

SENATE BILL No. 270

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-13

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to the Kansas educator registered
2 apprenticeship grant program; authorizing grants awarded under such
3 program to be made twice per year and at the time that tuition and fees
4 are due; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-50,234 and repealing the
5 existing section.
6

7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 Section 1. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-50,234 is hereby amended to read as
9 follows: 74-50,234. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas educator
10 registered apprenticeship grant program. The commissioner of education,
11 state board of education and the secretary shall coordinate to develop the
12 program and obtain such necessary approval and registration of education
13 apprenticeship programs as provided by federal and state law. The
14 secretary shall administer the grant program.

15 (b) The Kansas educator registered apprenticeship program shall be
16 established to award grants to education apprentices for tuition, fees,
17 books and materials to obtain their postsecondary degrees for the purpose
18 of increasing the number of qualified, credentialed teachers in the state of
19 Kansas. The program shall seek to identify a diverse group of candidates
20 to participate as education apprentices in a registered education
21 apprenticeship program or programs and obtain a bachelor's degree in
22 education, secure licensure and engage in the profession of teaching in
23 Kansas. Grants shall be awarded by the secretary upon approval of the
24 registered education apprenticeship program of an applicant school by the
25 secretary as compliant with all applicable federal and state law.
26 *Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, such grants shall*
27 *be awarded to each education apprentice pursuant to this section at the*
28 *time that payments for the apprentice's tuition, fees, books and materials*
29 *are due.*

30 (c) ~~On or before March 1, 2024,~~ The state board of education and the
31 secretary shall coordinate to adopt rules and regulations to implement and
32 administer the Kansas educator registered apprenticeship grant program.
33 Such rules and regulations shall establish:

34 (1) Application procedures, forms and terms and conditions and
35 requirements for an award of a Kansas educator registered apprenticeship
36 program grant to an education apprentice by the secretary;

1 (2) the terms, conditions and requirements for acceptance by the
2 secretary of an applicant school into the Kansas educator registered
3 apprenticeship program. The applicant school's registered education
4 apprenticeship program design shall include the following requirements:

5 (A) Applicant schools shall partner with at least one eligible related
6 training instruction provider and identify such provider in their
7 application; and

8 (B) applicant schools shall identify projected candidates in the
9 manner designated by the secretary of commerce and the state board with
10 appropriate protections for candidate privacy;

11 (3) grant funds shall be used for payment of education apprentice
12 tuition, fees and the cost of books and materials up to a maximum of
13 \$2,750 *payable twice* per year for four years, or completion of their
14 academic program, whichever comes first;

15 (4) prioritization for applications from applicant schools partnering
16 with eligible related training instruction providers that permit the
17 apprentice to continue their current employment by utilizing flexible
18 learning models such as online delivery, competency-based education or
19 courses offered on nights or weekends; and

20 (5) a method to award grants equitably across the state
21 geographically.

22 (d) The commissioner of education, the state board of education and
23 the secretary shall, beginning in 2025, annually evaluate the Kansas
24 educator registered apprenticeship program grant and prepare and submit a
25 report before January 31, 2026, and before January 31 of each year
26 thereafter, to the senate standing committee on education and the standing
27 committee on commerce and to the house of representatives standing
28 committee on education and the standing committee on commerce, labor
29 and economic development.

30 (e) Subject to appropriation acts, on ~~July 1, 2023, and each~~ July 1
31 ~~thereafter~~ *each year*, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer
32 \$3,000,000 from the state general fund to the Kansas educator registered
33 apprenticeship grant program fund. Any unencumbered balance in such
34 fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain credited to the fund for use in
35 the succeeding fiscal year, except that the amount of such unencumbered
36 balance at the end of the fiscal year to remain credited to the fund for use
37 in the succeeding fiscal year shall not exceed \$3,000,000. On ~~June 30,~~
38 ~~2024, and each~~ June 30 ~~thereafter~~ *each year*, the director of accounts and
39 reports shall transfer the amount, if any, of unencumbered moneys in the
40 fund in excess of \$3,000,000 to the state general fund.

41 (f) There is hereby created in the state treasury the Kansas educator
42 registered apprenticeship grant program fund, which shall be administered
43 by the secretary. All expenditures from the Kansas educator registered

1 apprenticeship grant program fund shall be for grants awarded pursuant to
2 the Kansas educator registered apprenticeship grant program. All
3 expenditures from the Kansas educator registered apprenticeship grant
4 program fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon
5 warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to
6 vouchers approved by the secretary, or the secretary's designee. All
7 moneys received by the secretary for the Kansas educator registered
8 apprenticeship grant program shall be deposited in the state treasury in
9 accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments
10 thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall
11 deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the Kansas
12 educator registered apprenticeship grant program fund.

13 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-50,234 is hereby repealed.

14 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
15 publication in the statute book.