20.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Colorado Department of Education awards \$1,600 stipends to teachers or principals who hold a certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), and an additional \$3,200 (for a total of \$4,800) to NBPTS-certified teachers or principals working in a low-performing, high-needs school.

The bill adds school psychologists who hold a certification from the National Association of School Psychologists and meet the other program requirements to list of eligible school professionals who qualify for the stipends. The bill also corrects the name of NBPTS and clarifies that school counselors are eligible for the program, in order to align with current practice.

Background

For the 2017-18 school year, 529 educators received the \$1,600 stipend and 54 educators received the \$4,800 stipend, for a total of approximately \$1.1 million distributed.

State Expenditures

The bill increases the workload for CDE to administer the stipend program for certified school psychologists beginning in FY 2019-20. The workload impact is expected to be about \$3,125 and 0.1 FTE, with staff in the Educator Talent Division reviewing applications, verifying eligibility with school districts and distributing the stipends. This workload increase can be accomplished within current appropriations.

In addition, adding additional eligible school professionals is likely to make the program more competitive. The program was appropriated \$1.4 million for FY 2018-19. If funding is not sufficient to cover all eligible school professionals, stipends must only be awarded to those candidates who are employed in a low-performing, high-needs school, at the higher stipend level.

School District Impact

The bill increases the workload for school districts to receive the stipends from CDE and distribute them to eligible school psychologists. The increase is expected to be minimal and will vary by district.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 2, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education