

Executive

**School Funding**

**EDUCD19 Career-tech associated services funding**

**R.C. 3317.014**

Eliminates the express authorization for a school district to use its career-technical associated services funds to pay apprenticeship coordinators, coordinators for other career-technical education services, career-technical evaluation, and other purposes designated by DEW.

Expressly permits school districts to use career-technical associated services funds for the following purposes:

- (1) Engaging and collaborating with education and workforce stakeholders in the service area;
- (2) Developing and maintaining a comprehensive plan to increase career-focused education activities;
- (3) Ensuring that plans are informed by quality data and using data to expand access to career-focused activities for all students;
- (4) Planning and allocating resources for the growth, sustainability, and enhancement of career-focused activities in the long term;
- (5) Establishing continuous improvement and program approval processes.

**EDUCD20 Career awareness and exploration funds**

**R.C. 3317.014**

Requires the lead district of each career-technical planning district (CTPD) receiving career awareness and exploration funds to report to DEW on the use of those funds.

Permits the lead district of a CTPD to use career awareness and exploration funds to provide mentorship opportunities through which students may learn about careers and workforce skills.

**Fiscal effect: Increases the administrative workload of CTPD lead districts.**

**EDUCD26 Traditional school district funding formula**

**R.C. 3317.022, 3317.012, 3317.014, 3317.016, 3317.017, 3317.018, 3317.019, 3317.02, 3317.021, 3317.0212, 3317.0215, 3317.0217, 3317.0218, 3317.051, 3317.25, Sections 265.220, 265.230, 265.450**

Extends the operation of the school financing system established by H.B. 110 of the 134th General Assembly to FY 2026 and FY 2027, but makes the following changes for traditional school districts:

- (1) Requires the use of the FY 2024 statewide average base cost per pupil in FY 2026 and FY 2027.
- (2) Requires the use of the FY 2024 statewide average career-technical base cost per pupil in FY 2026 and FY 2027.
- (3) Requires DEW to calculate a district's building leadership support base cost using the number of school buildings in the district for the preceding fiscal year.
- (4) Eliminates the payment of school district gifted professional development funds.

Executive

- (5) Increases the general phase-in percentage and disadvantaged pupil impact aid (DPIA) phase-in percentage from 66.67% in FY 2025 to 83.33% in FY 2026 and 100% in FY 2027.
- (6) Increases the minimum transportation state share percentage from 41.67% in FY 2025 to 45.83% in FY 2026 and 50% in FY 2027.
- (7) Requires DEW to use data from the previous fiscal year to establish the target number of qualifying riders per bus for each traditional school district.
- (8) Extends the payment of temporary transitional aid to school districts based on FY 2020 funding bases to FY 2026 and FY 2027, but decreases the bases to 95% of FY 2020 amounts in FY 2026 and 90% of FY 2020 amounts in FY 2027.
- (9) Extends the payment of temporary transitional aid for transportation to school districts based on FY 2020 funding bases to FY 2026 and FY 2027, but decreases the bases to 95% of FY 2020 amounts in FY 2026 and 90% of FY 2020 amounts in FY 2027.
- (10) Extends the payment of a formula transition supplement to school districts based on FY 2021 funding bases to FY 2026 and FY 2027, but decreases the bases to 95% of FY 2021 amounts in FY 2026 and 90% of FY 2021 amounts in FY 2027.
- (11) Requires the Tax Commissioner to certify the median, instead of the total, federal adjusted gross income (FAGI) of a school district's residents for use by DEW in making computations for the district.
- (12) Extends to FY 2026 and FY 2027 the requirement for DEW to calculate base costs for traditional school districts based on the sum of the enrolled ADM of every district that reported that data.

Requires, generally, that calculations for FY 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter be determined by the General Assembly.

**Fiscal effect: The estimated allocation of foundation aid for traditional school districts is \$8.09 billion in FY 2026 and \$8.05 billion in FY 2027.**

**EDUCD28 Joint vocational school district funding formula**

**R.C. 3317.022, 3317.012, 3317.014, 3317.016, 3317.018, 3317.02, 3317.0215, 3317.16, 3317.162, 3317.165, 3317.25, Sections 265.220, 265.230, 265.450**

Extends the operation of the school financing system established by H.B. 110 of the 134th General Assembly to FY 2026 and FY 2027, but makes applicable changes for joint vocational school districts (JVSDs) that are substantially similar to those for traditional school districts (see EDUCD26), except for the following changes to the state share calculation:

- (1) Requires DEW to calculate a JVSD's per-pupil local capacity amount for FY 2026 and FY 2027 by multiplying 1/2 mill (0.0005) by the lesser of the JVSD's three-year average valuation or its most recent valuation and dividing the product by the JVSD's base cost enrolled ADM.
- (2) Requires DEW to calculate a JVSD's state share percentage for FY 2026 and FY 2027 by dividing the difference between a JVSD's per-pupil base cost and its per-pupil local capacity amount by the per-pupil base cost, with a minimum of 10%.
- (3) Requires DEW to calculate a JVSD's state share of the base cost by multiplying the district's per-pupil base cost by its state share percentage and then by the district's current year enrolled ADM.

Requires, generally, that calculations for FY 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter be determined by the General Assembly.

**Fiscal effect: The estimated allocation of foundation aid to JVSDs is \$540.7 million in FY 2026 and \$569.8 million in FY 2027.**

Executive

**EDUCD29 Community and STEM school funding formula**

R.C. 3317.022, 3314.08, 3317.014, 3317.016, 3317.018, 3317.0110, 3317.02, 3317.026, 3317.0212, 3317.0215, 3317.25, 3326.44, Sections 265.220, 265.230, 265.450

Extends the operation of the school financing system for community and STEM schools established by H.B. 110 of the 134th General Assembly to FY 2026 and FY 2027, but makes applicable changes that are substantially similar to those for traditional school districts (see EDUCD26).

Codifies the equity supplement that pays each site-based community school \$650 for each enrolled student and extends the payment to STEM schools.

Requires, generally, that calculations for FY 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter be determined by the General Assembly.

**Fiscal effect: The estimated allocation of foundation aid to community and STEM schools is \$1.34 billion in FY 2026 and \$1.42 billion in FY 2027.**

**EDUCD87 Special education transportation funding**

R.C. 3317.024

Extends the formula for determining special education transportation payments to FY 2026 and FY 2027 but makes the following changes:

- (1) Increases the minimum state share percentage for traditional district payments from 41.67% in FY 2025 to 45.83% in FY 2026 and 50% in FY 2027.
- (2) Increases the percentages used to calculate the payments to county boards of developmental disabilities and ESCs to the same as those used for traditional districts.

**Fiscal effect: The bill earmarks up to \$176.9 million in FY 2026 and up to \$194.8 million in FY 2027 for special education transportation from GRF ALI 200502, Pupil Transportation (see EDUCD6).**

**EDUCD88 Preschool special education funding**

R.C. 3317.0213

Extends the formula used for calculating preschool special education payments to FY 2026 and FY 2027. Requires payments for FY 2028 and thereafter to be based on a formula to be determined by the General Assembly.

**Fiscal effect: The bill allocates \$154.0 million in each fiscal year for preschool special education payments from GRF ALI 200540, Special Education Enhancements (see EDUCD93).**

**EDUCD89 Educational service center (ESC) funding**

R.C. 3317.11

Extends the formula for the state operating subsidy to ESCs to FY 2026 and FY 2027 using the same general phase-in percentage as for traditional school districts (see EDUCD56). Requires the calculations for FY 2028 and thereafter to be determined by the General Assembly.

**Fiscal effect: The bill earmarks \$49.2 million in FY 2026 and \$51.0 million in FY 2027 for ESCs from GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All Students (see EDUCD56).**

Executive

**EDUCD90 Special education payments to county developmental disabilities boards and institutions**

**R.C. 3317.20, 3317.201**

Extends the formula for funding special education and related services for school-age children provided through county boards of developmental disabilities (DD) and institutions (i.e., schools operated by the departments of Rehabilitation and Corrections and Youth Services) for FY 2026 and FY 2027. Requires that calculations for FY 2028 and thereafter be determined by the General Assembly.

**Fiscal effect: The bill earmarks up to \$33.9 million in each fiscal year for the payments from GRF ALI 200540, Special Education Enhancements (see EDUCD93).**

**EDUCD22 Disadvantaged pupil impact aid (DPIA) spending requirements**

**R.C. 3317.25, 3302.13**

Requires each city, local, or exempted village school district or community school that was required to submit a reading achievement improvement plan in the prior fiscal year to spend at least 50% of its disadvantaged pupil impact aid (DPIA) in the current fiscal year on initiatives in reading improvement and intervention and professional development in literacy instruction.

Requires any other school district, community school, or STEM school to spend at least 25% of its DPIA in the current fiscal year on initiatives in reading improvement and intervention and professional development in literacy instruction.

Adds community mental health prevention providers as community partners with which a school district, community school, or STEM school may develop its plan for spending DPIA.

**Fiscal effect: May reduce district flexibility in the spending of DPIA. In FY 2024, 46 school districts and 104 community schools were required to submit a reading achievement improvement plan to DEW.**

**EDUCD23 Student wellness and success funds (SWSF) spending requirements**

**R.C. 3317.26**

Requires each district or school's plan for the use of student wellness and success funds to be developed annually.

Requires each district or school to "cooperate and consult" with selected community partners, in addition to "coordinating" with them in developing the plan under continuing law.

Requires the planning process for a student wellness and success funds plan to include opportunities for the district's or school's selected community partners to provide meaningful input and feedback to each of the required components of the plan.

Requires the plan to include:

- (1) The type of each initiative the district or school will implement;
- (2) The amount of funding that will be used for each initiative;

**Executive**

- (3) The name of the selected community partners with which the plan is being developed;
- (4) The type of needs assessment or data used to identify the need for each initiative;
- (5) The goal of each initiative; and
- (6) How the impact of each initiative will be measured or evaluated.

Requires the sharing of each district or school's plan at a public meeting of its district board or governing authority and the posting of the plan on its website within 30 days of the plan's creation or amendment to occur annually, and requires the website on which the plan is posted to be "publicly accessible."

Requires each district or school to submit a link to the posted plan to DEW within that same 30-day time frame each year.

**Fiscal effect: Increases district and school administrative workload.**

**EDUCD31 Quality Community and Independent STEM School Support Program**

**R.C. 3317.27, 3317.28, 3317.29**

Codifies the Quality Community and Independent School Support programs as follows:

Requires DEW to pay each designated school up to \$3,000 per fiscal year for each student identified as economically disadvantaged and up to \$2,250 in each fiscal year for all other students.

Requires DEW to calculate each fiscal year's payment based on the adjusted FTE number of students enrolled as of the date the payment is made, and requires DEW to make periodic payments to each designated school beginning in January of that fiscal year.

Requires DEW to designate as a community school of quality each community school that meets one of the following criteria:

- (1) The school's sponsor was rated "exemplary" or "effective" on its most recent evaluation, the school received a higher performance index score on its two most recent report cards than the district in which the school is located, the school received a performance rating of four stars or higher for the progress component on its most recent report card or is a dropout prevention or recovery school or a special education school and did not receive a rating for the progress component on its most recent report card, and at least 50% of enrolled students were economically disadvantaged in the prior fiscal year.
- (2) The school's sponsor was rated "exemplary" or "effective" on its most recent evaluation, the school is in its first year of operation or opened as a kindergarten school and has added one grade per year and has been in operation for less than four school years, the school is replicating an operational and instructional model used by a community school that meets criteria (1) above, and if the school has an operator, the operator received a rating of at least three stars on its most recent performance report.

**Executive**

(3) The school's sponsor is rated "exemplary" or "effective" on its most recent evaluation; the school contracts with an operator that operates schools in other states and either received funding through the Federal Charter School Program or the Charter School Growth Fund or one of the operator's out-of-state schools performed better than the district in which the in-state school is located as determined by DEW, at least 50% of the operator's total student enrollment is economically disadvantaged, the operator is in good standing in all states where it operates schools, DEW has determined the operator does not have financial viability issues preventing it from effectively operating in Ohio, the school is replicating an operational and instructional model through an agreement with a college or university or its equivalent in another state that performed better than the school district in which the school is located, as determined by DEW; and the school in its first year of operation or opened on July 1, 2022 and has not previously been designated a community school of quality.

Requires a school designated as a community school of quality to maintain that designation for the two fiscal years following the fiscal year in which the school was first designated.

Permits a school designated as a community school of quality to renew its designation each year that it satisfies criteria (1) above and requires the school to maintain that designation for the two fiscal years following each fiscal year in which criteria (1) above is satisfied.

Requires a school first designated as a community school of quality under criteria (2) above for the 2022-2023 school year to be considered to maintain that designation through the 2027-2028 school year and permits such a school to renew its designation under the procedure for schools designated under criteria (1) above.

Permits the surviving community school of a merger occurring on or after June 30, 2022 to receive funds under the program, provided it otherwise qualifies as a community school of quality. Requires the payment to such a school for a fiscal year to be calculated using the adjusted FTE number of students enrolled in the school for that fiscal year as of the date the payments are made, as reported by the surviving school, regardless of whether those students were previously enrolled in a school that dissolved under the merger. Requires a school qualified to receive funds prior to merging on or after June 30, 2022 and that dissolved due to the merger to have been considered eligible for funds under the program prior to the bill's effective date and not be required to return any funds received prior to that date.

Requires DEW, no later than December 31 of each fiscal year, to designate as an independent STEM school of quality each STEM school that meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) Operates autonomously.
- (2) Does not have a STEM school equivalent designation.
- (3) Is not governed by a school district.
- (4) Is not a community school.
- (5) Cannot levy taxes or issue tax-secured bonds.
- (6) Satisfies the requirements to be designated a STEM school by the STEM Committee.
- (7) Satisfies the requirements described in the DEW's Quality Model for STEM and STEAM Schools.

**Executive**

Requires a school designated as an independent STEM school of quality to maintain that designation for the two fiscal years following the fiscal year in which the school was first designated.

Permits a school designated as an independent STEM school of quality to renew its designation each year that it satisfies the criteria above and requires the school to maintain that designation for the two fiscal years following each fiscal year in which the criteria are satisfied.

**Fiscal effect: The bill appropriates \$136.5 million in each fiscal year from Fund 7017 ALI 200631, Quality Community and Independent STEM Schools Support, to make the payments (see EDUCD81).**

**EDUCD30 Community and STEM school facilities funding**

**R.C. 3317.31**

Codifies the provision of law requiring DEW to annually pay \$25 for each student enrolled in an internet- or computer-based community school and \$1,500 (increased from \$1,000 under temporary law for FY 2024 and FY 2025) for each student enrolled in all other community or STEM schools for assistance with facilities costs.

**Fiscal effect: The bill appropriates \$133.2 million in each fiscal year from Fund 7017 ALI 200684, Community School Facilities, to make the payments (see EDUCD82).**

**EDUCD59 Power Plant Valuation Adjustment**

**Section: 265.240**

Requires DEW to make an additional payment to school districts that have at least one power plant in their territory and that experience both at least a 10% decrease in public utility tangible personal property (PUTPP) value and an overall negative change in PUTPP subject to taxation between either: (1) tax year (TY) 2017 and the preceding tax year (e.g., TY 2025, for purposes of the FY 2026 payment); or (2) the preceding tax year and the second preceding tax year (e.g., between TY 2024 and TY 2025, for purposes of the FY 2026 payment).

Calculates the payment for an eligible district generally based on a recomputation of the district’s FY 2019 foundation aid using the preceding year’s total taxable valuation (instead of the three-year average valuation used to determine funding for FY 2019) and the change in local property taxes between TY 2017 and the preceding tax year

Requires DEW to make payments for FY 2026 in June 2026, and payments for FY 2027 in June 2027.

**Fiscal effect: The bill earmarks \$7 million in each fiscal year for these payments from GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All Students (see EDUCD56).**

**Community Schools**



Executive

**EDUCD42 Definition of high-performing community school - access to school district property**

**R.C. 3313.413**

Replaces the definition of “high-performing community school” in the law regarding the right of first refusal to purchase, and the involuntary disposition of, school district property (currently based on increased performance index scores and report card performance ratings for the Achievement, Progress, or, for certain schools, the Early Literacy component) so that it applies to a community school that meets at least one of the following sets of conditions:

- (1) The community school:
  - (a) Received a higher performance index score than the school district in which it is located on the two most recently issued state report cards; and
  - (b) Either:
    - (i) Received a performance rating of four stars or higher for the Progress component on its most recent report card; or
    - (ii) Enrolls a majority of students who are in a dropout prevention and recovery program and did not receive a rating for the Progress component on the most recent report card.
- (2) The community school serves only grades kindergarten through three and received a performance rating of four stars or higher for the Early Literacy component on the most recent report card;
- (3) The community school has not commenced operations or has been in operation for less than one school year and:
  - (a) The school is replicating an operational and instructional model used by another high performing community school; and
  - (b) The school either:
    - (i) Has an operator that received an overall rating of three stars or higher, or a "C" or higher, on its most recent performance report; or
    - (ii) Does not have an operator and is sponsored by a sponsor that was rated "exemplary" or "effective" on its most recent evaluation.

**Fiscal effect: May change the community schools that have the opportunity to obtain space for operation. The revised definition of a “high-performing community school” aligns to the criteria used to designate community schools for the Quality Community School Support Program.**

**EDUCD43 Dropout prevention and recovery community schools**

**R.C. 3314.02, 3314.362**

Defines "dropout prevention and recovery community school" as a community school that enrolls only students who are between the ages of 14 and 21, and who, at the time of their initial enrollment, are at least one grade level behind their cohort age groups or experience crises that significantly interfere with their academic progress such that they are prevented from continuing their traditional educational programs.

Permits a community school that primarily serves students enrolled in a dropout prevention and recovery (DOPR) program to continue operating in the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years without complying with this definition. Requires each community school that primarily serves students enrolled in a DOPR program to comply with the definition on and after July 1, 2027.

Requires each community school that primarily serves students enrolled in a DOPR program, upon approval of the school's sponsor, to (1) transfer those grades that do not comply to a separate community school or (2) cease offering those grades.



**Executive**

Requires a community school that primarily serves students enrolled in a DOPR program to assist students who are not eligible to enroll in a "dropout prevention and recovery community school" to transfer to the separate community school or enroll in a different school.

Requires DEW to assign any separate community school created in compliance with the new definition its own internal retrieval number (IRN, a unique code used by DEW to identify districts, schools, and other entities).

**Fiscal effect: May increase administrative costs for DOPR schools to (1) spin off, to a separate school, grades serving students that do not comply with the proposed definition and (2) assist students with transferring to that or a different school. Currently, 84 (25%) community schools carry the DOPR designation, collectively educating about 23,000 FTE students.**

**EDUCD84 Community school operating from home**

**Section: 265.410**

Permits a community school opened prior to May 1, 2005 to operate from or in any home located in the state, regardless of where the community school's operations from or in a particular home began.

**Educator Provisions**

**EDUCD97 Youth suicide awareness and prevention and child sexual abuse educator in-service training**

**R.C. 3319.073**

Eliminates the option for each school district, community school, STEM school, or college-preparatory boarding school to adopt or adapt curriculum developed by DEW on youth suicide awareness and prevention for use in delivering in-service educator training on those topics (see EDUCD39), thus requiring each district or school to develop its own curriculum.

Eliminates the option for a school employee to satisfy youth suicide awareness in-service training through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials approved by the school board or governing authority.

Eliminates the requirement that child sexual abuse in-service training for educators be provided by law enforcement officers or prosecutors and instead requires a district board to develop its own curriculum in consultation with public or private agencies.

**Fiscal effect: May increase school district costs to develop and offer the training for those that do not do so already, but provides additional flexibility in how it is provided. According to DEW, schools have had difficulty finding law enforcement officers or prosecutors who are able to provide the staff training on child sexual abuse.**

**EDUCD50 Teacher assignments**

**R.C. 3319.173**

Requires a school district superintendent to assign teachers based on the best interests of the students enrolled in the district and prohibits them from using seniority or continuing contract status as the primary factor in determining assignments.

**Executive**

Specifies that the law pertaining to teacher assignments prevails over conflicting provisions of collective bargaining agreements between employee organizations and public employers entered into on or after the provision's effective date.

**Fiscal effect: Provides greater flexibility for school districts to meet staffing needs.**

**EDUCD57 Science of Reading professional development**

**R.C. 3319.2310, 3301.0714, 3313.6028**

Requires DEW to maintain an introductory training course on the Science of Reading for licensed educators and develop a competency-based training course to update and reinforce educators' skills in the Science of Reading.

Requires each public school teacher, administrator, school psychologist, or speech-language psychologist to complete training in the science of reading every five years.

Requires training to be completed by either July 30, 2030, if the individual was hired prior to July 1, 2025, or one year after the date of hiring, if the individual was hired on or after July 1, 2025, but exempts individuals who completed similar training or appropriate coursework as part of an educator preparation program.

Requires districts and schools to report the number of individuals who have completed Science of Reading training to DEW through the Education Management Information System (EMIS).

Requires a professional development committee to count Science of Reading training toward professional development requirements for educator licensure renewal.

Specifies the grade bands that must receive specific instruction from the lists of curriculum that are aligned with the Science of Reading established by DEW as follows:

Grades preK-5 must receive core curriculum and instructional materials in English language arts;

Grades preK-12 must receive instruction in evidence-based reading intervention programs.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal. DEW already maintains professional development courses on the Science of Reading. Increases district and school workload to comply with the reporting requirement.**

**EDUCD55 Principal apprenticeship program**

**R.C. 3319.271**

Requires DEW to establish a principal apprenticeship program to provide pathways for licensed teachers employed in Ohio and professionals in other fields to receive school leadership and administration training and development, and an optional master's degree.

Permits DEW to give preference to applicants with multiple years of classroom teaching experience or experience in the same career field and in teaching, training, or supervising others.

**Executive**

Requires participants of the program to be mentored by a school principal and complete on-the-job training.

Requires the State Board of Education to issue a professional administrator license for grades preK-12 to individuals who successfully complete the program.

**Fiscal effect: The bill earmarks \$5.0 million in each fiscal year from GRF ALI 200448, Educator and Principal Preparation, to fund the program (see EDUCD91).**

**Other Education Provisions**

**EDUCD25 Absence intervention and truancy**

**R.C. 2151.27, 3313.609, 3321.16, 3321.19, 3321.191 (reenacted), 3321.21, 3321.22**

Repeals the requirement that a school district, community school, or STEM school assign habitual truants to an absence intervention team and adopt a prescribed absence intervention plan.

Instead, requires each district, community school, and STEM school to adopt a policy in consultation with the juvenile court that does all of the following:

- (1) Acknowledges that student absences from school for any reason, whether excused or unexcused, take away from instructional time and have an adverse effect on student learning;
- (2) Identifies strategies to prevent students from becoming chronically absent;
- (3) Includes procedures for notifying a student's parent, guardian, or custodian, when the student has been absent from school for a number of hours determined by the board, which cannot exceed 5% of the minimum number of hours required in the school year;
- (4) Establishes a tiered system that provides more intensive interventions and supports for students with greater numbers of absences and includes resources to help students and their families address the root causes of the absences;
- (5) Provides for one or more absence intervention teams to work with students at risk of becoming chronically absent and their families to improve the students' attendance at school;
- (6) Prohibits suspending, expelling, or otherwise preventing a student from attending school based on the student's absences.

Permits a district, community school, or STEM school to consult or partner with public and nonprofit agencies to provide assistance to students and families in reducing absences.

Defines "chronically absent" as missing at least 10% of the minimum number of hours required in the school year.

Removes a requirement that a school district or community school prohibit the grade level promotion of a student that has been truant for more than 10% of the required attendance days of the school year.

Eliminates the timeline under which a school district attendance officer must file a complaint in juvenile court against a truant student and instead requires a complaint only if the school district determines that the student is not making satisfactory progress in improving the student's attendance at school.

**Executive**

Requires that a filed complaint allege that the child is an unruly child for being a habitual truant and that the parent or guardian has violated the duty to cause the child to attend school.

Clarifies that certain required notices to parents regarding truancy and consequences that include proof of receipt by the recipient and is sent by email or text message, in addition to registered mail, regular mail with certificate of mailing, or other form of delivery, is a legal notice.

**Fiscal effect: Likely shifts district and school spending in this area from compliance activities to prevention and early intervention.**

**EDUCD34 Universal K-3 diagnostic assessment and kindergarten readiness assessment**

**R.C. 3301.079, 3301.0714, 3301.0715, 3302.03, 3313.608, Section 733.30**

Requires DEW to, by June 30, 2026, adopt a diagnostic assessment for reading and math for students in each of grades K-3.

Requires the diagnostic assessment for reading to be aligned to the science of reading.

Eliminates the requirements that blank copies of diagnostic assessments be public records and that DEW make the assessments available to school districts at no cost to the district.

Requires school districts, community schools, and STEM schools to administer the diagnostic assessments to their students by September 30 of each year, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

Requires districts and schools to administer diagnostic assessments to a student with a significant cognitive disability in accordance with guidelines adopted by DEW.

Eliminates the authority of districts and schools to use an alternative assessment to measure reading skills under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee and, for districts and schools that achieve specified scores on the state report card, to administer alternative diagnostic assessments.

Requires districts and schools to use and score the kindergarten readiness assessment (KRA) in accordance with rules established by the Department of Children and Youth.

Eliminates the requirement that DEW include data from the KRA on the state report cards of districts and schools.

Removes DEW from KRA data collection and reporting.

**Fiscal effect: May increase DEW's GRF assessment system costs to procure or develop the K-3 diagnostic assessments. Increases school district and other public school costs to administer the diagnostic assessments.**

**EDUCD45 Public release of state test questions**

**R.C. 3301.0711**

Reduces the number of state assessment test questions that must be made public record from 40% to 20% beginning with the state assessments administered in the spring of the 2025-2026 school year.

Eliminates out-of-date provisions that make questions on state assessments administered prior to the 2017-2018 school year public records.

Executive

**Fiscal effect: Reduces GRF assessment system costs by \$2.8 million or more per year.**

**EDUCD36 Math curriculum and instructional materials reporting**

R.C. 3301.0714

Requires public schools to report their math core curriculum and instructional materials for grades preK-12 through the Education Management Information System (EMIS).

**Fiscal effect: May increase public school and DEW administrative costs.**

**EDUCD14 Artificial intelligence policies**

R.C. 3301.24, 3414.03, 3326.11

Requires DEW to adopt a model policy by December 31, 2025, to address the appropriate use of artificial intelligence by students and staff for educational purposes.

Requires each school district, community school, and STEM school to adopt a policy on the use of artificial intelligence by July 1, 2026. Permits a district or school to adopt the model policy developed by DEW.

Permits DEW to collect data from districts and schools on their use of artificial intelligence.

**Fiscal effect: May increase public school and DEW administrative costs.**

**EDUCD16 List of high-quality tutoring programs**

R.C. 3301.36

Requires DEW to request program efficacy data or other evidence of effectiveness for participating students when soliciting qualifications for the list of high-quality tutoring programs required under continuing law.

Requires DEW to remove from the high-quality tutoring program list any program that is not aligned to the science of reading or that uses a three-cueing approach.

Requires DEW to, at least every three years after the initial list is posted, provide an opportunity for entities to submit their qualifications for consideration to be included on the list and post an updated list on DEW's website.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal.**

**EDUCD49 Demand side educator employment data**

R.C. 3301.82

Requires DEW to annually collect school district employment and vacancy data for a number of positions, aggregate the number of vacant positions by a number of listed categories, and annually publish and summarize the data collected on its web site.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal.**

Executive

**EDUCD35 Report card - Early Literacy component**

**R.C. 3302.03, 3313.6113**

Eliminates the percentage of students promoted to the fourth grade under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee as a performance measure for the Early Literacy component on the state report card for public schools.

Assigns weights of 50% to each of the two remaining measures of the Early Literacy component: (1) the proficiency rate on the reading segment of the third grade English language arts assessment and (2) progress in improving literacy in grades K-3. Requires DEW to prescribe a performance rating for the Early Literacy component by rule if one of these two remaining measures is not included on a district or school’s report card.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal.**

**EDUCD44 Report card - College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness (CCWMR) component**

**R.C. 3302.03, Section 265.550**

Eliminates law that subjects to JCARR approval whether, beginning with a district’s or school building’s report card for the 2024-2025 school year, DEW must assign a performance rating to the report card’s CCWMR component and factor it into the calculation’s overall rating

Requires DEW to report the CCWMR component as report-only data on school district and building report cards for the 2024-2025 school year.

Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, requires DEW to assign a performance rating for the CCWMR component and eliminates the prohibition against the method for assigning a rating including a tiered structure or per-student bonuses. Requires DEW to factor it into the calculation of an overall rating.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal.**

**EDUCD11 Educational Regional Service System (ERSS)**

**R.C. 3312.01, 3312.02 (reenacted), 3312.07, 3312.08, 3312.09, 3312.10, 3312.13. Repealed: 3312.02, 3312.03, 3312.04, 3312.05, 3312.06**

Eliminates the 16 statutorily established ERSS regions (also known as state support teams or SSTs) and instead requires DEW to establish up to 16 regions within 180 days of the bill's effective date. Requires DEW to notify affected regions of subsequent changes at least 90 days before the fiscal year in which those changes will take effect.

Requires the ERSS to support state and regional workforce development initiatives, in addition to supporting education initiatives. Eliminates law establishing the intent of the ERSS to reduce unnecessary duplication of programs and services.

Expands ERSS service providers to include career-technical planning districts, county boards of developmental disabilities, Ohio college tech prep regional centers, and community colleges, in addition to educational service centers, information technology centers, and other regional education service providers as under continuing law.

Requires the ERSS to provide services to STEM schools and permits STEM schools to enter service agreements with information technology centers.

Eliminates ERSS regional advisory councils and subcommittees.

Executive

Permits career-technical planning districts, county boards of developmental disabilities, Ohio college tech prep regional centers, and community colleges to be the fiscal agent for an ERSS region, in addition to school districts and educational service centers as under continuing law.

Changes the criteria DEW must consider in selecting an ERSS region's fiscal agent by requiring an entity to provide an assurance it will limit aggregate fees for administering a performance contract to 5% of the contract's value, rather than a demonstrated intent to limit those fees to 7% as under current law.

Permits DEW to select an entity located in another ERSS region to be a fiscal agent for a region where no entity responded to or met the requirements in DEW's request for proposals.

Decreases the threshold to require Controlling Board approval from 4% to 3% of the value of a performance contract for aggregate personnel and program costs to be charged by a fiscal agent or its subcontractors to administer the contract.

Eliminates the requirement that, when entering into performance contracts with a fiscal agent and allocating state funds for ERSS, DEW consider the services that will be provided in a region from DEW's system of intensive, ongoing support for the improvement of school districts and school buildings.

**Fiscal effect: Will depend on how DEW carries out the reforms, though the performance contract provisions may reduce administrative fee revenue to ERSS fiscal agents. ERSS services are provided at no cost to districts and schools. The teams that make up the ERSS are mainly funded by federal funds, mostly from Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) state activity dollars. The state provides funding to SSTs through an earmark of \$3.5 million each fiscal from GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding – All Students, for school improvement initiatives (see EDUCD56).**

**EDUCD47 Unused school facilities**

**R.C. 3313.411**

Revises the involuntary disposition of school district property law, as follows:

(1) To determine whether a school building is an unused school facility, clarifies the building is unused if its student enrollment is less than 60% of either (A) the maximum student enrollment established in the building's architectural specifications or master design plan or (B) the building's greatest student enrollment in the ten most recent school years, including the current school year (current law identifies a building as an unused school facility if less than 60% of the building was used for direct academic instruction in the preceding school year).

(2) Changes the value for which a school district must sell an unused school facility from the property's appraised fair market value to the property's appraised value as an educational facility.

(3) Changes the sale method from an auction to a lottery if more than one high-performing community school notifies the district of its intention to purchase property.

(4) Requires a district, if no high-performing community school located in the district offers to purchase or lease a property, to offer the property for sale or lease to high-performing community schools located outside of the district prior to offering to sell or lease the property to other start-up community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and STEM schools.

(5) Requires each district annually to report to DEW by November 30 information related to determining whether a school building operated by the district is an unused school facility.



Executive

(6) Requires DEW annually to post by December 31 a list of unused school facilities in each school district.

**Fiscal effect: May increase the number of facilities a district board of education has to offer for sale or lease to community schools.**

**EDUCD39 Instruction on mental health promotion, suicide prevention, and health and wellness outcomes; youth peer-led programming**

**R.C. 3313.60, 3301.221, 3313.6611, 3314.0311, 3314.0312, 3326.092, 3326.093**

Requires each school district, STEM school, and community school annually to provide students in grades 6-12 developmentally appropriate, evidence-based instruction in mental health promotion and suicide prevention, instead of instruction on evidence-based suicide prevention and safety training and violence prevention.

Requires the instruction to include information on the development and maintenance of positive mental health, stigma reduction, the signs and symptoms of depression, suicide, and self-harm, and seeking help for self and peers.

Eliminates the requirement that students receive evidence-based social inclusion instruction and instead requires students attending a school district, community school, or STEM school to receive annual evidence-based instruction in universal prevention practices or programs that teach students the necessary knowledge and skills to improve health and wellness outcomes.

Requires the instruction to focus on enhancing interpersonal skills, encouraging healthy decision making, and increasing resiliency.

Prior to providing such instruction, requires a district or school to notify each student's parent or guardian of the instruction, their ability to review any related instructional materials, and their option to opt the student out from receiving the instruction by submitting a written request.

Requires DEW to maintain a list of instructional materials for students in grades 6-12 at a school district, community school, or STEM school regarding mental health promotion and suicide prevention, instead of instruction in suicide awareness, social inclusion, and violence prevention.

Permits each school district, community school, STEM school, and college-preparatory boarding school to provide youth peer-led programming based on relational connections and youth empowerment models, instead of permitting a district or school to designate a student-led violence prevention club.

Requires youth peer-led programming to promote help-seeking behaviors and encourage students to individually assess and develop strengths in their life and removes the requirement to implement and sustain suicide and violence prevention and social inclusion training.

**Fiscal effect: According to DEW, shifting to "universal" prevention education programs may lead to school districts and other public schools implementing the instruction more consistently and efficiently among grade levels. DEW reports that school districts have found difficulty in identifying prevention programs that comply with the law.**

**EDUCD15 Provision of high-dosage tutoring for students on reading improvement and monitoring plans**

**R.C. 3313.608**

Eliminates the requirement that high dosage tutoring provided to students on reading improvement and monitoring plans by school districts, community schools, and STEM schools be provided outside of the student's regular instruction time.

Executive

Expressly permits a district or school to incorporate high-dosage tutoring into a student's regular instruction time.

Requires a locally approved high-dosage tutoring program to align with best practices identified by DEW.

**Fiscal effect: Provides additional flexibility for districts to provide tutoring services.**

**EDUCD38 Qualify Career Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG) courses as an advanced standing program**

**R.C. 3313.6031, 3313.6013**

Adds high school courses aligned to the Department of Higher Education's Career-Technical Assurance Guides (CTAG) to the list of programs that may be considered an "advanced standing program" at school districts, community schools, STEM schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and chartered nonpublic schools.

Requires each school district or high school that is a community school, STEM school, college preparatory boarding school, or chartered nonpublic high school that has students enrolled in CTAG-aligned courses to implement a policy for grading and calculating class standings for those courses in a similar fashion to College Credit Plus, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or honors courses.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal.**

**EDUCD46 Advanced math placement**

**R.C. 3313.6031**

Requires each school district to provide advanced learning opportunities in math in the following school year for each student that achieves an advanced level of skill on a math achievement assessment or end-of-course exam.

Requires a student enrolled in an advanced math course to take the required corresponding math achievement assessment or end-of-course exam for that course.

Exempts from the requirements school districts that do not offer advanced learning opportunities in math for the grade in which the student is enrolled in the next school year.

Permits a student's parent or guardian to submit a written request to opt out of the advanced math learning opportunities and classes.

**Fiscal effect: Likely minimal. According to DEW, these provisions aim to require districts to automatically enroll students who score at the advanced level of skill into advanced math classes if the district offers those classes for the student's grade level. As a point of reference, in the 2023-2024 school year, about 138,000 (16%) students taking the state math tests scored at an advanced level of skill.**

**EDUCD33 Career planning for graduation**

**R.C. 3313.617, 3313.6020**

Requires a graduation plan for a public or chartered nonpublic high school student to also identify post-graduation career goals for the student and align their high school experience with those goals.

**Executive**

Permits graduation and career plans to be developed jointly by a student and a representative of an organization that has partnered with the school to provide career planning and advising supports.

Requires a public school to ensure that a graduation and career plan conforms to, rather than supplements, its existing career advising policy and that such plans for a student align to their student success plan.

Requires DEW to adopt rules regarding the content of graduation and career plans and to develop a career pathways resource, and requires school districts to annually distribute that resource to all students in grades 6-12.

**Fiscal effect: DEW may incur administrative costs to adopt rules and develop career pathways resources. Public school administrative workload may increase to comply with additional career planning requirements.**

**EDUCD41 Work-based learning hours for graduation requirement**

R.C. 3313.618

Shifts, for the purposes of demonstrating competency to meet the state's high school graduation requirements, a student's completion of 250 hours of work-based learning experience from a supporting option to a foundational option (continuing law permits a student that is unable to demonstrate competency by earning a certain score on state math and English language arts end-of-course exams to demonstrate competency by, among other avenues, showing career readiness in two career-focused activities, one of which must be a foundational option while the other may be a supporting option).

**Fiscal effect: None.**

**EDUCD37 Industry-recognized credentials toward graduation requirements**

R.C. 3313.6113, 3301.17, 3313.618, 3313.6114

Eliminates the requirement for the DEW Director's industry-recognized credentials committee to establish a point value system for credentials to help determine whether a student qualifies for a high school diploma and, instead, requires the committee to establish a new set of criteria for that purpose.

**Fiscal effect: May increase DEW's costs to carry out this work.**

**EDUCD48 Payment of tuition for students receiving education in residential treatment facilities**

R.C. 3313.64

Requires the school district where the child's parents reside to pay a residential treatment facility the cost for educational services provided when a child is parentally placed in that facility in consultation with and upon recommendation of, the OhioRISE Program.

Requires that the facility provide education services meeting minimum standards established by DEW, or substantially similar requirements of the jurisdiction if the facility is out of state, and permits the home facility to reduce instructional hours only as necessary to accommodate the child's treatment program.

Executive

Requires DEW to approve a formula to determine the total educational cost to be paid for the child, certify the total educational cost to be paid to the home or facility and the district that is paying tuition, and deduct the amount from the district’s basic state aid and pay that amount to the home or facility.

Establishes notice, discharge, and transcript and coursework transfer procedures and a procedure for re-determining a school district responsible for payment if a parent's resident district changes.

Requires high school students who are discharged from the home or facility and return to their parent's residence to meet graduation requirements that are no more stringent than those that apply to students who enroll in high school after receiving a home education.

Exempts a school district from the responsibility to pay tuition for a child who has been awarded a state scholarship.

**Fiscal effect: Clarifies payment and discharge procedures for children receiving education services through a placement in a residential treatment facility under OhioRISE, which is a specialized Medicaid managed care program that launched in the summer of 2022 to better serve children and youth with complex behavioral health and multi-system needs. According to DEW, the law does not currently address which school district is responsible for paying tuition for a child who is placed in a residential treatment facility and receives education services through the facility (rather than from the district where the facility is located).**

**EDUCD13 Use of cellular telephones by students**

R.C. 3313.753

Requires each school district, community school, and STEM school to adopt a policy by January 1, 2026 prohibiting the use of cellular telephones by students during the instructional day, except for student learning or to monitor or address a health concern.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal.**

Executive

**EDUCD27 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) participation**

**R.C. 3313.8110, 3314.03, 3326.11**

Requires each school district, community school, and STEM school that participates in the federal school breakfast or lunch program and has an identified student percentage (i.e., the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals through direct certification due to their participation in certain other assistance programs) of at least 25% to participate in CEP and provide a free breakfast or lunch, respectively, to each enrolled student.

**Fiscal effect: May increase or decrease a district or school's federal school meal program reimbursements depending on whether a district or school currently participates and their identified student percentage. May reduce school meal program administration costs for districts and schools that do not currently participate in CEP and meet the 25% threshold. May indirectly decrease state foundation aid for districts and schools. DEW currently uses free and reduced-price lunch eligibility to identify students as economically disadvantaged for purposes of the state foundation aid formula's Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA) component. DPIA is based in part on how a district or school's concentration of students identified as economically disadvantaged compares to the state average. The bill's provision likely increases the population of students identified as economically disadvantaged, which in turn will increase the statewide average percentage of those students. As the statewide percentage rises, some districts' individual economically disadvantaged percentages may be smaller relative to the statewide percentage, resulting in decreased DPIA.**

**EDUCD18 Middle school career-technical education**

**R.C. 3313.90**

Eliminates, beginning in FY 2027, waivers from a school district's obligation to provide career-technical education to seventh and eighth graders.

**Fiscal effect: May increase costs for the 34% of districts that currently receive a waiver. However, those districts may also gain state aid. According to DEW, students in grades 7-8 who participate in approved career connection courses generate career-technical education weighted funds through the state foundation aid formula. Career connections courses involve career awareness and exploration activities.**

**EDUCD12 Competency-based adult education programs**

**R.C. 3313.902, 3314.38, 3345.86 (all repealed and reenacted), Section 733.20. Repealed: R.C. 3317.036, 3317.23, 3317.231, 3317.24**

Eliminates the Adult Diploma Program and 22+ Adult High School Diploma Program.

Permits an eligible city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district, community school, community college, state community college, technical college, university branch campus, or Ohio technical center ("provider") to establish a competency-based educational program for eligible individuals to earn a high school diploma.

Qualifies individuals who are at least 18 years old, have officially withdrawn from school, and who have not received a high school diploma or certificate of high school equivalence to participate in a competency-based educational program.

Requires DEW to award a high school diploma to enrolled individuals who demonstrate competency through specified activities or earn specified course credits.

**Executive**

Requires providers to report each individual enrolled in a competency-based educational program to DEW. Requires DEW to certify the enrollment and attendance of individuals reported by providers and make a payment to each provider of up to \$7,500 per school year based on the extent of each enrolled individual's successful completion of the program's diploma requirements.

Permits a provider to request DEW to permit an eligible individual to enroll in a program for more than the three permitted school years due to a hardship that necessitates additional time to meet the diploma requirements.

Requires a provider to contact individuals who receive a diploma under a program to collect data on the individual's career and educational outcomes and report that data to DEW.

Authorizes DEW to adopt rules for the programs as necessary, including program standards, requirements for determining amounts paid to providers, and guidelines for approving hardship requests for program participants.

Permits an individual enrolled in the Adult Diploma Program or 22+ Adult High School Diploma Program to either complete that program, so long as the individual completes it by June 30, 2027, or complete a new program established by the bill. Requires DEW to pay an eligible institution or eligible provider as required by the program an individual completes.

**Fiscal effect: The bill appropriates \$9.8 million in FY 2026 and \$9.9 million in FY 2027 from GRF ALI 200572, Adult Education Programs (see EDUCD2), most of which will be used to support the proposed programs.**

**EDUCD40 Auxiliary services funding for mental health services**

R.C. 3317.06

Permits chartered nonpublic schools to use auxiliary services funding for mental health services.

**Fiscal effect: None.**

**EDUCD24 Approval deadlines for career-technical education programs**

R.C. 3317.161

Eliminates the following deadlines related to approval of career-technical education programs:

- (1) The March 1st deadline for a lead district of a career-technical planning district to approve or disapprove a school district's, community school's, or STEM school's career-technical education program application;
- (2) The March 15th deadline for a district or school to appeal to DEW the lead district's decision or failure to take action on a career-technical education program application;
- (3) The May 15th deadline for DEW to approve or disapprove a career-technical education program for the next fiscal year.

Eliminates DEW's authority to identify circumstances in which it may approve or disapprove a career-technical education program after the May 15th deadline.

**Fiscal effect: Provides flexibility to career-technical planning districts to allow them to approve new career-technical education programs year round.**

Executive

**EDUCD17 School bus safety and driver training**

**R.C. 3327.101**

Requires, by July 1, 2026, employed school bus and motor van drivers to annually complete six hours of in-service training, rather than four hours as under current law.

Requires DEW to develop the curriculum for the in-service training and approve training providers by that date.

Authorizes the classroom portion of school bus driver recertification training to be conducted online, similar to the online courses for pre-service training and annual in service training under current law.

**Fiscal effect: The bill increases the earmarked funding from GRF ALI 200502, Pupil Transportation, for bus driver training by \$3.9 million in FY 2027 in large part to support the increased training requirement.**

**EDUCD83 School District Participation in National Assessment of Education Progress**

**Section: 265.390**

Expresses the General Assembly's intention that the DEW Director provide for school district participation in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Requires each selected school and school district to participate.

**EDUCD67 Earmark accountability**

**Section: 265.400**

Authorizes the DEW Director to request an annual accountability report from any entity that receives a budget earmark under DEW's budget.

Prohibits the provision of funds to an entity until its report for the prior fiscal year has been submitted.

**Fiscal effect: Minimal administrative costs in reporting for an entity that receives a budget earmark.**

**EDUCD85 Use of volunteers**

**Section: 265.420**

Authorizes DEW to use the services of volunteers to accomplish any of its purposes.

Authorizes the DEW Director to reimburse volunteers for necessary and appropriate expenses in accordance with state guidelines and to designate volunteers as state employees for the purposes of motor vehicle accident liability insurance and for performance of their duties.

**Fiscal effect: Depends on the extent of the use of volunteers for reimbursement of expenses. Potential cost savings for DEW if they can utilize volunteers for purposes which they would otherwise need to hire additional employees. This is a continuation of current law.**



Executive

**EDUCD68 Flexible funding for families and children**

**Section: 265.430**

Permits school districts, community schools, STEM schools, JVSs, ESCs, and county DD boards that receive state aid to transfer portions of their allocations to a flexible funding pool created by a county family and children first council to support the provision of services to families and children.

**EDUCD69 Private Treatment Facility Project**

**Section: 265.440**

Establishes procedures by which Ohio youth who have been assigned to a participating residential treatment center are enrolled in an approved educational program in or near the facility.

Defines participating residential treatment centers as (1) private residential treatment facilities that have contracted with the Department of Youth Services to provide services and which are paid through ALI 470401, RECLAIM Ohio, (2) Abraxas, in Shelby, (3) Paint Creek, in Bainbridge, and (4) F.I.R.S.T., in Mansfield.

Requires that the school district responsible for tuition for a residential child pay the tuition to the provider of the educational programs.

Prohibits a district from including the youth in the district's average daily membership (ADM).

Requires DEW to track the use of funds and monitor the program for educational accountability.

**Fiscal effect: In addition to tuition payments, the bill earmarks \$700,000 in each fiscal year from GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All Students, for the project (see EDUCD56).**

Appropriation Language

**EDUCD70 Career-Technical Education**

**Section: 265.20**

Requires DEW to use a portion of GRF ALI 200416, Career Technical Education, to provide matching funds related to federal CTE assistance.

**EDUCD71 Information Technology Development and Support**

**Section: 265.30**

Requires that GRF ALI 200420, Information Technology Development and Support, be used to support the development and implementation of information technology solutions designed to improve the performance and services provided by DEW.

Permits this ALI to also be used to support data-driven decision-making and communicate academic content standards and curriculum models through the Internet.

Executive

**EDUCD3 School Management Assistance**

**Section: 265.40**

Requires that GRF ALI 200422, School Management Assistance, be used by DEW to provide fiscal technical assistance and in-service education for school district management personnel and to administer, monitor, and implement the fiscal caution, fiscal watch, and fiscal emergency provisions of the Revised Code.

**EDUCD72 Policy Analysis**

**Section: 265.50**

Requires DEW to use GRF ALI 200424, Policy Analysis, to support a system of administrative and statistical education information to be used for policy analysis, including reports, analyses, and briefings.

Requires a portion of the ALI to be used to maintain a longitudinal database to support the assessment of the impact of policies and programs on Ohio's education and workforce development systems.

Requires funded research efforts to be used to supply information and analysis to and in consultation with the General Assembly and other state policymakers, including OBM and LSC.

**EDUCD4 Ohio Educational Computer Network**

**Section: 265.60**

Requires that GRF ALI 200426, Ohio Educational Computer Network, be used by DEW to maintain a system of information technology throughout Ohio and to provide technical assistance for such system. Makes the following earmarks:

- (1) Up to \$8,425,500 in each fiscal year to support connection of all public school buildings and participating chartered nonpublic schools to the state's education network, to each other, and to the internet.
- (2) Up to \$6,305,000 in each fiscal to support the activities of designated information technology centers and to monitor and support the quality of data submitted to DEW.
- (3) Up to \$1,650,000 in each fiscal year to support cybersecurity initiatives led by the Management Council of the Ohio Computer Education Network in public and nonpublic schools. Requires DEW to consult with the Governor's Cybersecurity Strategic Advisor in determining specific programs and initiatives to support.

Requires that the remainder of the ALI be used to support a network of uniform and compatible computer-based information and instructional systems, the teacher student linkage/roster verification process, and the electronic sharing of student records and transcripts between entities.

**EDUCD73 Academic Standards**

**Section: 265.70**

Makes the following earmarks from GRF ALI 200427, Academic Standards:

**Executive**

(1) Up to \$1,000,000 in FY 2026 to develop an integrated model curriculum that includes English language arts, social studies, and civics education, including support for content, instruction, and assessment.

(2) Up to \$500,000 in FY 2027 to develop and deploy professional learning for successful implementation of the integrated model curriculum to be delivered through the learning management system and regional partners.

Requires the remainder of the ALI be used to develop and communicate academic content standards and curriculum models to school districts and to develop professional development programs and other tools on those standards and curricula.

**EDUCD74 Student Assessment**

**Section: 265.80**

Earmarks up to \$622,713 each fiscal year from GRF ALI 200437, Student Assessment, to reimburse a portion of the costs associated with Advanced Placement and College-Level Examination Program tests for low-income students. Requires districts and schools to pay the remainder of the costs using other funds if the funds provided through this set-aside and federal funds are not sufficient to cover the costs of the exams.

Requires the remainder of the ALI to be used for the costs of state achievement assessments and similar purposes. Permits these funds to be used to update and develop diagnostic assessments for students in grades K-3 and readiness assessments for students in grades 3 and higher.

Permits the OBM Director to transfer the available balance of other GRF ALIs in DEW's budget to this ALI if the DEW Director indicates to the OBM Director that additional funds are needed to fully fund mandated assessments.

**EDUCD75 Accountability/Report Cards**

**Section: 265.90**

Requires DEW to use a portion of GRF ALI 200439, Accountability/Report Cards in each fiscal year to train specialists and educators in the use of the value added progress dimension and the use of data as it relates to improving student achievement. Allows such training to include teacher and administrator professional development in the use of data to improve instruction and student learning and understanding teacher value-added reports.

Requires DEW to use the remainder of the ALI to incorporate a statewide value-added progress dimension into performance ratings for school districts and to develop an accountability system that includes school report cards, funding and expenditure accountability reports, teacher value-added reports, teacher student linkage/roster verification, and the performance management section of DEW's web site.

**EDUCD76 Education Management Information System**

**Section: 265.100**

Requires DEW to use GRF ALI 200446, Education Management Information System, to improve the Education Management Information System (EMIS) and makes the following earmarks:

(1) Up to \$405,000 in each fiscal year to support grants to information technology centers for EMIS professional development for districts and school personnel, with a focus on data submission and data quality.

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**Executive**

(2) Up to \$950,000 in each fiscal year for distribution to designated information technology centers for data processing, storage, and transfer costs. Allows such costs to include personnel, hardware, software development, communications connectivity, professional development, and support services. Requires the remainder of the ALI to be used to develop and support the data definitions and standards outlined in EMIS guidelines, implement recommendations of the EMIS Advisory Council and the DEW Director, enhance data quality assurance practices, and support responsibilities related to school report cards and value-added progress dimension calculations.

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**EDUCD91 Educator and Principal Preparation****Section: 265.110**

Makes the following earmarks of GRF ALI 200448, Educator and Principal Preparation:

- (1) Up to \$5,000,000 in each fiscal year to support the Principal Apprenticeship Program (see EDUCD55). Permits awards of the program to be used by recipients for award-related expenses according to DEW guidelines.
  - (2) Up to \$1,612,500 in each fiscal year for DEW, in consultation with ODVS, to support the Ohio Military Veterans Educator Program. Permits the program to do all of the following:
    - (a) Administer a grant program for higher education institutions for financial incentives and assistance for military individuals to enroll or complete an educator preparation program;
    - (b) Subsidize costs for military individuals to complete college coursework or professional development in order to obtain an alternative military educator license or to advance to a professional license;
    - (c) Provide funds to public schools, educational service centers, and county boards of developmental disabilities supporting recruitment of eligible military individuals;
    - (d) Reimburse public schools, educational service centers, and county boards of developmental disabilities that pay financial bonuses to eligible military individuals who complete at least one year of employment with the school; and
    - (e) In consultation with ODVS, establish and support the Ohio Military Veteran Educators Fellowship Pilot Program.
  - (3) Up to \$350,993 in FY 2026 and \$364,254 in FY 2027 for DEW to monitor and support Ohio's State System of Support under federal law.
  - (4) \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year to support Teach for America.
  - (5) \$200,000 in each fiscal year to support FASTER Saves Lives training for selected school staff.
- Permits recipients to use awards for award-related expenses for up to two years from the date of the award.
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Executive

**EDUCD77 Community Schools and Choice Programs**

**Section: 265.120**

Permits DEW to use GRF ALI 200455, Community Schools and Choice Programs, for the oversight and support of community schools, their sponsors, and nonpublic schools; the administration of school choice programs; and to support the sponsor evaluation system.

**EDUCD5 Education Technology Resources**

**Section: 265.130**

Makes the following earmarks to GRF ALI 200465, Education Technology Resources:

- (1) Up to \$2,500,000 in each fiscal year for the Union Catalog and InfOhio Network to support the provision of electronic resources with priority given to resources that support the teaching of state academic content standards in all public schools and resources in support of Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement. Requires DEW to consider coordinating the allocation of these moneys with the efforts of Libraries Connect Ohio, whose members include OhioLINK, the Ohio Public Information Network, and the State Library of Ohio.
- (2) Up to \$1,778,879 in each fiscal year to provide grants to educational television stations working with partner education technology centers to provide public schools with instructional resources and services aligned with state academic content standards. Requires that such resources and services be based upon the advice and approval of DEW, based on a formula developed in consultation with educational television stations and educational technology centers.

Requires that the remainder be used to support the training, technical support, guidance, and assistance with compliance reporting to school districts and public libraries applying for federal E-Rate funds; for oversight and guidance of school district technology plans; for support to district technology personnel; and for support of the development, maintenance, and operation of a network of computer-based information and instructional systems.

**EDUCD92 Industry-Recognized Credentials High School Students**

**Section: 265.140**

Requires public schools to inform students enrolled in career-technical education courses that lead to an industry-recognized credential about the opportunity to earn these credentials. Requires the educating entity to pay for the cost of the credential.

Requires DEW and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation to use GRF ALI 200478, Industry-Recognized Credentials High School Students, to support the Innovative Workforce Incentive Program. Requires that DEW pay public schools \$725 for each qualifying credential earned in the preceding year. Requires DEW to prorate the payments if the appropriation is insufficient.

**EDUCD6 Pupil Transportation**

**Section: 265.150**

Makes the following earmarks to GRF ALI 200502, Pupil Transportation:

**Executive**

(1) Up to \$1,088,930 in FY 2026 and up to \$4,988,930 in FY 2027 for DEW to support training school bus drivers (see EDUCD17) and enrolling them in the Retained Applicant Fingerprint Database (RAPBACK).

(2) Up to \$176,897,678 in FY 2026 and \$194,820,866 in FY 2027 for special education transportation reimbursements to school districts, ESCs, and county DD boards (see EDUCD87).

Requires that the remainder of the appropriation be used for pupil transportation formula payments.

Requires a school district, if the person in charge of a pupil accepts the offer of payment in lieu of providing transportation, to pay that person not less than 50% and not more than the average cost of pupil transportation for the previous school year as determined by DEW.

**EDUCD7 School Meal Programs**

**Section: 265.160**

Requires that GRF ALI 200505, School Meal Programs, be used to provide reimbursements to make reduced-price school meals free and to provide matching funds to obtain federal funds for the school lunch program.

Permits any remaining appropriation to be used to partially reimburse school buildings required to have a school breakfast program and to support the Summer EBT Program in coordination with the Department of Job and Family Services.

**EDUCD78 Auxiliary Services**

**Section: 265.170**

Earmarks up to \$2,600,000 in each fiscal year of GRF ALI 200511, Auxiliary Services, for nonpublic secondary school student participation in the College Credit Plus Program.

Requires the remainder of the appropriation be used for auxiliary services for chartered nonpublic schools. Permits school districts or chartered nonpublic schools to use auxiliary services funding to provide diagnostic or therapeutic mental health services to students enrolled in chartered nonpublic schools at any time during FY 2026 (see EDUCD40).

**EDUCD79 Nonpublic Administrative Cost Reimbursement**

**Section: 265.180**

Requires that GRF ALI 200532, Nonpublic Administrative Cost Reimbursement, be used to reimburse chartered nonpublic schools for their administrative costs associated with maintaining their state charter.

Requires that reimbursements not exceed \$475 per student for each school year.

**EDUCD93 Special Education Enhancements**

**Section: 265.190**

Makes the following earmarks from GRF ALI 200540, Special Education Enhancements:

**Executive**

(1) Up to \$33,945,594 in each fiscal year to fund special education and related services for school-age children at county DD boards and state institutions (see EDUCD90). Requires that DEW reduce the calculated amounts proportionately if the earmark is not sufficient.

(2) Up to \$1,350,000 in each fiscal year for parent mentoring programs.

(3) Up to \$3,000,000 in each fiscal year for school psychology interns.

(4) Up to \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year to be used by DEW to build capacity to deliver a regional system of training, support, coordination, and direct service for secondary transition services for students with disabilities beginning at age 14.

Requires DEW to use the remainder of the ALI to distribute preschool special education funding for school districts and state institutions (see EDUCD88). Requires funded entities to adhere to Ohio's early learning program standards, to participate in and be rated through the Step Up to Quality program, to document child progress using research-based indicators, and to report results annually.

**EDUCD58 Career-Technical Education Enhancements**

**Section: 265.200**

Makes the following earmarks to GRF ALI 200545, Career-Technical Education Enhancements:

(1) Up to \$16,325,000 in each fiscal year for career awareness and exploration funds (see EDUCD20). Requires DEW to prorate the awards if the earmark is not sufficient.

(2) Up to \$2,563,000 in each fiscal year to fund grants for secondary career-technical education at correctional institutions and Ohio Deaf and Blind Education Services.

(3) Up to \$9,600,000 in each fiscal year for DEW to fund competitive expansion grants to tech prep consortia.

(4) Up to \$600,000 in each fiscal year to fund the Agriculture 5th Quarter Project.

(5) Up to \$650,000 in each fiscal year to support career planning and reporting through the OhioMeansJobs website.

(6) \$250,000 in each fiscal year for the Ohio ProStart school restaurant program.

**EDUCD56 Foundation Funding - All Students**

**Section: 265.210**

Makes the following earmarks from GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All Students:

(1) An amount calculated by DEW in each fiscal year from formula aid to traditional school districts, JVSs, and community and STEM schools for a payment to support exceptionally high costs associated with individual special education students.

(2) Up to \$5,733,404 in each fiscal year for gifted education at educational service centers (ESCs), distributed through the unit-based methodology in place prior to FY 2010.

(3) Up to \$49,152,105 in FY 2026 and up to \$51,023,465 in FY 2027 for operational reimbursement of ESCs (see EDUCD89).



**Executive**

- (4) Up to \$3,500,000 in each fiscal year to ESCs for school improvement initiatives and to provide technical assistance to schools and districts. Permits DEW to distribute these funds through competitive grants.
- (5) Up to \$7,000,000 in each fiscal year for power plant valuation adjustments (see EDUCD59). Allows the DEW Director to reallocate excess funds from other purposes in ALI 200550 if this earmark is insufficient.
- (6) Up to \$12,400,000 in FY 2026 and up to \$12,800,000 in FY 2027 for the administration of state scholarship programs.
- (7) Up to \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year for the Cleveland Municipal School District to provide tutorial assistance. Requires CMSD to report the use of these funds in its three-year continuous improvement plan.
- (8) Up to \$3,000,000 in each fiscal year for payment of the College Credit Plus Program for home-educated students.
- (9) An amount in each fiscal year for payment of formula aid to JVSs (see EDUCD28).
- (10) Up to \$700,000 in each fiscal year for a program to pay for educational services for youth assigned by a juvenile court or other authorized agency to a facility in the Private Treatment Facility Project (see EDUCD69).
- (11) An amount to pay college-preparatory boarding schools a per-pupil boarding amount.
- (12) Up to \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year for duties and activities related to the establishment of academic distress commissions, to provide support and assistance to academic distress commissions, and to provide technical assistance and tools to support districts subject to academic distress commissions.
- (13) Up to \$1,500,000 in each fiscal year for the Ohio STEM Learning Network to support the expansion of free STEM programming aligned to Ohio's STEM priorities, to create regional STEM supports targeting underserved student populations, and to support the Ohio STEM Committee's STEM school designation process.
- (14) Up to \$1,500,000 in each fiscal year for the Stay in the Game! Network and efforts to reduce chronic absenteeism.

Requires the remainder of the ALI to be used to distribute formula aid to schools.

Establishes that the primary purpose of GRF ALIs 200502, Pupil Transportation, and 200550 Foundation Funding - All Students, other than specific set-asides, is to pay state formula aid obligations to public schools and state scholarship programs. Requires the DEW Director to seek approval from the OBM Director to transfer appropriations if necessary to meet state formula aid obligations.

Authorizes the payment of school operating funds in amounts substantially equal to those made in the prior year until changes to the school funding formulas take effect.

**EDUCD1 Literacy Improvement**

**Section: 265.250**

Requires GRF ALI 200566, Literacy Improvement, to support literacy activities to align state, local, and federal efforts in order to bolster all students' reading success. Permits the distribution of funds to ESCs to establish and support regional literacy professional development teams. Permits a portion of this amount be used for DEW's administration of the program.

Executive

**EDUCD94 Literacy coaches**

**Section: 265.250**

Requires Fund 7017 ALI 2006A7, Literacy Coaches, to be used for coaches to provide literacy supports to school districts, community schools, and STEM schools with the lowest rates of proficiency in literacy based on their performance on the English language arts assessments. Requires the coaches to be trained in the science of reading and evidence-based strategies for effective literacy instruction and intervention, and requires them to implement Ohio's Coaching Model as described in Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement. Requires the coaches to be under the direction of, but not employed by DEW.

**EDUCD2 Adult Education Programs**

**Section: 265.260**

Requires a portion of GRF ALI 200572, Adult Education Programs, to be used to make payments for competency-based adult education (see EDUCD12). Requires career-technical planning districts (CTPDs) to reimburse first-time takers of a nationally recognized high school equivalency examination approved by DEW for application or examination fees in excess of \$40, up to a maximum reimbursement of \$80. Requires each CTPD to designate a site or sites where individuals may register and take an approved examination and to offer career counseling services for each individual that registers for the examination. Permits a portion of the ALI to reimburse the Department of Youth Services and the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for individuals in these facilities who have taken the approved examination for the first time.

Permits DEW to encumber any unexpended funds in each fiscal year, which remain available for payment within two years of the fiscal year in which the funds were originally appropriated.

Requires a portion of the ALI to be used for program administration, technical assistance, support, research, and evaluation of adult education programs, including high school equivalency examinations approved by DEW.

**EDUCD80 Half-Mill Maintenance Equalization**

**Section: 265.270**

Requires GRF ALI 200574, Half-Mill Maintenance Equalization, to be used to make payments under the Half- Mill Maintenance Equalization Program, which provides funds to equalize below average per-pupil tax revenues from the one-half mill levy required of districts to help pay for maintenance costs of new or renovated buildings financed through the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program.

**EDUCD64 Adaptive Sports Program**

**Section: 265.270**

Requires GRF ALI 200576, Adaptive Sports Program, to be used by DEW, in collaboration with the Adaptive Sports Program of Ohio, to fund adaptive sports programs in school districts across the state and for intercollegiate adaptive athletics programs that provide opportunities for competitive wheelchair and adaptive sports to postsecondary students with disabilities.

Executive

**EDUCD65 Medicaid in Schools Program**

**Section: 265.280**

Requires that GRF ALI 657401, Medicaid in Schools Program, be used by DEW to support the Medicaid in Schools Program.

**EDUCD8 School District Solvency Assistance**

**Section: 265.290**

Requires that Fund 5H30 ALI 200687, School District Solvency Assistance, be used to provide assistance and grants to school districts to enable them to remain solvent. Requires that assistance and grants be subject to approval of the Controlling Board.

Permits the OBM Director, upon the request of the DEW Director, to transfer cash into the School District Solvency Assistance Fund (Fund 5H30) in each fiscal year from the GRF or any funds used by DEW to maintain a sufficient cash balance in the fund. Appropriates any funds so transferred. Requires the OBM Director to notify the Controlling Board of any such transfers.

**EDUCD60 Foundation Funding - All Students and GRF cash transfer to Fund 5VS0**

**Section: 265.300, 512.10**

Requires Fund 5VS0 ALI 200604, Foundation Funding - All Students, to be used in conjunction with GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All Students, and Fund 7017 ALI 200612, Foundation Funding - All Students, to distribute DPIA and the portions of the state share of the base cost attributable to student wellness and success.

Allows the OBM Director to transfer \$600,000,000 cash in each fiscal year from the GRF to the Foundation Funding - All Students Fund (Fund 5VS0).

**EDUCD61 Public and Nonpublic Education Support**

**Section: 265.310**

Requires Fund 5Y00 ALI 200491, Public and Nonpublic Education Support, to be used in conjunction with GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All Students, to distribute formula aid to schools.

**EDUCD10 School Bus Safety**

**Section: 265.320**

Requires that Fund 7017 ALI 200413, School Bus Safety, be used to support a school bus safety grant program, as recommended by the Governor's School Bus Safety Working Group and in accordance with guidelines established by DEW. Requires specific safety features to be informed by the Working Group and in consultation with the Department of Public Safety.

Requires DEW to create an application for eligible applicants to request funds. Requires applicants to provide details on the funding amount, number of buses affected, and specific safety improvements. Requires DEW to apply a measure of local capacity in determining grant allocations and permits DEW to set minimum or maximum funding limits.

**Executive**

Requires eligible applicants to use school bus safety grant funds for repairs, replacements, or adding safety features to active buses, or for enhancements when purchasing new buses. Prohibits funds from being used for buses not owned by the applicant.

Defines "eligible applicant" as any of the following entities that provide transportation services: (1) a city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district; (2) a community school; (3) a STEM school; (4) a county board of developmental disabilities; or (5) a chartered nonpublic school.

**EDUCD62 Foundation Funding - All Students - Lottery**

**Section: 265.330**

Requires Fund 7017 ALI 200612, Foundation Funding - All Students, to be used in conjunction with GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All Students, to distribute formula aid to schools.

Requires DEW, with the approval of the OBM Director, to determine the monthly distribution schedules of these ALIs and requires DEW to make any necessary adjustments to the schedule with the approval of the OBM Director.

**EDUCD9 Accelerate Great Schools**

**Section: 265.340**

Requires SLF ALI 200614, Accelerate Great Schools, to be used by DEW to support the Accelerate Great Schools public-private partnership.

**EDUCD81 Quality Community and Independent STEM Schools Support**

**Section: 265.350**

Requires Fund 7017 ALI 200631, Quality Community and Independent STEM Schools Support, to be distributed for the Quality Community School Support and the Quality Independent STEM School Support programs (see EDUCD31).

Authorizes, upon request of the Director of DEW and approval of the Controlling Board, the appropriation of additional amounts needed to support payments if the amount appropriated is insufficient.

**EDUCD82 Community School Facilities**

**Section: 265.360**

Requires Fund 7017 ALI 200684, Community School Facilities, to be used to pay for the facilities costs for community schools, STEM schools, and e-schools (see EDUCD30). If the appropriation is insufficient, requires DEW to prorate payments so the aggregate appropriation is not exceeded.

**EDUCD63 Lottery Profits Education Reserve Fund**

**Section: 265.370**

Creates the Lottery Profits Education Reserve Fund (Fund 7018) in the State Treasury and requires investment earnings of the fund to be credited to the fund.

Permits the OBM Director to transfer cash from Fund 7018 to the Lottery Profits Education Fund (Fund 7017) in each fiscal year.

**Executive**

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Requires the Director of the Ohio Lottery Commission, on July 15 of each fiscal year, to certify to the OBM Director the amount by which lottery profit transfers received by Fund 7017 exceeded \$1,440,000,000 in FY 2025 and \$1,462,000,000 in FY 2026, respectively.

Allows the OBM Director to transfer cash in excess of the amounts necessary to support appropriations in Fund 7017 from that fund to Fund 7018.

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**EDUCD66 ESSER funding for Afterschool Child Enrichment (ACE) education savings accounts**

**Section: 265.380**

Requires DEW to use the ESSER state activity funds provided under the federal American Rescue Plan Act to support the ACE Educational Savings Account Program in FY 2026.

**Fiscal effect: Provides an additional year of federal coronavirus relief funding for ACE educational savings accounts.**

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Executive

**KIDCD38 DCY duties and responsibilities and conforming changes**

**R.C. 121.37, 149.43, 1347.08, 2101.16, 2151.3527, 2151.421, 3107.062-3107.065, 3107.391, 3115.201, 3301.0714, 3301.0723, 3301.541, 3701.045, 5101.211, 5101.212, 5101.215, 5101.222, 5101.242, 5101.26, 5101.272, 5101.273, 5101.28, 5101.30, 5101.33, 5101.351, 5101.38, 5101.461, 5101.892, 5101.899, 5103.021, 5103.15, 5103.155, 5103.41, 5104.37, 5104.99, 5123.191, 5139.05, 5139.08, 5139.34, 5153.10; Section 830.10**

Makes conforming changes and technical corrections to reflect the transfer of various duties and responsibilities to DCY in H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly.

Transfers or adds responsibility related to specified other programs to DCY, including the Putative Father Registry, child fatality review boards, scholars residential centers, access to records of public assistance recipients, access to DCY records by the Youth and Family Ombudsman Office, coordination with DYS, and providing technical assistance to a court-appointed receiver of a DODD-licensed residential facility.

**Fiscal effect: Costs relating to programs and activities being transferred or relating to any additional responsibilities will also be transferred to DCY and will be reflected in DCY’s budget rather than ODJFS, ODH, or other applicable state agency budgets.**

**KIDCD22 Preschool and school child program inspections and report**

**R.C. 3301.57**

Requires DCY alone, instead of with DEW, to: (1) provide consultation and technical assistance to entities operating preschool programs or school child programs and in-service training to staff members of those entities; (2) annually inspect each preschool program and licensed school child program; and (3) prepare an annual report on those inspections.

**Fiscal effect: Any costs DEW currently incurs relating to these duties will be eliminated.**

**KIDCD23 Contracts with entities for autism services**

**R.C. 3323.32**

Requires DCY, when applicable, to contract with an entity to administer programs and coordinate services for infants, preschool and school-age children, and adults with autism and low incidence disabilities, mirroring existing law requiring DEW to contract with an entity to administer such programs and coordinate such services.

Also requires the DCY Director, like the DEW Director under current law, to give primary consideration to the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence as the contracting entity.

**Fiscal effect: DCY's costs will depend upon the contract amount and the number of contracts necessary.**

Executive

**FCCCD9 Major and minor league sports facilities and youth sports education funding**

**R.C. 123.28, 123.281, 123.282**

Requires OFCC to administer the Sports Facilities Construction and Sports Education Fund ("fund") to support construction and renovation of major sports facilities and minor league sports facilities throughout Ohio for the economic benefit of the state, and to support youth sports education.

Creates the seven-member Ohio Advisory Committee for Sports Facility Construction and Youth Sports Education ("committee") to evaluate and approve projects to be supported by the fund and administered by OFCC.

Entitles public members to a per diem rate of \$500 a day on the days they meet and entitles all members to actual and necessary expenses.

Requires the committee to recommend policies and procedures for the administration of the fund for review and adoption by OFCC, prioritizing economic development through major sports facilities, major sports facility mixed-use projects and minor league sports facilities, youth sports education, and facilities that enable training in team or individual sports.

Requires projects to be awarded from the fund by a majority vote of the committee.

Requires the Directors of DEW, ODPS, and ODH, and the ADJ to advise the committee on what skills, facilities, and programs are necessary for youth sports education, and to publish, as needed, standards for youth sports education for K-12 students.

Permits the committee to recommend criteria to OFCC to establish, and permits OFCC to implement, a grant program that helps Ohio communities secure major sporting events, using monies from the fund.

Permits the committee to recommend to the Tax Commissioner the creation of tax credits to support youth sports education.

**Fiscal effect: OBM estimates that up to \$161.4 million in FY 2026 and up to \$167.4 million in FY 2027 will be transferred to the Sports Facilities Construction and Sports Education Fund. However the bill does not contain an appropriation for OFCC to operate the fund or program.**

Executive

**BORCD90 Attainment Goal 2025 replacement**

**R.C. 3333.0415**

Replaces the outdated requirement that the Chancellor and DEW prepare an annual report regarding the progress the state is making in increasing the percentage of adults with a postsecondary credential to 65% by the year 2025 with one that requires the Chancellor, DEW, and OWT to establish the level of attainment necessary to achieve identified performance targets across a range of degrees and credentials.

**Fiscal effect: None.**

**BORCD43 Governor's Merit Scholarship**

**Section: 381.400**

Requires that GRF ALI 235530, Governor's Merit Scholarship, be used to administer and award individual merit-based scholarships of \$5,000 per academic year to eligible students determined to be in the top 5% of their public or chartered nonpublic high school's graduating class at the end of their junior year, as determined by their high school using criteria established by the Chancellor in consultation with the DEW Director. Requires each high school to provide the information as requested by the Chancellor to determine scholarship eligibility.

Requires eligible students to receive an award for up to the equivalent of four academic years at a public or private, nonprofit institution of higher education, contingent on satisfactory academic progress.

Requires the Chancellor and DEW Director to determine eligibility for home-schooled high school graduates to provide them with a similar level of access to the scholarship.

Prohibits a qualifying higher education institution receiving funds under this program from either (1) changing their scholarship or financial aid programs to shift the cost of those programs onto this one or (2) reducing their level of merit-based financial aid below what they provided in the most recent academic year in the aggregate to all students or on a per-student basis.

Permits the Chancellor to establish guidelines to implement this program.

**BORCD76 College Credit Plus Program engagement and model pathways**

**Section: 381.720**

Permits the Chancellor and DEW Director to take action as necessary to ensure that public colleges and universities and school districts are fully engaging and participating in the College Credit Plus (CCP) Program including publicly displaying program participation data by district and institution.

Requires the Chancellor and DEW Director, to work with public secondary schools and partnering public colleges and universities, as necessary, to encourage the establishment of CCP model pathways that prepare participants to successfully enter the workforce in certain fields.

Requires students enrolled under a statewide innovative waiver pathway to follow a model pathway, with priority given to pathways aligned with engineering technology and other fields essential to the superconductor industry.

**Fiscal effect: Potential minimal increase in administrative costs for ODHE and DEW.**



## Executive

**BORCD80 Ohio Tech Talent Initiative****Section: 381.760**

Establishes the Ohio Tech Talent Initiative to promote, prioritize, and expand engineering technician education for engineering technology and other fields essential to the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries. Authorizes the Chancellor to determine the list of academic programs to be included, with OWT, based on the Classification of Instructional Program (CIP).

Requires, for certain model and statewide innovative waiver pathways, the Chancellor and DEW Director, in conjunction with OWT, to jointly collaborate with public secondary schools and partnering public colleges and universities to establish, promote, and prioritize pathways that prepare participants to successfully enter the workforce in engineering technology and other fields essential to the semiconductor or advanced manufacturing industries.

Requires the Chancellor and DEW Director to also leverage the one-year option credit articulation process for students enrolled in OTCs who complete a 900-hour program of study and obtain an industry-recognized credential.

Authorizes the Chancellor and DEW Director to use funds from the following operating and capital ALIs: (1) GRF ALI 235438, Choose Ohio First; (2) Fund 5NH0 ALI 235517, Ohio Work Ready Grant; (3) GRF ALI 235425, Ohio Work Ready Grant; (4) Fund 5YD0 ALI 235494, Second Chance Grant Program; (5) Fund 7034 ALI C23528, Workforce Based Training and Equipment; (6) GRF ALI 195556, TechCred Program; and, (7) other appropriation items as determined by the Chancellor and OWT.

Authorizes the Chancellor to require state and private institutions of higher education to establish a workforce-education partnership, and to require that each partnership specifically focus on engineering technology and other fields essential to the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries.

**Fiscal effect: ODHE may incur additional costs to administer the initiative. Any ALIs used to support the initiative will incur an increase in expenditures should the Chancellor and DEW Director choose to use them.**

**BORCD81 Direct admissions****Section: 381.770**

Requires the Chancellor and DEW Director to establish a direct admissions pilot program to notify high school students if they meet the admissions requirements of participating postsecondary education institutions.

Requires the Chancellor to endeavor to implement the program so that students graduating in the 2026-2027 school year may participate.

Requires the Chancellor, as part of the program, to do all of the following:

(1) Establish an automated process that uses a student's academic record in existing student information systems and information held by a student's high school to determine whether the student meets the admissions requirements; and

(2) Issue a report, at least once each school year, about the pilot program, and submit it to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, DEW Director, OBM Director, OWT, and the Governor.

**Executive**

Authorizes the Chancellor to terminate the pilot program if its operation is determined impracticable.

Permits a participating school governing body to adopt a written policy authorizing its high schools to participate in the pilot program.

Requires a participating school governing body to develop a procedure to determine if students who wish to participate in the pilot program meet any eligibility requirements established by the Chancellor.

Prohibits requiring any student, school, or institution to participate in the pilot program.

**Fiscal effect: The program is voluntary for secondary and postsecondary institutions. ODHE's administrative costs will increase to develop and implement the pilot program. However, ODHE may terminate it if its operation is determined impracticable.**

Executive

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**OHSCD4 Outreach and Partnership**

**Section: 297.20**

Earmarks \$1,819,085 in each fiscal year from GRF ALI 360509, Outreach and Partnership, to be used for students and teachers to access the Ohio as America social studies curriculum in partnership with DEW.

Requires OHC to report the number of students, teachers, and schools using the curriculum to OBM quarterly.

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**Executive**

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**DPSCD5** Driver training in schools grant program

**Section: 373.30**

Requires Fund QG18 ALI 769639, Safe Driving Program, be used by ODPS, in consultation with DEW, to administer the driver training in schools grant program established in R.C. 4508.023.

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Executive

RDFCD5 Property tax reimbursement - Education

Section: 387.20

Requires GRF ALI 200903, Property Tax Reimbursement - Education, to be used for paying the state's costs incurred because of the property tax rollback, the homestead exemption, and certain other property tax exemptions. Requires EDU, in cooperation with TAX, to distribute these funds directly to the appropriate school districts. Appropriates any additional sums that may be needed to make these payments. Requires each school district to distribute these payments among the proper funds as if they had been paid as real or tangible personal property taxes. Requires payments for the costs of administration to be paid to the county treasurer and county auditor for the subsequent distribution to the appropriate school districts as prescribed by law.