

As Re-Referred by the House Rules and Reference Committee

135th General Assembly

Regular Session

2023-2024

Am. H. B. No. 312

Representatives White, Young, T.

**Cosponsors: Representatives Seitz, Johnson, Willis, Dobos, Hillyer, Grim, Hall,
Plummer, Lampton, Creech, Jones, Manning, Miller, J., Williams**

A BILL

To enact section 3301.85 of the Revised Code to 1
establish the Regional Partnerships Program and 2
to make an appropriation. 3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3301.85 of the Revised Code be 4
enacted to read as follows: 5

Sec. 3301.85. (A) The department of education and 6
workforce, in conjunction with the department of higher 7
education, shall create, administer, and oversee the prenatal- 8
to-five early childhood to post-secondary regional partnerships 9
program to support existing and establish new early childhood to 10
post-secondary regional partnerships throughout Ohio in regions 11
that choose to participate. Each partnership may consist of 12
prenatal-to-five early learning programs, primary and secondary 13
schools, educational service centers, out-of-school time 14
providers, post-secondary institutions, and workforce and 15
community partners that are located in the same region and that 16
are working collaboratively to increase educational attainment 17
and economic mobility outcomes for children and adults. 18

- (B) The departments shall do both of the following: 19
- (1) Coordinate and convene a cohort of all existing and 20
emerging regional partnerships at least quarterly to share best 21
practices and assist in organizational development and growth; 22
- (2) Distribute grants, in a manner determined by the 23
departments, to qualifying partnerships to support regional 24
collaboration programs that align educational resources and 25
community support with regional in-demand workforce skills, 26
opportunities, and jobs; 27
- (3) Work to ensure that at least one regional partnership 28
exists within each of the six different regions of the state, as 29
determined by JobsOhio, as defined in section 187.01 of the 30
Revised Code; 31
- (4) Report the progress and outcomes of each regional 32
partnership at least twice a year to the director of education 33
and workforce and the chancellor of higher education, and 34
annually to the governor and the general assembly. 35
- (C) (1) Qualifying partnerships eligible to apply for 36
grants under this section shall demonstrate all of the 37
following: 38
- (a) An identified theory of action and explicit commitment 39
to address all areas of the education and workforce continuum 40
over time, including a commitment to measure and report targeted 41
attainment outcome metrics; 42
- (b) How it will integrate and align its work with business 43
advisory councils created under section 3313.82 of the Revised 44
Code within the region, the educational regional service system 45
established under Chapter 3312. of the Revised Code, industry 46
sector partnerships, and other regional educational attainment 47

<u>efforts as appropriate;</u>	48
<u>(c) How it will work with local health care systems,</u>	49
<u>service providers, and other stakeholders to better address the</u>	50
<u>workforce readiness, mental health, and well-being skills</u>	51
<u>children and young adults need to be successful in and beyond</u>	52
<u>elementary and secondary school years.</u>	53
<u>(2) Qualifying partnerships shall report all of the</u>	54
<u>following performance metrics for their region to the department</u>	55
<u>of education and workforce and the department of higher</u>	56
<u>education:</u>	57
<u>(a) Kindergarten readiness;</u>	58
<u>(b) Third-grade reading proficiency;</u>	59
<u>(c) Middle grade math proficiency;</u>	60
<u>(d) High school graduation rates;</u>	61
<u>(e) Free application for federal student aid completion</u>	62
<u>rates;</u>	63
<u>(f) Post-secondary enrollment;</u>	64
<u>(g) Post-secondary credential or degree completion;</u>	65
<u>(h) Employment for their region that includes the</u>	66
<u>following:</u>	67
<u>(i) Percentage of recent graduates who found employment</u>	68
<u>within one year of completing a post-secondary credential or</u>	69
<u>degree;</u>	70
<u>(ii) Percentage of recent graduates who completed some</u>	71
<u>form of work-based learning while enrolled in a post-secondary</u>	72
<u>institution.</u>	73

(D) Beginning January 1, 2025, the director and department 74
of children and youth shall participate in the administration of 75
prenatal-to-five early childhood to post-secondary regional 76
partnerships program and the distribution of grants under this 77
section in conjunction with the departments of education and 78
workforce and higher education. 79

Section 2. All items in this act are hereby appropriated 80
as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the 81
credit of the designated fund. For all operating appropriations 82
made in this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 83
2024 and those in the second column are for fiscal year 2025. 84
The operating appropriations made in this act are in addition to 85
any other operating appropriations made for these fiscal years. 86

Section 3. 87

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	1	2	3	4	5
A	EDU DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE				
B	General Revenue Fund				
C	GRF	200545	Career-Technical Education Enhancements	\$2,500,000	\$0
D	TOTAL GRF General Revenue Fund			\$2,500,000	\$0
E	TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$2,500,000	\$0
	CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION ENHANCEMENTS				89
	The foregoing appropriation item 200545, Career-Technical				90

Education Enhancements, shall be used to support the Prenatal- 91
to-Five Early Childhood to Post-secondary Regional Partnerships 92
Program created in section 3301.85 of the Revised Code. 93

An amount equal to the unexpended, unencumbered balance of 94
the foregoing appropriation item 200545, Career-Technical 95
Education Enhancements, at the end of fiscal year 2024 is hereby 96
reappropriated for the same purpose in fiscal year 2025. 97

Section 4. Within the limits set forth in this act, the 98
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 99
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 100
made in this act, and shall determine the manner in which 101
appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures from 102
operating appropriations contained in this act shall be 103
accounted for as though made in, and are subject to all 104
applicable provisions of, H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly. 105