

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0223

Wyoming preschool provider grants.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Sommers, Berger and Larsen,  
L and Senator(s) Barlow, Rothfuss and  
Schuler

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; modifying the expenditure of  
2 revenues generated by the Wyoming education trust fund;  
3 establishing a grant program for preschool providers as  
4 specified; defining terms; specifying requirements;  
5 providing rulemaking authority; eliminating the innovative  
6 program grant program; transferring funds; making  
7 conforming amendments; repealing provisions; and providing  
8 for an effective date.

9

10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-22-102(a)(i) and by creating new  
13 subsections (b) through (f) is amended to read:

14

1           21-22-102. Disposition of trust fund investment  
2 earnings; grant program for preschool providers;  
3 application; criteria; limitations.

4  
5           (a) Revenues deposited into the separate account  
6 established under W.S. 21-22-101(b) shall be distributed by  
7 the state treasurer as follows:

8  
9           (i) To the department of education for  
10 distribution ~~in accordance with W.S. 21-22-106 and~~  
11 ~~21-22-107 to Wyoming school districts for programs~~  
12 benefiting school districts to preschool providers to  
13 provide preschool programs for economically disadvantaged  
14 students who are at-risk.

15  
16           **(b) As used in this section:**

17  
18           **(i) "At-risk student" means any student who**  
19 **shows a probability for academic failure or nonattendance**  
20 **when he reaches the early grades of public school;**

21  
22           **(ii) "Economically disadvantaged student" means**  
23 **a student who has qualified or would qualify for free or**

1 reduced priced lunches under the federal national school  
2 lunch program;

3

4 (iii) "Preschool provider" means any school  
5 district, preschool developmental disability program,  
6 private nonprofit organization or private for-profit  
7 organization eligible to receive funds under the federal  
8 temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program.

9

10 (c) A preschool provider that serves economically  
11 disadvantaged students who are at-risk may apply to the  
12 department of education for grants to provide state  
13 financial assistance under this section for:

14

15 (i) Salaries, wages and benefits for teachers  
16 paid by the preschool provider, directly attributable to  
17 teaching economically disadvantaged students who are  
18 at-risk;

19

20 (ii) Expenses for accounting, tax preparation  
21 and financial audits associated with operation of the  
22 preschool provider;

23

1           (iii) Insurance premiums for liability  
2 insurance, including general liability insurance, for the  
3 operation of the preschool provider and automobiles  
4 utilized for operation of the preschool provider;

5  
6           (iv) Building or facility lease or rental  
7 expenses, utilities and initial expenses associated with  
8 the operation of the preschool provider;

9  
10           (v) Costs for trainings or activities for  
11 parents or guardians to help increase their capacity to  
12 facilitate the development of cognitive, language,  
13 social-emotional, adaptive or motor skills to promote  
14 learning readiness of their children and promote effective  
15 parenting. Costs may include training materials, food,  
16 facility or building rental or lease expenses and supplies;  
17 and

18  
19           (vi) Office supplies, textbooks, assessments,  
20 curriculum and other learning materials to enhance early  
21 childhood literacy, math and other domains to ensure early  
22 childhood readiness.

23

1       (d) A grant awarded under this section shall be for a  
2 period of one (1) year and shall not exceed fifty thousand  
3 dollars (\$50,000.00) per year. Applications for a grant  
4 under this section shall be submitted on a form and in a  
5 manner specified by rule of the department of education,  
6 shall be filed with the department on or before May 15 and  
7 shall at a minimum include:

8  
9           (i) A proposal documenting the preschool  
10 provider's financial need for financial assistance for the  
11 expenses contained in subsection (b) of this section;

12  
13           (ii) The purpose, plan and timeline for  
14 expenditure of grant amounts;

15  
16           (iii) Other necessary information required by  
17 the department.

18  
19       (e) The department of education shall annually  
20 distribute grant funds to selected preschool providers on  
21 or before October 1. In no event shall grants awarded  
22 exceed funds available for this purpose within the separate  
23 account. Grants received under this section shall only be

1 used for the purposes for which the grant is awarded and  
2 shall not be expended for any other program, activity or  
3 purpose.

4  
5 (f) The department of education shall promulgate  
6 rules necessary to carry out this section.

7

8 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-22-101(c), 21-22-106 and 21-22-107  
9 are repealed.

10

11 **Section 3.** On July 1, 2023, the state auditor shall  
12 transfer fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000.00) from the  
13 public school foundation program account to the Wyoming  
14 education trust fund.

15

16 **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2023.

17

18

(END)