

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 277  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: SB277-EED-SSA-3-17-26  
Title: EDUCATION: CORRESPOND  
STUDENTS/BSA/TCHERS  
Sponsor: EDUCATION  
Requester: (S) Education

Department: Department of Education and Early Development  
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin Services  
Allocation: Student and School Achievement  
OMB Component Number: 2796

**Expenditures/Revenues**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2027 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2027 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>	<b>FY 2030</b>	<b>FY 2031</b>	<b>FY 2032</b>
Personal Services	146.7		146.7	146.7	146.7	146.7	146.7
Travel							
Services	284.8		22.8	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.8
Commodities	5.0						
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits	21,837.6		21,837.6	21,837.6	21,837.6	21,837.6	21,837.6
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>22,274.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	22,274.1		22,007.1	22,007.1	22,007.1	22,007.1	22,007.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,274.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>	<b>22,007.1</b>

**Positions**

Full-time	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

**Change in Revenues**

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>						

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2026) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2027) cost:** 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

**Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account?** No  
*(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS**

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/27

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:**

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By: <u>Deborah Riddle, Division Operations Manager</u>	Phone: <u>(907)465-2892</u>
Division: <u>Innovation and Education Excellence</u>	Date: <u>03/16/2026</u>
Approved By: <u>Dawn Hannasch, Administrative Services Director</u>	Date: <u>03/17/2026</u>
Agency: <u>Department of Education and Early Development</u>	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 277

Analysis

This legislation addresses institutional accreditation and reading proficiency incentive grants for school districts.

In order to determine if an institutional accrediting association meets the requirements of AS 14.20.020(b), DEED would need to establish an evaluation rubric and hire staff to evaluate accrediting associations on a case-by-case basis. To support this process, DEED would require the services of a vendor with expertise in education accreditation to create an evaluation rubric and support DEED staff in initial implementation, this would accrue a one-time cost of \$250.0.

To ensure capacity for evaluating accrediting associations, DEED would require an Education Specialist 2, at an annual cost of \$146.7, with \$22.8 in annual chargebacks.

Additional one-time costs would be \$5.0 for supplies and equipment for the new staff.

A total of 48,528 students either scored as proficient or experienced growth toward proficiency on the literacy screener in kindergarten through grade three and scored as proficient or experienced growth toward proficiency on the Alaska System for Academic Readiness (AK STAR) English language arts summative assessment.

Reading incentive grants are calculated to be \$21,837.6 for districts. This was calculated by adding the number of students who scored proficient or experienced growth toward proficiency in both grade spans (48,528) and multiplying that number by \$450 (whole dollars).

2024-2025 School Year			
Grade Span	Proficient	Growth	Total
K-3	14,642	14,616	29,258
4-6	8,536	10,734	19,270
Total	23,178	25,350	48,528

In addition, a one-time cost of \$12.0 for legal services associated with regulation development is included.