

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200
Hartford, CT 06106 ◇ (860) 240-0200
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

sSB-1513

AN ACT CONCERNING ASPIRING EDUCATORS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: See Below

Explanation

The bill expands eligibility for the Aspiring Educators Scholarship Program, which results in a cost to the State Department of Education beginning in FY 26. The bill additionally: (1) extends a teacher recruitment partial set-aside of the Alliance District portion of the ECS grant into FY 26; (2) makes the Talent Office within the State Department of Education (SDE) responsible for numerous teacher recruitment activities; and (3) makes technical and procedural changes related to teacher recruitment. Fiscal impacts are described below.

Section 1 expands eligibility for the Aspiring Educators Scholarship Program to students who graduated from any Connecticut public high school, rather than in Alliance Districts only, and are underrepresented in the teaching profession. This results in a cost annually to SDE beginning in FY 26. Costs will vary based on the number of additional award recipients due to the bill, and the amount of grants they receive. In FY 25, \$10 million was appropriated for the program and \$770,000 has been spent; 149 applicants have been awarded scholarships.

Section 2 requires SDE to annually determine populations that are underrepresented in the teaching profession in order to implement

Primary Analyst: CF
Contributing Analyst(s): DD, CR
Reviewer: JS

5/7/25

Section 1. This has no fiscal impact as SDE has sufficient expertise to make the determination.

Sections 3 - 9, 13 - 17, and 19 move the administration of various teacher recruitment programs and responsibilities to SDE's Talent Office and make technical changes to related programs, a task force, and a council. These sections have no net fiscal impact to SDE.

Section 10 extends, through FY 26, the requirement that a portion of an Alliance District's ECS increase must be used for aspiring educator recruitment and retention. In FY 25, 25 districts had ECS funding set aside for the aspiring educators portion, ranging from approximately \$28,000 to \$707,000.

Sections 11 and 12 require each local and regional board of education to submit and implement an aspiring educator recruitment plan by March 15, 2026. This has no fiscal impact to boards of education as it is anticipated they can meet the requirements with existing resources.

Section 18 expands eligibility for an Office of Higher Education teacher incentive program. This is not anticipated to have a fiscal impact as it is not expected to increase the number of recipients of the program's grant.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the level of funding of the scholarship program and award amounts, and the number of applicants.