



State of Arizona
Department of Education



Educator Excellence

MEMO

TO: Doug Ducey
Governor, State of Arizona

Senator Karen Fann
President of the Senate

Representative Russell Bowers
Speaker of the House of Representatives

CC: Katie Hobbs
Arizona Secretary of State

FROM: Keith Snyder
Deputy Associate Superintendent, Educator Excellence

DATE: October 26, 2019

RE: **Laws 2017, Chapter 284 (SB 1038) and Laws 2019, Chapter 265 (SB 1051), High-Quality Teacher Professional Development Pilot Program Annual Report from Educator Excellence**

Laws 2017, Chapter 284 (SB 1038)

Between October 27, 2018 and October 25, 2019, the Department of Education received nine notifications from participants in the High-Quality Teacher Professional Development Pilot Program wishing to decline their funds. Reasons for declining the funds ranged from a lack of resources for travel costs for rural participants to attend face-to-face courses, teachers choosing to leave the state or the public school system for higher pay, and a lack of time to complete coursework. During the same period, we received eight new applications for the High-Quality Teacher Professional Development Pilot Program. All eight scholarship applications were approved. We currently have one unfilled scholarship and are actively working to award it. Applications were reviewed by a three-person committee consisting of the Deputy Associate Superintendent of Educator Excellence, the Director of Effective Teachers and Leaders, and the a member of the Department’s Policy Team.

The following table provides the number of scholarships approved by high-need content area:

High-Need Content Area	Number of Approved Applications by content area 8/9/17-10/25/19
Physics	34
Math	51
Chemistry	20
Career and Technical Ed.	12
Computer Science/Technology	11
S.T.E.M.	8
Biology	8
General Science	5
Total Applications Approved	149

*Reasons for denial were based on the requirements outlined in SB 1038

Kathy Hoffman, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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Laws 2019, Chapter 265 (SB 1051)

Between June 9, 2019 and October 25, 2019, the Department of Education received 64 applications for the High-Quality Teacher Professional Development Pilot Program. 27 scholarship applications were approved and 35 were denied. Two were conditionally denied awaiting additional information. Reasons for denial ranged from requests to pay for AEPA exams, courses out of the STEM/CTE field, recertification in a content the teacher already is certified to teach, paying for coursework from an out-of-state institution, and paying for coursework to improve instructional skills in an area the teacher is already certified to teach. Applications were reviewed by a three-person committee consisting of the Deputy Associate Superintendent of Educator Excellence, the Director of Effective Teachers and Leaders, and a member of the Department's Policy Team.

The following table provides the number of scholarships approved by high-need content area:

High-Need Content Area	Number of Approved Applications by content area 6/9/19-10/25/19
Physics	4
Math	4
Chemistry	7
Computer Science/Technology	6
S.T.E.M.	4
Biology	1
Earth Science	1
Total Applications Approved	27

*Reasons for denial were based on the requirements outlined in SB 1051

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