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# 1. Supporting a Strong Teacher Pipeline

## House File 255 - Teacher Intern License, Temporary Initial Teaching License - Effective July 1, 2024

Requires participants in a teacher intern program to complete the following requirements prior to completion of the teacher intern program:

- Provide evidence of graduation with a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Only those with prior degrees related to K-12/5-12 content endorsements listed on the Department of Education's website will qualify.
- Provide, prior to the program recommending a teacher intern candidate for teacher intern license, an offer of employment, including a copy of an offer of employment from the school to the preparation program.
- Complete the required pedagogy training as determined by the Iowa Department of Education and Board of Educational Examiners.
- Be assigned a teacher leader to provide mentorship and support, including but not limited to, planning, classroom management and instructional support.

Directs the Board of Educational Examiners to adopt rules that allow for:

- The issuance of a teacher intern license to an individual enrolled in an approved Iowa teacher intern program.
- The transition from a teacher intern license to an initial teaching license upon recommendation of the school employing the individual and the practitioner preparation program.
- The issuance of a CTE Authorization, without verification of employment with a school.

Allows for the issuance of a temporary initial teaching license to an individual who holds a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, has completed the specified classroom experience, and has completed an alternative teacher certification program that has been approved by the State Board of Education. Individuals issued a temporary initial license may not provide instruction to students receiving special education services until completing a practicum, including short-term field experience, related to providing instruction to such students.

Allows for the transition from a temporary initial teaching license to the standard license using the same protocol as transitioning from an initial teaching license.

## House File 2487 - Board of Educational Examiners, Mandatory Reporting, Complaints and Investigations - Effective July 1, 2024

Division I. Separates inappropriate relationships into the following three standards:

- A sexual or physical relationship with a student;
- Grooming behavior toward a student; and
- An otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student.

Adds student abuse to the list of conduct that is required to be reported to the Board of Educational Examiners.

Establishes definitions for “inappropriate relationship,” “grooming behavior,” and “misconduct.” Includes any instance of physical abuse against a student by a licensed educator as a mandatory reporting standard.

Division II: Modifies the provisions of 2023 Iowa Acts, chapter 95 (House File 430) by assigning the investigative responsibilities and processes to the Board of Educational Examiners. Requires the development of a tracking tool to allow the complainant and the respondent to view the progress of a submitted complaint.

Division III: Authorizes the Board of Educational Examiners to disclose criminal findings uncovered during an investigation to proper law enforcement authorities, while ensuring that the protected information remains confidential in response to public information requests.

Division IV: Allows individuals to file a complaint beyond the current 3-year statute of limitations if the victim was the subject of an inappropriate relationship while a minor. (Note: Under prior statute, if a minor is a victim of an inappropriate relationship, the statute of limitations allowed for the individual to only file a complaint with the BOEE up to three years after the violation.)

### **House File 2612, Division IV – Area Education Agencies, Minimum Teacher Salaries, IPERS, SSA - Varied Effective Dates**

#### Teacher and Support Personnel Compensation

- Increases to at least a minimum teacher salary of \$47,500 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; increases to at least \$50,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and each subsequent fiscal year.
- Establishes a minimum teacher salary of \$60,000 for an individual with at least 12 years of experience for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; increases to at least \$62,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and each subsequent fiscal year.
- Modifies the calculation of the teacher salary supplement district cost per pupil to provide for funding to support districts with meeting the minimum starting salaries for new and experienced teachers.
- Provides for a funding supplement to school districts to supplement non-salaried education support personnel compensation.

*(Please see Senate File 2443 - Standing Appropriations in section 6.)*

Allows for an IPERS member whose first month of entitlement falls between July 2024 and July 2027 to return to covered employment as a teacher after receiving one month of retirement benefit.

*(Please also see additional provisions summarized in section 3. Please also see the Department's [HF2612 Implementation FAQs](#).)*

### **Senate File 2411, Division III - Work-based Learning, CTE, Student Teacher Requirements, Last Dollar Scholarship Program - Varied Effective Dates**

Authorizes the Board of Educational Examiners to establish career and technical education cluster endorsements in the areas of agriculture, industrial technology, business, family and consumer sciences, health sciences, and information solutions.

*(Please see the Department's [Career and Technical Education and Work-based Learning Fact Sheet](#).)*

Provides opportunities for a student teaching experience that includes qualifying work experience for individuals with prior work experience as a substitute teacher or paraeducator during the student's final year of the practitioner preparation program. Establishes the following requirements for the prior qualifying work experience to count toward student teaching:

- Of the required 14 weeks of student teaching experience, a student shall be credited a minimum of 1 week, but not more than 10 weeks as determined by the practitioner preparation program, based on the student's prior qualifying work experience as a substitute teacher or paraeducator, which may include prior experience under the Teacher and Paraeducator Registered Apprenticeship (TPRA) program, under the following conditions:
  - The student holds a substitute license or authorization, or a paraeducator certificate;
  - The student's prior work experience took place in the classroom of a cooperating teacher who is appropriately licensed and endorsed in the subject area and grade level endorsement for which the student is being prepared; and
  - The student bears primary responsibility for planning, instruction, and assessment within the classroom for at least four weeks of the student teaching experience.
- Of the required 14 weeks of student teaching experience, a student shall be credited a minimum of 1 week, but not more than 14 weeks as determined by the practitioner preparation program, based on the student's prior work experience as a paraeducator, provided:
  - The student holds a paraeducator certificate issued by the Board of Educational Examiners;
  - The student is working as a paraeducator for at least one-half of each school day throughout the duration of the time designated as the student teaching experience;
  - The paraeducator half-day work experience takes place in the classroom of a cooperating teacher who is appropriately licensed and endorsed in the subject area and grade-level for which the student is being prepared; and
  - The student bears primary responsibility for planning, instruction, and assessment in the classroom during the student teaching experience.

*(Please see additional provisions summarized in section 4.)*

## 2. Strengthening Early Literacy and Evidence-based Reading Instruction

### **House File 2545 - Review of Graduation Requirements, Standards, and Curriculum; Statewide Literacy Plan; Practitioner Preparation Programs; Social Studies Standards - Effective July 1, 2024**

Division I. Requires a statewide literacy plan to increase student proficiency using systematic and sequential approaches to teaching phonetic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text comprehension. Requires standards for practitioner preparation programs that promote evidence-based reading instruction and practical application that are direct, systematic, explicit, responsive, and that consist of phonetic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text comprehension. Such standards shall not include instruction or practical application that is designed to teach students using the instructional model commonly known as the three-cueing system.

*(Please see additional provisions summarized in section 3.)*

### **House File 2618 - Elementary Literacy in Teacher Preparation Programs, Personalized Reading Plans, Retention Requests - Effective July 1, 2024**

Requires a higher education institution with a practitioner preparation program accredited by the State Board of Education to assess the foundational reading knowledge of teacher candidates utilizing the Foundations of Reading Assessment.

By August 1 annually, each higher education institution with an accredited practitioner preparation program must report on the aggregate number of teacher candidates that scored above, at, and below the passing score established by the Department of Education. The institution must also report on services and opportunities to retake the assessment.

Requires a school district to provide written notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student in kindergarten through grade 6 who is not reading proficiently, including the option for the parent(s)/guardian(s) to elect to retain the student at grade-level. Requires the school district to retain the student at grade-level for the subsequent school year upon parent(s)/guardian(s) request.

Requires a school district to develop a personalized reading plan for a student in kindergarten through grade 6 who is not reading proficiently.

*(Please see the Department's [Model Personalized Reading Plan](#).)*

### 3. Narrowing and Closing Achievement Gaps through Accountability and Support

#### House File 2278 - Open Enrollment Transportation - Effective July 1, 2024

Under open enrollment, permits a receiving school district to provide transportation to the student within the boundaries of the resident district if both boards of both school districts agree or if qualifying circumstances apply:

- Circumstance 1: If the resident district's enrollment is less than 2,000 students and the student's attendance center in the receiving district is closer than the attendance center in the resident district, a bus stop may be established not more than two miles into the resident district.
- Circumstance 2: If the enrollment of the resident district is greater than or equal to 2,000 students, the districts are contiguous, and the resident district sends buses into the receiving district pursuant to Circumstance 1, a bus stop may be established two miles or more in the resident district by the receiving district.

#### House File 2545 - Review of Graduation Requirements, Standards, and Curriculum; Statewide Literacy Plan; Practitioner Preparation Programs; Social Studies Standards - Effective July 1, 2024

Division I. Requires the Director of the Department of Education to conduct a comprehensive review of and make recommendations regarding the state's high school graduation requirements, core content standards, and core curriculum according to the criteria specified in the Act. The process must provide opportunity for the public and interested stakeholders to provide comments related to the comprehensive review. The Director shall produce an initial report to be submitted to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2024 and a final report, including findings and recommendations, by July 1, 2025.

Division II. Makes a technical amendment to the process for adoption of education standards by the State Board of Education to remove reference to administrative rules. All education standards will continue to be adopted by formal action of the Board, consistent with current and historical practice.

Division III. Directs the State Board of Education to complete a review and revision of the state's social studies standards. The Department of Education is to present the revised social studies standards to the Board on or before December 31, 2025.

The revised social studies standards must emphasize United States history, government, founding philosophies and principles, important historical figures, western civilization, and civics. The Act specifies specific instructional topics that are to be taught in kindergarten through grades 12 in a manner that is both relevant and appropriate for the age of the student receiving the instruction.

Division IV. Specifies that required social studies instruction in grades 7 and 8 must include instruction in civics.

*(Please see the Department's [Chapter 12 Matrix: Technical Assistance for Meeting Accreditation Standards](#) for a comprehensive overview of current requirements.)*

## **House File 2612 - Area Education Agencies, Minimum Teacher Salaries, IPERS, SSA - Varied Effective Dates**

### Area Education Agencies

- Establishes authority within the Department of Education to provide general oversight of the Area Education Agencies.
- Re-establishes authority within the Department's Division of Special Education to provide comprehensive oversight of special education services.
- Provides that the Director of Special Education Services within each Area Education Agency is to be an employee of the Division of Special Education within the Department of Education.  
*(Please see a list of the Department's Regional Special Education Director's on the Department's [website](#).)*
- Prioritizes student outcomes, including outcomes for students with disabilities, within the accreditation standards for Area Education Agencies.
- Modifies the Board of Directors of each Area Education Agency so that four members of the board are to be superintendents of school districts within the region, appointed by majority vote of the superintendents of school districts within the region.
- Incorporates recommendations of the Nonpublic Special Education Task Force.
- Phases in adjustments related to funding to the Area Education Agencies for special education support, media, teacher salary supplement, and educational services.
- Calls on the Legislative Council to convene a task force to further study and make recommendations related to the outcomes of students who receive services through the Area Education Agencies.
- Provides transition and effective date provisions.

### State Percent of Growth

- Establishes the state percent of growth and categorical state percent of growth for the budget year beginning July 1, 2024 at 2.5 percent.

*(Please see the Department's [HF2612 Implementation FAQs](#).)*

## **Senate File 2368 – Sale of Real Property, Charter Schools and Open Enrollment Funding, School Activities - Effective July 1, 2024**

Provides payments for an open enrolled student and a student attending a charter school be based on the current year state cost per pupil and teacher leadership and compensation amounts, instead of the prior year amount. Adds the state cost per pupil of professional development and early intervention categorical amounts to the funds that are paid by the resident district to the receiving district or charter school.

Requires each school district to publish on its website information on the square footage of each school building owned by the school district, the enrollment capacity of each of the school district's attendance centers, how buildings owned by the school district are currently utilized, and whether any buildings owned by the school district are vacant.

Prevents a school board from prohibiting the sale of property to an educational institution, which includes a school district, nonpublic school, charter school, institution of higher education under the Board of Regents, a community college, a private college or university, and the state training school.



Allows a student enrolled in a charter school and receiving instruction primarily over the internet to participate in two cocurricular or extracurricular activities offered by the student's resident district during a school year. The student may participate in more than two cocurricular or extracurricular activities if allowed by the resident district. The resident district may charge up to \$200 per activity to the charter school.

Establishes authority for a charter school to enter into an agreement with a school district, nonpublic school, or charter school to provide its activity program.

### **Senate File 2435 - Education Appropriations, Therapeutic Classrooms, Chronic Absenteeism, Open Enrollment Deadline - Varied Effective Dates**

Division VII. Establishes requirements for school districts to establish policies related to attendance, absenteeism, and truancy. The policies adopted by the school district must clearly address how chronic absenteeism will be determined, planned interventions, and the associated penalties. Specifies that certain students are to be exempt from the chronic absenteeism, including a student who:

- Has completed all requirements for graduation or obtained a high school equivalency diploma;
- Has been excused for sufficient reason by a court or judge;
- Is attending religious services or receiving religious instruction;
- Is unable to attend school for legitimate medical reasons; and/or
- Has an Individualized Education Program and/or a 504 plan that affects attendance.

Establishes a definition of "chronically absent" to mean any absence from school for more than 10 percent of the days or hours in the grading period established by the public school.

Modifies the definition of "truant" to mean any child of compulsory attendance age who has been absent from school, for any reason, for at least 20 percent of the days or hours of a grading period.

Specifies new protocols to be followed by a school district regarding students who are or at risk of becoming chronically absent or truant, including required notices, school engagement meetings, and absenteeism prevention plans for students who are or are at risk of becoming chronically absent or truant.

Specifies that the county attorney in which the school district or accredited nonpublic school is located shall be responsible for the enforcement of attendance and truancy laws.

*(Please see resources including the [Senate File 2435 Summary for Schools](#) and the 2024-25 Attendance Coding technical assistance documents available on the Department's [website](#).)*

Division VIII. Reestablishes open enrollment deadlines, good cause provisions, and appeal procedures. Specifies a March 1 open enrollment deadline for students entering grades 1 through 12 and a September 1 open enrollment deadline for students entering kindergarten. A school district has until June 1 of each year to approve or deny an open enrollment request.

Reinstates the following provisions:

- The resident and receiving district must both agree to the open enrollment request if the application was filed after March 1/Sept. 1 without "good cause."

- The mediation process for when the resident district believes the receiving district wrongly approves a late filed open enrollment request that does not have "good cause."
- Adds back provisions for open enrollment requests being filed due to founded cases of pervasive harassment. These applications cannot be denied.

Reinstates provisions establishing "good cause" that allow for open enrollment after the March 1 or September 1 deadline. Specifies that the March 1 and September 1 deadlines do not apply to students who are open enrolling to receive education from an approved online school.

Allows the receiving district to terminate an open enrollment agreement if the student is truant. Also allows the receiving district to deny any future open enrollment requests from the same student if the parent/guardian applies for the student to return to the receiving district. The resident district must enroll the student.

Specifies that the reinstated deadlines apply to open enrollment applications on or after July 1, 2024. Applications up through July 1, 2024 are not subject to the deadlines specified in the Act, but starting July 1 a school district:

- Will accept applications for open enrollment only for entering kindergarten students through September 1 for the current school year;
- Will accept applications for open enrollment through March 1, 2025 for the next school year.

*(Please see resources including the [Iowa Open Enrollment Application Updated per Senate File 2435, Division VIII](#), [Open Enrollment Handbook](#), and [Open Enrollment Transportation Assistance](#) technical assistance documents available on the Department's [website](#).)*

## 4. Empowering Students with Multiple Pathways to Postsecondary Success

### [House File 2465 - Career Technical Courses for Science and Mathematics Academic Credit - Effective July 1, 2024](#)

Allows not more than two units of agriculture instruction within a career and technical education program to count for an equivalent number of science units. The up to two units of agriculture instruction may be used to meet the offer-and-teach unit requirements for both agriculture and science.

Allows not more than two units of applied sciences, technology, engineering, or manufacturing (ASTEM) instruction within a career and technical education program to count for an equivalent number of mathematics units within the additional two units of mathematics - the units may not count in the sequential four units of mathematics instruction. The up to two units of ASTEM instruction may be used to meet the offer-and-teach unit requirements for both ASTEM and mathematics.

Specifies that the use of agriculture and ASTEM instruction to meet required science and mathematics offer-and-teach requirements respectively may not be waived by request of a charter school established under either Iowa Code section 256E or 256F.

### [House File 2615 - Required Postsecondary Information, including Average Income and Debt - Effective July 1, 2024](#)

Requires a community college to publish a link on its website to the Iowa student outcomes website maintained by the Department of Education.

Requires a school district to provide students enrolled in grades eleven and twelve with information related to graduates of community colleges and the average income and student debt of graduates of institutions of higher education governed by the state Board of Regents, including with a link to the “Recent Alumni Career Outcomes” report and the Iowa student outcomes website. If a College and Career Transition Counselor (CCTC) is employed by a school district, the CCTC is required to provide the information.

Exempts a CCTC from the maximum amount of 21 additional pupils for purposes of calculating the shared operational function supplementary weighting.

### [Senate File 2411, Divisions I, II, IV, V - Work-based Learning, CTE, Student Teacher Requirements, Last Dollar Scholarship Program - Varied Effective Dates](#)

Defines work-based learning as “sustained project-based learning in partnership with an employer, simulated work experiences aligned with industry-recognized credentials, high-quality pre-apprenticeships aligned to an apprenticeship, student learner programs, internships and apprenticeships”. Clarifies “tours, job shadowing, rotations, mentoring, entrepreneurship and service learning” as career exploration.

Incorporates work-based learning programs in the education standards for career and technical education (CTE) programs, and allows such programs that include work-based learning to be provided while school is not in session, which includes, but is not limited to summer break.

Rescinds statutory requirements for and references to the Statewide Work-based Learning Intermediary Network and Regional Industry Sector Partnerships.

Establishes a Workforce Opportunity Fund for grants to employers in the Iowa Workforce Development to be used to support training and infrastructure related to growth and maintenance of the state's workforce development system. Transfers \$30 million from Iowa Workforce Development's Unemployment Compensation Reserve Fund to Iowa Workforce Development's newly established Workforce Opportunity Fund. Repeals the Unemployment Compensation Reserve Fund, which is separate from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund.

## 5. Promoting Safe, Orderly, and Welcoming Learning Environments

### [House File 2240 - Harassment Related to Altered Explicit Images - Effective July 1, 2024](#)

Expands the crime of harassment under Iowa Code section 708.7(1)(a)(5) to include the dissemination, publication, or posting, or cause of such acts, of artificially generated pornographic images which make it appear that a person is in the state of full or partial nudity or engaged in a sex act. Unlike sexual exploitation of a minor, harassment requires that the images be distributed and the person must have the intent to intimidate, harass, or alarm another. The crime applies to any victim regardless of age. A conviction under this section is an aggravated misdemeanor.

If a school receives a complaint regarding a real or artificially generated nude image of a student, teacher, or any other person, the matter should immediately be reported to local law enforcement. For further information, please reach out to your local county attorney office.

### [House File 2586 - School Security - Varied Effective Dates](#)

Effective July 1, 2024, requires a school district with a total enrollment of at least 8,000 students to employ or retain the services of at least one trained private school security officer or school resource officer for an attendance center with students enrolled in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12, unless the school board votes to not employ such personnel. A school district with fewer than 8,000 students is encouraged to employ the services of such trained school security personnel. A private school security officer is required to participate in the annual live scenario training and quarterly live firearms training approved by the Department of Public Safety.

Adds a new provision to Iowa Code section 724.6 regarding the authorization of a professional permit to carry weapons to include a person who is a school employee of a school district, private school, or an institution of higher education. The individual must:

- Complete a prescribed firearm safety course; and
- Must not be disqualified from receiving a professional or nonprofessional permit to carry weapons under Iowa Code section 724.8.

Directs the Department of Public Safety to approve:

- A one-time, in-person legal training including training on qualified immunity, an annual emergency medical training, and an annual communication training; and
- A required annual live scenario training and a quarterly live firearm training for school employees that opt into participating in the professional permitting.

Extends qualified immunity to a school employee issued a professional permit to carry, provided the individual is up-to-date with all trainings required by the Department of Public Safety, and the school district that employs the individual.

The portions of the Act impacting Iowa Code section 724.6 are effective upon enactment.

Note that Iowa Code section 724.4B permits a school to specifically authorize an individual to be armed on school grounds for any lawful purpose.

### [House File 2652 - School Safety - Effective Upon Enactment](#)

Permits a district to use professional development funds, if transferred to the flexibility account pursuant to Iowa Code § 298A.2, for trainings required as a condition for a school employee to

carry a weapon at the school during school hours. This is applicable beginning with a fiscal year 2025 carryforward balance.

*(Please also see the preceding analysis of House File 2586 - school security).*

Permits a school district to purchase, install, and operate a mobile panic alert system, provided the system is capable of connecting emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between school personnel and law enforcement and the system is capable of integrating with public safety answering point infrastructure and existing land mobile radio platform technology to transmit 911 calls and mobile activations.

Restricts a school district from issuing bonds to construct or renovate buildings or sites used primarily for interscholastic athletic contests or competitions unless all attendance centers are in compliance with the state building code.

Expands the definition of school infrastructure to include school security software that meets the requirements specified in section 423F.3, subsection 6, paragraph "a".

Establishes requirements for the purchase, installation, and maintenance of security equipment that is on a list of approved organizations established by the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Expands the definition of school infrastructure under the Secure an Advanced Vision for Education fund to include software or other technology related to school security and meeting the specified requirements under new Iowa Code section 423F, subsection 6, paragraph "a", subparagraph (5).

Directs each school district, accredited nonpublic school, public charter school, and innovation school zone to complete, prior to the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year, a comprehensive review and evaluation of the school's ability to ensure the safety of students enrolled in the school and of school employees, including a review and evaluation of the school's plan for responses to active shooter scenarios and natural disasters and the school's safety and security infrastructure. The completed evaluation must be submitted to the following law enforcement agencies:

- The Governor's School Safety Bureau within the Department of Public Safety;
- Police forces of the counties in which school attendance centers are located;
- The local district office of the state patrol; and
- The police force of the cities in which school attendance centers are located.

The results of the review are designated as confidential and not a public record under Iowa Code chapter 22.

Requires, before the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year, each school district, accredited nonpublic school, public charter school, and innovation school zone to have at least one handheld or console radio at each attendance center that is capable of accessing a public safety answering point. The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management can assist with identifying the appropriate point of contact in each county.

Permits a school district to use all or a portion of professional development funds for trainings required as a condition of a school employee authorized to carry a weapon during school hours.

Establishes a grant program under the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for infrastructure and equipment, training, and stipends for employees associated with permits to carry weapons.

Establishes a School Safety and Security Infrastructure Task Force to be convened by the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The task force shall study and make recommendations regarding safety and security standards for schools, including safety and security standards related to doors, windows, cameras, and locks. The task force is to submit recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2024.

### **House File 2653 - Exemptions and Waivers for Perry Community School District- Effective Upon Enactment**

Provides support to the Perry Community School District as the school community reclaims a sense of safety, resumes routines, processes trauma, and reintroduces a rigorous instructional program.

Allows a school district that meets the criteria specified in the Act to use available funds of not more than \$700,000 generated through the district management levy to pay for retention bonus payments.

Affirms the multiple actions taken by the Department of Education to support the Perry Community School District since the tragedy occurred, including the Department's actions to waive several state reporting, assessment, and other state statutory requirements. Also affirms the Department's work with the U.S. Department of Education on Perry's behalf to waive or extend several federal reporting and assessment requirements.

### **Senate File 2109 - Minor Drivers License - Effective July 1, 2024**

Establishes requirements and processes related to issuance by the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) of a special minor's restricted license, which is distinct from a restricted work license issued by the IDOT under Iowa Code section 321.178. The application process for the minor's license requires certification by the applicant's school that the applicant is enrolled in the school for instructional purposes or extracurricular activities. The certification must be made by:

- the school board, superintendent, or authorized principal if the applicant is enrolled in a school district;
- the authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school, or a duly authorized representative of the authorities, if the applicant is enrolled in an accredited nonpublic school; or
- the primary instructor, if the applicant receives competent private instruction.

The IDOT developed [educational materials](#) providing additional information on special minor's restricted licenses.

### **Senate File 2243 - Sexual Exploitation, Creation, Adaption, or Modification of Visual Depiction of a Minor - Effective July 1, 2024**

Expands the crime of sexual exploitation of a minor under Iowa Code section 728.12(3) to include possession of modified images of anyone under the age of 18 which make it appear that he or she is engaged in a prohibited sexual act. A "prohibited sexual act" under Iowa Code section 728.1(7) includes not only explicit sex acts, but also nudity of a minor for the purpose of arousing or satisfying the sexual desires of a person who may view the depiction. The section criminalizes the possession, not only the distribution, of the images. A conviction under this section is a class "D" felony.

If a school receives a complaint regarding a real or artificially generated nude image of a student, teacher, or any other person, the matter should immediately be reported to local law enforcement.

*(For further information, please reach out to your local county attorney office.)*

**Senate File 2435 - Education Appropriations, Therapeutic Classrooms, Chronic Absenteeism, Open Enrollment Deadline - Varied Effective Dates**

Division VI. Amends the fiscal year 2024 (current year) therapeutic classroom transportation claims reimbursement appropriation to allow the Department of Education to transfer any unspent balance to the therapeutic classroom incentive fund to support the establishment of additional therapeutic classrooms. Effective upon enactment.



## 6. Appropriations

### **Senate File 2405 - Community College State Aid Formula - Effective July 1, 2024**

Establishes a new process by which a council of community college presidents and chancellors will determine the formula used to allocate state general aid funding to each of the state's community colleges each year. At least 10 of the 15 members of the council must agree on the formula, and the formula should consider, among other factors, college enrollments. If the college presidents are unable to submit an agreed upon formula to the Department of Education by October 31, the Department shall establish the formula for the succeeding budget year.

### **Senate File 2435 - Education Appropriations, Therapeutic Classrooms, Chronic Absenteeism, Open Enrollment Deadline - Varied Effective Dates**

Divisions I - V. Appropriates state funding for various education institutions and programs. Includes the following notable adjustments in appropriations from the prior year:

- \$235,858,161 to the community colleges, an increase of \$7,000,000.
- \$11,707,253 to the Iowa School for the Deaf and \$4,913,891 to Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, a 2.5% increase consistent with SSA for school districts.
- \$9,646,450 to Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG), an increase of \$500,000.
- \$6,922,250 to the Department of Education for general administration, an increase of \$1,028,578 consistent with other agencies.
- \$721,779 to the Department of Education for Career and Technical Education administration, an increase of \$123,582.
- \$10,000,000 to the Department of Education for the Division of Special Education, a new appropriation to the Department, to support the FTEs authorized under House File 2612.
- \$2,176,458 to the Department of Education for the provision of required professional development to schools, a new appropriation to the Department.

Division XII. Extends the repeal date of the Iowa Dyslexia Board to July 1, 2027.

Division XIII. Allows a district to request a modified supplemental amount (i.e., spending authority) (MSA) from the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) if 45 percent or more of its enrolled students are open enrolled into the district. Prohibits a district from raising property taxes in fiscal year 2026 beyond the fiscal year 2025 amount due to a granted MSA request authorized pursuant to Iowa Code section 257.31(5).

*(Please see [Notes on Bills and Amendments \(NOBA\)](#).)*

### **Senate File 2443 - Standing Appropriations**

Appropriates \$14,000,000 to the Department of Education for education support personnel compensation as specified under House File 2612.

Limits the standing appropriation from nonpublic school transportation to \$8,997,091 and specifies that the Department of Education is to prorate funds if approved claims exceed this amount. This is no change from the prior year.

Continues to suspend funding to the Department of Education for the instructional support program for fiscal year 2025. This is no change from the prior year.

Instructs the Department of Management to reduce the fiscal year 2025 state aid to Area Education Agencies and school districts by a total of \$25,000,000, in addition to the annual standing reduction of \$7,500,000. The specified reductions were proportionally applied across the Area Education Agencies. Increases total fiscal year 2025 special education state aid to Area Education Agencies by \$923,578, for an overall special education appropriation to Area Education Agencies of \$157,230,413.

*(Please see [Notes on Bills and Amendments \(NOBA\)](#).)*

## 7. Reporting, Boards and Commissions

### [House File 2152 - Commission on Educator Leadership Reporting - Effective July 1, 2024](#)

Given that Senate File 2385 strikes in its entirety Iowa Code section 284.15, subsection 12 establishing the Commission on Educator Leadership and Compensation, including the reporting requirements that were impacted by House File 2152, strikes the requirement that the Commission on Educator Leadership and Compensation produce a report including recommendations on the teacher career paths, leadership roles, and compensation frameworks established under Iowa Code section 284.15.

### [House File 2153 - Iowa College Aid Reporting Requirements - Effective July 1, 2024](#)

Streamlines and consolidates legislative reporting requirements for state financial aid programs administered by the Bureau of Iowa College Aid. The bill consolidates reporting requirements for multiple state financial aid program that received funding in the prior year into a single report that is due to be reported to the General Assembly on January 15 annually. The bill also makes corresponding changes to statute to remove redundant and obsolete reporting requirements.

### [Senate File 2385 - Boards and Commissions - Effective July 1, 2024](#)

Changes related to the State Board of Education:

- Reduces the number of members from ten to nine, to include seven voting members, one nonvoting student member, and the Director of Iowa Workforce Development who shall serve as a nonvoting member. Strikes the requirement that three of the voting members have substantial knowledge related to community colleges.
- Authorizes the State Board of Education to establish and utilize ad hoc advisory committees.

Changes related to the Iowa College Aid Commission:

- Reduces the additional members appointed by the Governor from nine to seven.
- Specifies at least one Governor appointee shall represent a student of an institute of higher learning under the control of the Board of Regents, community colleges, or accredited nonpublic institution.
- Specifies at least one Governor appointee shall be a parent of a student of an institute of higher learning under the control of the Board of Regents, community colleges, or accredited nonpublic institution.
- Specifies at least one Governor appointee shall have knowledge and experience in financial or fiduciary matters.
- Specifies that the representative of the State Board of Regents, who is appointed by the State Board of Regents, is to serve as an ex-officio member.
- Strikes the Governor appointee representing private colleges and universities. Adds requirement that one member is to serve in an ex-officio capacity representing private colleges and universities in Iowa, and is to be selected by an association representing some or all private colleges and universities in the state of Iowa.
- Strikes the Governor appointee representing community colleges. Adds requirement that one member is to serve in an ex-officio capacity representing Iowa's community colleges, and is to be selected by an association of Iowa's community colleges.

Eliminates the following boards, commissions, committees, and councils under the purview of the Department of Education:

- Commission on Educator Leadership and Compensation
- Community College Council
- Early Childhood Stakeholders Alliance
- Nonpublic School Advisory Council
- Quality Faculty Plan Professional Development Committee

Eliminates the following boards, commissions, committees, and councils under the purview of the Department of Education and reassigns the related duties to other entities:

- Iowa Autism Council, and establishes the Iowa Special Education Council to serve in an advisory capacity to the Department of Education.
  - The council is to consist of seven voting members appointed by the Governor, subject to Senate confirmation. Members shall include one parent or guardian of a student with autism, one with a behavioral disability, one with a physical disability, one with a mental learning disability or head injury, one with communication learning disability, and one with dyslexia. One member shall be a special education teacher.
- Postsecondary Course Audit Committee, and assigns the duties of the committee to the Department of Education.

Eliminates the following boards, commissions, committees, and councils on which the Department served:

- Child Care Advisory Committee.
- Child Care Training and Development System.
- Children's Behavioral Health System State Board and reassigns duties to the Council on Health and Human Services.
- Council on Homelessness and reassigns the duties of the council to the Iowa Finance Authority.
- Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development Council and reassigns the duties of the council to the Youth Advisory Council.

Reduces the membership of the Advisory Council on Agriculture Education from 9 members to 7 members. Specifies that the council shall meet as necessary, rather than requiring the council to meet twice annually.

## 8. Additional Updates

### [House File 2393](#) - Exempt Screenings - Effective July 1, 2024

Exempts dental screenings from the consent and notification requirements under Iowa Code section 279.76, subsection 1, consistent with the requirements for a hearing or vision examination.

### [Senate File 2391](#) - Misbranded Food Products - Effective July 1, 2024

Requires the Department of Education and school boards to establish policies to prevent the purchase of a food product that is misbranded as a meat product or cultivated meat product defined in section 137E.1, or an egg product as specified in section 137A.4