

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0114

Wyoming teacher shortage loan repayment program.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Henderson, Allred, Berger, Clouston, Harshman, Niemiec, Northrup, Obermueller, Provenza and Sommers and Senator(s) Brennan, Pappas and Schuler

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; reauthorizing the Wyoming
2 teacher shortage loan repayment program; modifying
3 eligibility requirements; making conforming amendments;
4 providing an appropriation; repealing a sunset date; and
5 providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-7-601(b)(i)(A), (B), (e), (g)(ii),
10 (n) and (p)(intro) is amended to read:

11

12 **21-7-601. Wyoming teacher shortage loan repayment**
13 **program; eligibility criteria; procedures; program**
14 **reporting.**

1

2 (b) To qualify for a loan under this section, the
3 applicant shall first:

4

5 (i) Be enrolled in good standing in a teacher
6 education program at the University of Wyoming leading to:

7

8 (A) Certification as a ~~special education,~~
9 ~~math, science or world language~~ teacher; or

10

11 (B) Eligibility for an additional teaching
12 endorsement. ~~to teach reading or English as a second~~
13 ~~language.~~

14

15 (e) A recipient of a loan under this section may
16 repay the loan without cash payment by teaching ~~at least~~
17 ~~fifty percent (50%) of his working hours as a teacher in~~
18 ~~special education, math, science, world language, reading~~
19 ~~or English as a second language~~ as a certified teacher in a
20 Wyoming public school as provided in subsection (f) of this
21 section. To qualify as repayment under this subsection,
22 work shall be performed within the minimum amount of time
23 necessary to repay the loan, plus two (2) years, which

1 shall begin with the calendar month following the month in
2 which the student completed the academic program.

3

4 (g) Any recipient of a loan under this section who
5 fails:

6

7 (ii) To obtain employment ~~in the targeted~~
8 ~~occupation~~ for which the person received the education
9 within two hundred forty (240) days after successfully
10 obtaining the appropriate certification, shall commence
11 cash repayment of the loan within two hundred eighty-five
12 (285) days after successfully obtaining the appropriate
13 certification;

14

15 (n) The community college commission shall annually
16 review the loan program established under this section and
17 report to the governor and the legislature in accordance
18 with W.S. 9-2-1014, regarding program results, funds
19 received and loans issued during the preceding academic
20 year, together with the status of all outstanding loan
21 commitments and repayments under the program. The report
22 required under this subsection shall include information
23 submitted by the professional teaching standards board

1 regarding the impact of the program on ~~identified~~ teacher
2 ~~shortage~~ ~~areas~~ shortages and recommendations for
3 modifications to the program, including funding levels, to
4 address ~~other identified~~ teacher shortage in targeted
5 areas.

6

7 (p) Notwithstanding ~~subsection (o)~~ any other
8 provision of ~~this section~~ the law:

9

10 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-7-601(o) is repealed.

11

12 **Section 3.**

13

14 (a) There is appropriated two million dollars
15 (\$2,000,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming
16 community college commission for the period beginning July
17 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall
18 be used for the loan program established by W.S. 21-7-601,
19 as amended by this act, and as authorized by subsection (b)
20 of this section. This appropriation shall not be
21 transferred or expended for any other purpose and any
22 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this
23 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,

1 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that this
2 appropriation be included in the standard budget request
3 for the commission for the immediately succeeding fiscal
4 biennium.

5

6 (b) Not more than fifteen percent (15%) of the amount
7 appropriated under this section shall be used by the
8 Wyoming community college commission for the administration
9 of this program, including expenses of the commission, loan
10 administration fees and marketing costs to advertise
11 availability of the program.

12

13 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon
14 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
15 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
16 Constitution.

17

18

(END)