
SENATE BILL 5821

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Das, Wellman, Palumbo, Hunt, Nguyen, Saldaña, Randall, Llias, Kuderer, and Wilson, C.

Read first time 02/04/19. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing equitable bonuses to K-12
2 instructional staff who attain national certification through
3 professional organizations; amending RCW 28A.405.415; and creating a
4 new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Since 2000, the Washington legislature has
7 provided a bonus for K-12 certificated instructional staff who attain
8 certification from the national board for professional teaching
9 standards. There are certain certificated instructional staff who do
10 not have an opportunity to pursue certification through the national
11 board for professional teaching standards because their field is not
12 included in that certification process. Those staff include
13 occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech language
14 pathologists, audiologists, school nurses, school social workers, and
15 school psychologists. These professionals work closely with students,
16 often providing specialized services to students who need extra help
17 to succeed. Some of these staff have pursued opportunities to attain
18 quality national certification through their professional
19 associations. The legislature intends to recognize all instructional
20 staff who pursue and attain national certification in their relevant
21 fields.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.405.415 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 5 s 4 are each
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (1) Certificated instructional staff who have attained
4 certification from the national board for professional teaching
5 standards shall receive a bonus each year in which they maintain the
6 certification. The bonus shall be calculated as follows: The annual
7 bonus shall be five thousand dollars in the 2007-08 school year.
8 Thereafter, the annual bonus shall increase by inflation, except that
9 the bonus shall not be increased during the 2013-14 and 2014-15
10 school years.

11 (2) Certificated instructional staff who have attained
12 certification from the national board for professional teaching
13 standards shall be eligible for bonuses in addition to that provided
14 by subsection (1) of this section if the individual is in an
15 instructional assignment in a school in which at least seventy
16 percent of the students qualify for the free and reduced-price lunch
17 program.

18 (3) The amount of the additional bonus under subsection (2) of
19 this section for those meeting the qualifications of subsection (2)
20 of this section is five thousand dollars.

21 (4) Certain certificated instructional staff are not eligible for
22 certification through the national board for professional teaching
23 standards, including occupational therapists, physical therapists,
24 speech language pathologists, audiologists, school nurses, school
25 social workers, and school psychologists. If these certificated
26 instructional staff attain national certification through the
27 relevant national professional associations for these fields, they
28 shall receive an equivalent bonus to those in subsection (1) of this
29 section and, if assigned to a high poverty school that meets the
30 standards in subsection (2) of this section, the additional bonus
31 amount in subsection (2) of this section.

32 (5) The bonuses provided under this section are in addition to
33 compensation received under a district's salary schedule adopted in
34 accordance with RCW 28A.405.200 and shall not be included in
35 ~~((calculations of a district's average))~~ salary and associated salary
36 limitations under RCW 28A.400.200(3).

37 ~~((+5))~~ (6) The bonuses provided under this section shall be paid
38 in a lump sum amount.

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