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# BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2025

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2024



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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

## Student Achievement and Teacher Quality

### Overview

The Student Achievement and Teacher Quality (SATQ) appropriation is intended to provide a structure for increasing teacher salaries while emphasizing student achievement. The SATQ appropriation is allocated across six programs, detailed below.

### National Board Certification

National Board Certification (NBC) is a certification program designed and administered by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The certification is available to teachers nationwide and requires candidates to demonstrate teaching practice as measured against rigorous standards.

In order to be eligible for the award, a teacher must meet all of the qualifications for the NBPTS and be currently employed as a classroom teacher by a school district in Iowa. Teachers cannot be reimbursed for the program more than once. A teacher meeting the qualifications is eligible to receive reimbursement for the registration fee charged by the NBPTS (half at the time of registration, half at the time of completion), as well as a \$2,500 annual award for a maximum of 10 years.

### Ambassador to Education

The allocation for NBC also includes a suballocation for the ambassador to education. The role of ambassador is filled by the Iowa Teacher of the Year, who acts as an education liaison to primary and secondary schools in Iowa. The Department of Education (DE) awards the suballocation to the school to pay the salary and benefits of the teacher selected as ambassador to education to allow a one-year sabbatical.

### Career Development and Evaluator Training

The DE coordinates a statewide network of professional development resources that aligns with the Iowa teaching standards and contains research-based instructional strategies, instructional improvement strategies, and evaluations. This allocation also supports developing teacher quality committees in every school district and Area Education Agency (AEA). Teacher quality committees monitor the implementation, evaluation, and adoption of professional development plans to ensure the plans align with the professional development plans adopted by the school district or AEA.

Evaluator training is provided to administrators and other school officials who make employment decisions, perform teacher evaluations, and make licensure recommendations. The training is required for evaluator licensure from the Board of Educational Examiners.

### Teacher Development Academies

Teacher Development Academies increase teacher skills and student achievement through intensive professional development. The Academies feature research-based content and are designed to support

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### More Information

Iowa Department of Education: [www.educateiowa.gov](http://www.educateiowa.gov)  
LSA Staff Contact: Jacob Ludwig (515.725.0155) [jacob.ludwig@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jacob.ludwig@legis.iowa.gov)

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local school districts and AEAs in offering professional development based on the Iowa Professional Development Model.

**Teacher Leadership and Compensation Technical Assistance**

The Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) system is funded for all school districts through the school aid formula. This appropriation funds administrative costs and technical assistance associated with the program.

**Fine Arts Mentoring**

This allocation funds a contract between the DE and the Iowa Arts Alliance that provides professional development and mentoring services for beginning fine arts teachers. Mentoring services include guidance in the classroom and in meetings, resources, time, materials, and financial scholarships for beginning fine arts teachers to attend conferences.

The Iowa Arts Alliance must provide quarterly reports to the DE detailing the organization's compliance with all requirements. The Iowa Arts Alliance is required to match every dollar provided by the DE with another funding source.

**High-Need Schools**

The SATQ appropriation also includes an allocation for High-Need School Supplemental Assistance. This funding allows school districts to develop extended learning time programs, hire instructional support staff, provide additional professional development, or supplement the salary of teachers in schools identified as high-need schools by the DE. High-Need School Supplemental Assistance does not have a sunset date and continues indefinitely.

**Funding**

SATQ receives an annual General Fund appropriation of \$3.0 million.

**Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

Iowa Code chapter [284](#)

Iowa Code sections [256.44](#) and [256.45](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [281—83](#) and [281—84](#)

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