

SUBCHAPTER R. PREPARING AND RETAINING EDUCATORS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

TEC, §21.901 (Definitions)

Sec. 21.901. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Alternative partnership preservice program" means the Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership Alternative Preservice Program established under Section 21.905.

(2) "Board" means the State Board for Educator Certification.

(3) "Cooperating teacher" means a classroom teacher who:

(A) has at least three full school years of teaching experience with a superior record of assisting students in achieving improvement in student performance;

(B) is employed as a teacher of record by a school district or open-enrollment charter school participating in a partnership preservice program or grow your own partnership program under this subchapter and paired with one or more teacher candidates, students, or employees who are participating in a program under this subchapter; and

(C) provides coaching in the teacher's classroom to one or more teacher candidates, students, or employees participating in a program under this subchapter.

(4) "Grow your own partnership program" means the Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership Grow Your Own Partnership Program established under Section 21.906.

(5) "Mentor teacher" means a mentor teacher as described by Section 21.458.

(6) "Partnership preservice program" means a Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership Preservice Program established under Section 21.902.

(7) "Residency partnership preservice program" means the Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership Residency Preservice Program established under Section 21.904.

(8) "Teacher candidate" means a person enrolled in an educator preparation program participating in a partnership preservice program.

(9) "Traditional partnership preservice program" means the Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership Traditional Preservice Program established under Section 21.903.

TEC, §21.906 (PREP Grow Your Own Partnership Program)

Sec. 21.906. PREPARING AND RETAINING EDUCATORS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP GROW YOUR OWN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM. (a) The commissioner shall establish the Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership Grow Your Own Partnership Program to enable qualified institutions of higher education and educator preparation programs, as determined by the commissioner, to form partnerships with school districts or open-enrollment charter schools to establish innovative staffing pipelines to ensure the availability of high-quality classroom teachers

to benefit future district or school students.

(b) The grow your own partnership program must be designed to form partnerships that support:

(1) high school students in completing career and technical education courses that help prepare the students to become classroom teachers; or

(2) district or school employees who do not hold a teaching certificate in completing a bachelor's degree to enable the person to become a classroom teacher while employed by the district or school.

(c) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may participate in a grow your own partnership program only if the district or school has been approved to participate in a partnership preservice program.

(d) A school district or open-enrollment charter school participating in the grow your own partnership program shall:

(1) for a partnership described by Subsection (b)(1), provide:

(A) authentic opportunities, which may be paid or unpaid, for students to practice teaching under the supervision of one or more cooperating teachers; and

(B) guidance and other transition supports as a student begins an undergraduate degree program that offers a route to teacher preparation;

(2) for a partnership described by Subsection (b)(2), provide for a district or school employee:

(A) scheduled release time to support the completion of a bachelor's degree;

(B) authentic opportunities to practice teaching under the supervision of one or more cooperating teachers;

(C) on-the-job training aligned with the standards for educator certification established by the board;

(D) a job assignment that includes instructional support for students enrolled in the district or school; and

(E) guidance and other transition supports as the employee begins a program to satisfy the teacher preparation requirements under Section 21.04421, 21.04422, or 21.04423;

(3) enter into a written agreement with an institution of higher education or educator preparation program;

(4) require an employee participating in a partnership described by Subsection (b)(2) to, as a condition for participation, earn a bachelor's degree and enroll in an educator preparation program within three years of beginning participation in the partnership; and

(5) provide any information required by the agency regarding the district's or school's implementation of the grow your own partnership program.

(e) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may use money received under Section 48.157 to implement the grow your own partnership program and pay tuition and fees for students or employees participating in the program.

(f) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may only pair a student or employee participating in the program with a cooperating teacher who agrees to participate in that role in a grow your own partnership program at the district or school.

(g) A student or employee participating in the program may not serve:

(1) as a teacher of record; or

(2) except as provided by Subsection (h), in a position in which the student or employee has the primary or sole responsibility of providing instruction or supervision to students.

(h) A student or employee participating in the program may serve in a position described by Subsection (g)(2) for the limited purpose of gaining experience in the position. The student's or employee's amount of time serving in that position may not exceed the amount of time during which the teacher of record for the students has the primary or sole responsibility of providing instruction or supervision to those students.

TEC, §21.909 (Program Standards and Performance Goals)

Sec. 21.909. PROGRAM STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS. (a) The commissioner shall adopt rules establishing:

(1) standards for partnership programs established under this subchapter, including eligibility criteria for educator preparation programs and institutions of higher education to participate in the partnership programs; and

(2) performance goals for partnership programs established under this subchapter.

(b) The commissioner shall periodically review the performance of each partnership program established under this subchapter to ensure the program meets the standards and performance goals established under Subsection (a).

(c) If, in reviewing a partnership program under Subsection (b), the commissioner determines that the program has failed to meet a performance goal established under Subsection (a), the commissioner shall prohibit the entity that failed to meet the performance goal from participating in a partnership program under this subchapter for a period not to exceed five years.

[Enrolled version of House Bill 2 \(89R\)](#)

TEC, §48.157 (PREP Allotment)

Sec. 48.157. PREPARING AND RETAINING EDUCATORS THROUGH

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM ALLOTMENT. (a) In this section, "teacher candidate" has the meaning assigned by Section 21.901.

(b) Subject to Subsections (f) and (g), a school district is entitled to an annual allotment equal to each of the following applicable amounts:

(1) for each teacher candidate completing preservice practice hours at the district under Section 21.903, the sum of:

(A) \$10,000; and

(B) the high needs and rural factor, as determined under Subsection (c),

multiplied by \$2,000;

(2) for each teacher candidate completing preservice practice hours at the district under Section 21.904, the sum of:

(A) \$24,000; and

(B) the high needs and rural factor, as determined under Subsection (c), multiplied by \$3,000;

(3) for each teacher candidate completing preservice practice hours at the district under Section 21.905, the sum of:

(A) \$10,000; and

(B) the high needs and rural factor, as determined under Subsection (c), multiplied by \$2,000;

(4) for each district employee participating in a partnership described by Section 21.906(b)(2), the sum of:

(A) \$8,000; and

(B) the high needs and rural factor, as determined under Subsection (c), multiplied by \$1,000; and

(5) for each classroom teacher being mentored under the preparing and retaining educators through partnership mentorship program established under Section 21.907, \$3,000.

(c) The high needs and rural factor is the lesser of:

(1) the average of the point value assigned to each student at a district campus under Sections 48.112(e) and (f); or

(2) 4.0.

(d) In addition to the funding under Subsection (b), a district is entitled to an additional \$2,000 for each teacher candidate described by Subsection (b)(1), (2), or (3) who is a candidate for certification in bilingual education or special education.

(e) The Texas School for the Deaf and the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired are entitled to an allotment under this section. If the commissioner determines that assigning point values under Subsection (c) to students enrolled in the Texas School for the Deaf or the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired is impractical, the commissioner may use the average point value assigned for those students' home districts for purposes of calculating the high needs and rural factor.

(f) Unless a greater number of individuals is provided for by appropriation for that school year, a school district may receive an allotment for a school year for not more than:

(1) except as provided by Subsection (g), 40 individuals under each of Subsections (b)(2), (4), and (5); and

(2) a total of 80 individuals under Subsections (b)(1) and (3).

(g) If more than 40 individuals are eligible to receive an allotment under Subsection (b)(2) for a school district, the district is entitled to an allotment under Subsection (b)(1) for those individuals, subject to the limitation under Subsection (f)(2).

(h) For purposes of offsetting tuition, fees, and administrative costs, using money to which a school district is otherwise entitled under Subsection (b), the commissioner shall provide to a teacher candidate's educator preparation program each of the following applicable amounts and reduce the district's allotment under that subsection accordingly:

(1) \$5,000 for each teacher candidate who completed a partnership preservice program under Section 21.903 who obtains a standard certificate and has completed one year of employment with the district;

(2) \$10,000 for each teacher candidate who completed a partnership preservice program under Section 21.904 who obtains an enhanced standard certificate and has completed one year of employment with the district; and

(3) \$2,500 for each teacher candidate participating in the alternative partnership preservice program under Section 21.905 who holds an intern with preservice experience certificate, and an additional \$2,500 for each teacher candidate who completes the alternative

partnership preservice program and obtains a standard certificate under Section 21.0412.

(i) An institution of higher education that operates an educator preparation program that receives money under Subsection

(h) must spend not less than 85 percent of the money received on the educator preparation program for which the money was received.

(j) The agency shall only provide:

(1) an initial payment of \$4,000 of the money the school district is entitled to receive under Subsection (b)(1) for a teacher candidate until the teacher candidate successfully completes the requirements of a partnership preservice program under Section 21.903 by the deadline established by the agency;

(2) an initial payment of \$12,000 of the money the school district is entitled to receive under Subsection (b)(2) for a teacher candidate until the teacher candidate successfully completes the requirements of a partnership preservice program under Section 21.904 by the deadline established by the agency;

(3) an initial payment of \$4,000 of the money the school district is entitled to receive under Subsection (b)(3) for a teacher candidate until the teacher candidate successfully completes the requirements of an alternative partnership preservice program under Section 21.905 by the deadline established by the agency and issuance of an intern with preservice experience certificate; and

(4) 50 percent of the money the school district is entitled to receive under Subsection (b)(4) for a district employee on the employee's successful completion of a bachelor's degree by the deadline established by the agency.

PREP GYO Program Funding

Per TEC §48.157, funding will be allotted per participating school system employee. Funding may be used to implement the PREP GYO Program and pay tuition and fees for both high school students and school system employees. School systems are entitled to receive 50% of funding up front and the remaining 50% upon the employee's successful completion of a bachelor's degree by the deadline established by the agency.

Funding per participating school system employee = \$8,000-\$12,000

- $\$8,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{high needs and rural factor})$
- High needs and rural factor: 0-4