

HOUSE BILL 102

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

G. Andrés Romero

This document incorporates amendments that have been adopted during the current legislative session. The document is a tool to show the amendments in context and is not to be used for the purpose of amendments.

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL; ENACTING THE NATIONAL BOARD
CERTIFICATION SCHOLARSHIP ACT; PROVIDING POWERS AND DUTIES;
PROVIDING FOR APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS; CREATING A FUND ~~HAFC~~;
~~MAKING AN APPROPRIATION~~ ← HAFC.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the "National Board Certification Scholarship Act"."

.216227.3AIC February 10, 2020 (9:04am)

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SECTION 2. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITION.--As used in the National Board Certification Scholarship Act, "school principal" includes a charter school head administrator."

SECTION 3. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM--DEPARTMENT POWERS AND DUTIES--QUALIFICATIONS--APPLICATIONS--PREFERENCES--REPORTS.--

A. The department may award a "national board certification scholarship" to an eligible teacher seeking certification from the national board for professional teaching standards, which scholarship shall be equal to the certification fees assessed by the national board. A scholarship shall be for no longer than three years, paid annually upon notification that the teacher is still an active participant in the certification process, unless the department finds that exigent circumstances prevent the teacher from finishing the certification process within three years. The department shall provide by rule what circumstances qualify as exigent circumstances.

B. A teacher is eligible to apply for a national board certification scholarship if the teacher:

- (1) is a New Mexico resident;
- (2) holds a valid level two or higher teaching

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license;

(3) is teaching in a New Mexico public school;

and

(4) submits a reference letter from the teacher's school principal.

C. Applications shall be submitted to the department on forms and in a manner provided by rule of the department.

D. The department may provide by rule for scholarship contractual terms and application evaluation and other criteria to implement the scholarship program, including subject matter and grade-level preferences if there are more applications than available funding. The department may interview applicants.

E. The department shall provide an annual report on the national board certification scholarship program to the governor and the legislature, including the:

(1) number of teachers who receive scholarships each year and the value of each scholarship;

(2) number of teachers who receive national board certification each year through the scholarship program;

(3) length of time each teacher takes to receive certification;

(4) educator evaluation rating for scholarship recipients during their first five years of teaching as board-

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certified teachers;

(5) name of the school district and public school where the scholarship recipient is employed; and

(6) performance of students in classes taught by scholarship-supported board-certified teachers in comparison to students taught by non-board-certified teachers in the school district or charter school."

SECTION 4. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] FUND CREATED--METHOD OF PAYMENT.--The "national board certification scholarship fund" is created as a nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The fund consists of appropriations, gifts, grants and donations. The fund is subject to appropriation by the legislature. Money in the fund shall be expended solely for the purpose of awarding scholarships pursuant to the National Board Certification Scholarship Act. Payments from the fund shall be on warrant of the secretary of finance and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the secretary of public education or the secretary's authorized representative."

HAFC→~~SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION.--Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) is appropriated from the public education reform fund to the national board certification scholarship fund for expenditure in fiscal year 2021 to provide national board certification scholarships to successful applicants. Any~~

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~~unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a
fiscal year shall not revert to the public education reform
fund.~~ ←H AFC