

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0024

National board teacher certification.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to educators; modifying national board  
2 teacher certification incentive programs; repealing obsolete  
3 provisions; and providing for an effective date.

4

5 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-7-501(a)(intro), (ii), by creating  
8 a new paragraph (iv), (c), (f)(intro), (i), (ii), (v) and by  
9 creating a new subsection (g) is amended to read:

10

11 **21-7-501. National certification program; program**  
12 **limits and requirements; appropriations requirements;**  
13 **certified teacher pay incentive reimbursement.**

14

15 (a) The ~~professional teaching standards board shall by~~  
16 ~~rule~~ department of education may enter into an agreement with

1 ~~a nonprofit entity to~~ establish a program under which ~~school~~  
2 ~~districts shall reimburse no more than fifty (50) the~~  
3 ~~department or the nonprofit entity will administer a program~~  
4 ~~to assist teachers in earning national board teacher~~  
5 ~~certification. The agreement between the department and the~~  
6 ~~nonprofit entity shall require annual reporting by the~~  
7 ~~nonprofit entity to the department. The program may provide~~  
8 ~~professional development and mentoring specific to national~~  
9 ~~board teacher certification, along with other activities~~  
10 ~~related to national certification. Additionally, on behalf of~~  
11 teachers ~~and certified or licensed service providers~~ employed  
12 by Wyoming school districts ~~the program may make payments~~  
13 ~~directly to an organization that provides national board~~  
14 ~~teacher certification for not more than fifty percent (50%)~~  
15 ~~of the actual cost of receiving fees to receive~~ national  
16 certification, ~~not to exceed the national certification fee~~  
17 ~~as~~ established by the national board for professional  
18 teaching standards. ~~for the applicable year certification was~~  
19 ~~received, provided~~ The program shall only make payments if:

20

21 (ii) The teacher ~~or service provider, as~~  
22 ~~applicable, was successful in receiving his national~~  
23 ~~certification~~ timely pays the teacher's portion of the

1 certification fees and timely completes progress toward  
2 certification as required by the program; and

3  
4 (iv) The teacher agrees to reimburse the program  
5 for any certification fee payments the program makes on behalf  
6 of the teacher in the event the teacher fails to formally  
7 withdraw from the process or to submit an entry that can be  
8 scored, as determined by the program.

9  
10 (c) ~~A school district~~ The legislature may ~~apply for an~~  
11 ~~innovative program grant under W.S. 21-22-106(a)(iii) to~~  
12 ~~recover amounts reimbursed to teachers and service providers~~  
13 ~~under subsection (b) of this section~~ appropriate funds to the  
14 department to implement subsection (a) of this section. No  
15 funds appropriated by the legislature shall be distributed  
16 to the program if the nonprofit entity with whom the  
17 department has entered into an agreement under subsection (a)  
18 of this section does not contribute to the program an amount  
19 equal to the amount that will be distributed from funds  
20 appropriated by the legislature. The department shall ensure  
21 that state funds and funds the nonprofit entity provides to  
22 the program shall be accounted for separately.

1           (f) In addition to ~~reimbursement of the cost of~~  
2 ~~national board certification~~ the program established under  
3 subsection ~~(b)~~ (a) of this section, and to promote employment  
4 of national board certified teachers by school districts,  
5 each district employing a national board certified teacher  
6 shall be reimbursed for payments to these teachers subject to  
7 the following:

8  
9           (i) Except as otherwise provided for by this  
10 paragraph, for each year the certificate is valid, the  
11 district provides each teacher employed by the district and  
12 holding certification by the national board for professional  
13 teaching standards a lump sum payment of four thousand dollars  
14 (\$4,000.00) which is in addition to the teacher's annual  
15 salary as determined by the board, and which is paid to each  
16 certified teacher between December 1 and December 31 of the  
17 school year for which application is made. ~~under paragraph~~  
18 ~~(ii) of~~ No reimbursement shall be provided for a stipend paid  
19 to a teacher who has received ten (10) stipends under this  
20 subsection;

21  
22           (ii) ~~Effective school year 2007-2008 and each~~  
23 ~~school year thereafter,~~ The teacher holding certification

1 shall be employed by the district ~~full-time~~ full time as a  
2 teacher~~;~~. ~~For purposes of this subsection, "teacher" shall~~  
3 ~~include employees of the district holding certification and~~  
4 ~~employed full time as instructional facilitators, certified~~  
5 ~~tutors, librarians or counselors;~~

6  
7 (v) Not later than ~~December 31, 2007, and each~~  
8 ~~December 31 thereafter~~ January 31 of each year, the department  
9 shall report to the joint education interim committee on  
10 district reports submitted under paragraph (iii) of this  
11 subsection and estimated distributions under this subsection  
12 to eligible districts for the applicable reporting period.

13  
14 (g) For purposes of this section, "teacher" means a  
15 school district employee holding certification and employed  
16 full time as a teacher, instructional facilitator, certified  
17 tutor, librarian or counselor.

18  
19 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-7-501(a)(iii), (b) and (d) is  
20 repealed.

1       **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2019.

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3 ( END )