

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3372

By: McEntire

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Sections 6-206 and 6-206.1, which relate to the Education Leadership Oklahoma Act; creating annual salary bonus for certain licensed professional counselors; subjecting bonus to availability of funds; deleting outdated statutory reference; updating revolving fund name; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-206, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-206. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the State Board of Education shall provide an annual salary bonus in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) no later than January 31 of each year to the following employees of public school districts:

1. Any school psychologist who has been designated as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist by the National School Psychology Certification Board; ~~and~~

1 2. Any licensed professional counselor who has been designated
2 as a National Certified Counselor by the National Board for
3 Certified Counselors; and

4 3. Any speech-language pathologist or audiologist who holds a
5 Certificate of Clinical Competence awarded by the American Speech-
6 Language Hearing Association.

7 B. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the
8 provision of the bonus pursuant to this section to include, but not
9 be limited to, a process by which a nationally certified school
10 psychologist, national certified licensed professional counselor,
11 speech-language pathologist, and audiologist may verify that:

12 1. The individual is still employed by a school district;

13 2. The certification required in subsection A of this section
14 has been attained and has not lapsed; and

15 3. The individual is licensed to practice in this state.

16 C. An individual who qualifies for the bonus pursuant to this
17 section and who is employed by a school district on less than a
18 full-time basis, shall receive a pro-rated bonus based on the
19 proportionate equivalency to full-time employment.

20 D. No school or school district shall be liable for payment of
21 bonuses pursuant to this section. The bonus shall not be included
22 in the calculation of salary for purposes of meeting the district or
23 statutory minimum salary schedule or for purposes of calculating
24 Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma contributions or benefits.

1 ~~E. The amount of the salary bonus pursuant to subsection A of~~
2 ~~this section shall be increased to Seven Thousand Dollars~~
3 ~~(\$7,000.00) upon implementation of subsection N of Section 6-204.2~~
4 ~~of this title.~~

5 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-206.1, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Section 6-206.1 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a
8 revolving fund for the State Board of Education to be designated the
9 "Oklahoma School Psychologist, Licensed Professional Counselor,
10 Speech-Language Pathologist, and Audiologist National Certification
11 Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject
12 to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies
13 appropriated or transferred to the fund by the Legislature. All
14 monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated
15 and may be budgeted and expended by the State Board of Education to
16 provide an annual bonus for individuals meeting the requirements of
17 Section 6-206 of this title. Expenditures from the fund shall be
18 made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims
19 filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of
20 Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

21 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

22 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
23 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
24

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

3

4 59-2-8418 EK 07/24/23

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

--