

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE BILL 304

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

Rick Mi era

AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL; PROVIDING A THREE-TIERED CAREER LICENSING FRAMEWORK FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS; PROVIDING FOR MINIMUM SALARIES OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the School Personnel Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS--THREE-TIERED LICENSING FRAMEWORK--QUALIFICATIONS--MINIMUM SALARIES.--

A. A level one educational assistant license is a three-year license for beginning educational assistants that requires an annual intensive performance evaluation by a teacher or school administrator and required professional development, as determined by the department, for at least

. 149700. 1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 three full school years before applying for another level of
2 license. An applicant for a level one educational assistant
3 license shall:

4 (1) be at least eighteen years of age;

5 (2) have a high school diploma or its
6 equivalent;

7 (3) show satisfactory evidence of having
8 completed a school district-level orientation; and

9 (4) pass a department-approved test for
10 paraprofessionals.

11 B. A level two educational assistant license is a
12 nine-year license for educational assistants who annually
13 demonstrate essential competency to perform their duties and
14 who meet professional development requirements as determined by
15 the department.

16 C. A level three-A educational assistant license is
17 a nine-year license for educational assistants who annually
18 demonstrate essential competency to perform their duties and
19 who meet professional development requirements as determined by
20 the department. An applicant for a level three-A educational
21 assistant license shall have completed at least forty-eight
22 hours of a bachelor's degree or have an associate's degree,
23 either of which includes at least fifteen hours of basic
24 skills, and have practiced as a level two educational assistant
25 for at least three years.

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 D. A level three-B educational assistant license is
2 a nine-year license for educational assistants who annually
3 demonstrate essential competency to perform their duties and
4 who meet professional development requirements as determined by
5 the department. An applicant for a level three-B educational
6 assistant license shall hold a bachelor's or higher degree and
7 have practiced as a level two educational assistant for at
8 least three years.

9 E. The minimum salaries for each licensure level
10 are:

- 11 (1) for level one educational assistants,
12 twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000);
- 13 (2) for level two educational assistants,
14 fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000);
- 15 (3) for level three-A educational assistants,
16 twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000); and
- 17 (4) for level three-B educational assistants,
18 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000). "

19 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. -- Eight million two hundred ten
20 thousand dollars (\$8,210,000) is appropriated from the general
21 fund to the state equalization guarantee distribution for
22 expenditure in fiscal year 2005 to fund the first year of the
23 educational assistant licensure framework and to bring all
24 educational assistants to a minimum salary of twelve thousand
25 dollars (\$12,000). Any unexpended or unencumbered balance

. 149700. 1

1 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2005 shall revert to the
2 general fund.

3 - 4 -
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

. 149700. 1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete