

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 243

By: Pugh

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; directing the State Department of Education to establish and maintain the School Innovation Grant Program; providing purpose; providing for grant applications to be made on certain form; providing for contents of application; providing for review of applications on certain basis; requiring meeting of certain representatives to discuss proposed innovation; directing the State Department of Education to make certain recommendations; providing for approval and disapproval of applications; directing grants to be allocated from certain fund; directing grants to be provided to school districts based on certain criteria; directing the Department to collect certain information after certain time period; requiring submission of certain report; providing for contents of report; creating the School Innovation Revolving Fund; specifying source of fund; providing for expenditures; providing purpose of fund; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-300 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 A. The State Department of Education shall establish and
2 maintain the School Innovation Grant Program to provide grants to
3 school districts in this state to implement educational innovations.

4 B. 1. A school district seeking to participate in the School
5 Innovation Grant Program shall apply to the State Department of
6 Education for a one-time grant in the manner and on a form
7 prescribed by the Department.

8 2. The application shall include:

- 9 a. the innovation the school district seeks to implement,
- 10 b. the grant amount requested to purchase curriculum,
11 equipment, instructional technology, or other
12 necessary items to implement the innovation, and
- 13 c. the metrics by which the school district proposes to
14 measure the success or failure of the innovation.

15 3. Grant applications shall be reviewed on a first-come, first-
16 served basis. After an initial review, representatives of the State
17 Department of Education shall meet with representatives of an
18 applying school district to discuss the proposed innovation.
19 Department representatives shall make grant recommendations to the
20 State Board of Education, which shall approve or disapprove the
21 grant applications.

22 4. Innovation grants shall be provided without any limitation
23 other than the amount of funds available in the School Innovation
24

1 Revolving Fund created in Section 2 of this act and the number of
2 school districts that apply.

3 C. Of the funds appropriated to the School Innovation
4 Revolving Fund created in Section 2 of this act:

5 1. Forty percent (40%) of the funds shall be provided to
6 applying school districts with an average daily membership (ADM) of
7 fewer than one thousand (1,000) students;

8 2. Thirty percent (30%) of the funds shall be provided to
9 applying school districts with an ADM of one thousand (1,000)
10 students or more but fewer than two thousand five hundred (2,500)
11 students; and

12 3. Thirty percent (30%) of the funds shall be provided to
13 applying school districts with an ADM of two thousand five hundred
14 (2,500) students or more.

15 D. One year after implementation of the School Innovation Grant
16 Program, the State Department of Education shall collect information
17 from school districts that receive grants pursuant to this section.
18 The Department shall electronically submit a report to the Governor,
19 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
20 House of Representatives that includes the school district grant
21 recipients, the amount of grant funds allocated to each recipient,
22 the innovation that each recipient implemented, and the impact the
23 innovation had on the school district recipient, its students, and
24 its staff.

1 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-301 of Title 70, unless there
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund
5 for the State Board of Education to be designated the "School
6 Innovation Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund,
7 not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all
8 monies received by the State Board of Education from legislative
9 appropriations provided for the purpose of implementing the School
10 Innovation Grant Program created in Section 1 of this act. All
11 monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated
12 and may be budgeted and expended by the State Board of Education for
13 the purpose provided for in this section. Expenditures from the
14 fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer
15 against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the
16 Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and
17 payment.

18 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

19 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
20 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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