

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HCS CSSB 140(RLS)
Fiscal Note Number:	10
(H) Publish Date:	1/24/2024

Identifier: SB140HCSCS(RLS)-EED-SSA-1-20-24  
 Title: INTERNET FOR SCHOOLS  
 Sponsor: HOFFMAN  
 Requester: House Rules

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)

	FY2025 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2025 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services	222.9		222.9	222.9	124.4	124.4	124.4	
Travel								
Services	315.0		33.0	33.0	16.5	16.5	16.5	
Commodities	5.0							
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits	57,990.9		57,990.9	57,990.9				
Miscellaneous								
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>58,533.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>58,246.8</b>	<b>58,246.8</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	58,533.8		58,246.8	58,246.8	140.9	140.9	140.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,533.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>58,246.8</b>	<b>58,246.8</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>

**Positions**

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

**Change in Revenues**

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

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2024) cost:** 132.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2025) 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 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? **01/03/25**

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

Updated to reflect Committee Substitute and amendment to add civics curriculum and assessment requirement.

Prepared By:	Kathy Moffitt, Director	Phone:	(907)269-3700
Division:	Innovation and Education Excellence	Date:	01/20/2024
Approved By:	Tama Carson, Administrative Services Director	Date:	01/22/24
Agency:	Department of Education and Early Development		

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
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## Analysis

This is an omnibus bill that addresses various education related programs. This fiscal note reflects the following programs that impact the Student and School Achievement budget component: the **School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Teacher/Educator Lump Sum Grants, State Board of Education (SBOE) Charter School Establishment Authority, Post-High School Data Dashboard and Collaboration with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DLWD), and Civics Curriculum and Assessment, Reports Regarding Education.**

**School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

This bill amends AS 14.30.272 by adding language that instructs districts to provide information, support, and services to parents of students experiencing deafness or hearing loss. This support includes comprehensive and unbiased information on different types of hearing technology and types of communication. It also directs districts to provide services to students through professionals who have experience, training, and a background working with students who are deaf or hard of hearing. In addition, parents will be informed of the school district's duties and parent's rights regarding the services and supports for their child.

The bill also directs the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) to establish a centralized program for deaf students whose primary language is American Sign Language (ASL). This statewide program, that includes residential services as part of the educational program, could be offered by a school district with resources and capacity to provide services, transportation, and special education services, upon department approval and funding. There is a one-time cost in FY2025 of \$6.0 for legal service costs associated with the development of regulations.

**Teacher/Educator Lump Sum Grants**

This bill amends uncodified law that establishes a program within DEED that would pay certificated full-time teachers with a lump sum payment as a retention and recruitment incentive on, or around, July 1, 2024, July 1, 2025, and July 1, 2026. The payment of the lump sum appropriation is contingent on appropriations made for this purpose in the relevant fiscal years FY2025, FY2026, and FY2027. The bill limits the payment to certificated full-time teachers assigned to a classroom teaching assignment and specifically excludes temporary, substitute, or assistant teachers.

To be eligible for payment, a teacher must occupy a teaching position for the entire school year immediately preceding the date of payment. In addition, to be eligible for payment, teachers would be required to submit an application and school districts would be responsible for certifying the applications. DEED would develop the application and it would be due no later than the last day of school for the eligible school year. Once the application and certification requirements are met, DEED would grant school districts funding to pay the retention and recruitment incentive as a lump sum grant payment to eligible teachers. For the lump sum payments, using the 2023-2024 Teacher Count data and the distribution by district as outlined in the bill, the total grant payments are estimated to be \$51,520.0 annually starting in FY2025 through FY2027.

The bill also considers all lump sum payments compensation for the purposes of the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS). The employer contribution is estimated to be \$6,470.9 (\$51,520.0 multiplied by 12.56%) and is included in the funding to school districts to provide support in making payments directly to TRS.

DEED will also need one non-perm position starting in FY2024 to implement the educator lump sum payment, develop regulations and application, and review applications. One Education Associate 3 at a Range 17, Step B/C, at \$98.5 annually in personal services costs, plus \$16.5 annually for department chargebacks. There are also a one-time costs for supplies and equipment at \$5.0 and \$6.0 for legal service costs associated with the development of regulations. The total funding needed for the Teacher/Educator Lump Sum Grant payments is \$126.0 in FY2024 and \$58,105.9 annually in FY2025 through FY2027.

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## Analysis

### **SBOE Charter School Establishment Authority**

This bill adds a new section, AS 14.03.251 Charter school established by the board, that allows the SBOE to establish a charter school in a school district under procedures established by the board in regulation. This bill also directs DEED to offer and make available a correspondence study program through a centralized office if required to do so by the SBOE.

The effective date for the authority of charter school establishment regulations by the SBOE is July 1, 2023 (FY2024). There is a one-time cost in FY2024 of \$6.0 for legal service costs associated with the development of regulations.

### **Post-High School Data Dashboard and Collaboration with DLWD**

This bill requires DEED to collaborate with DLWD on gathering data on each high school graduating class in a district by collecting post-high school data on each student every five years for 20 years after the high school graduation date of the class.

DEED will be required to establish a special website to display public information that is easily understood. The website must include information included in the annual report card to parents about the annual progress of each school and school district toward high academic performance by all students. The website must also include a description of resources provided to school districts regarding staff training, progress in aligning curriculum with state education performance standards, and a description of the efforts of DEED to assist schools or school districts that receive a low performance designation under AS 14.03.123.

The FY2024 enacted budget included \$900.0 for annual maintenance and operations for the Student Information System (SIS) and website dashboard, and this funding remains in the department's budget in FY2025. The SIS would serve as a single data collection warehouse and would have the ability to interface with school districts across the State to submit their data in real-time, rather than annually, to DEED. The website dashboard would interface with the SIS and serve as a tool for educators, policymakers, parents, and other educational stakeholders to utilize to make data-driven decisions. The website dashboard can provide a full picture of student outcomes and potential future outcomes, identify potential areas of risk, as well as measure accountability. These systems would support the data collection needed for this legislation.

DEED will need one full-time position starting in FY2025 to implement this portion of the bill. One Program Coordinator 1 at a Range 18, Step B/C, at \$124.4 annually in personal services costs, plus \$16.5 annually for department chargebacks. There is also a one-time cost for supplies and equipment at \$5.0. The total funding needed for this work is \$145.9 in FY2025 and \$140.9 annually starting in FY2026.

### **Civics Curriculum and Assessment**

This section adds civics education to the list of secondary school graduation requirements. Students must receive a passing grade of 70 percent or more in order to receive a secondary school diploma. The student's passing score shall be noted on the student's official transcript.

The fiscal note for this section includes a one-time cost of \$270.0 for a facilitator to convene 20 educators and qualified stakeholders for their participation in the development of a civics assessment and corresponding secondary school semester long civics course/curriculum, including stipends, travel, and facilitation fees. In addition, a one-time cost of \$6.0 is needed for legal fees to implement the necessary regulation changes. The total FY2025 projected one time cost for this is \$276.0.

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Summary of Total Costs							
Program/Grant	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
<b>School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing</b>	-	<b>6.0</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Services</i>	-	6.0	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Teacher/Educator Lump Sum Grants</b>	<b>126.0</b>	<b>58,105.9</b>	<b>58,105.9</b>	<b>58,105.9</b>	-	-	-
<i>Personal Services</i>	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5	-	-	-
<i>Services</i>	22.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	-	-	-
<i>Commodities</i>	5.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Grants</i>	-	57,990.9	57,990.9	57,990.9	-	-	-
<b>SBOE Charter School Establishment Authority</b>	<b>6.0</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Services</i>	6.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Post-High School Data Dashboard and Collaboration</b>	-	<b>145.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>
<i>Personal Services</i>	-	124.4	124.4	124.4	124.4	124.4	124.4
<i>Services</i>	-	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5
<i>Commodities</i>	-	5.0	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Civics Curriculum and Assessment</b>	-	<b>276.0</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Services</i>	-	276.0	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Costs by Fiscal Year</b>	<b>132.0</b>	<b>58,533.8</b>	<b>58,246.8</b>	<b>58,246.8</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>140.9</b>