



Jack R. Smith, Ph.D.
Interim State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • msde.maryland.gov

TO: Local School System Human Resources Directors

FROM: Sarah Spross *Sarah Spross*
Assistant State Superintendent for Division of Educator Effectiveness

DATE: December 21, 2015

SUBJECT: Stipends for Qualified Teachers

This memorandum serves to explain how funds will be distributed in upcoming fiscal years to eligible classroom teachers through the Quality Teacher Incentive Act of 1999 (QTIA). The Act is codified in the Maryland Code, Education Article §6-306 and has been amended multiple times since it was adopted in 1999. This past legislative session, the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) of 2015 amended the Act to make the following changes to the incentives provided to teachers. These changes are significant and we believe it is important to review these changes with you so that you will understand how the changes impact your local school system. A copy of the pertinent BRFA language is attached for your reference. (Attachment I)

- For Fiscal Year 2016, the BRFA of 2015 capped the amount of available stipends at FY 2014 levels. As a result, only those educators who qualified for a stipend during Fiscal Year 2014 (listed in Attachment II) and are currently employed in a “comprehensive needs” school as identified during Fiscal Year 2014 (Attachment III) will be eligible to be considered for the stipend this year. Educators who did not qualify for the stipend in FY 2014 are not eligible for a stipend in FY 2016 under the BRFA of 2015.
- For Fiscal year 2017, the BRFA of 2015 eliminates the stipend for classroom teachers who hold Advanced Professional Certification, but do not hold National Board Certification.

An overview of these incentives and the process for distributing funds to your local school system in future years are detailed below.

- For Fiscal year 2017, the BRFA of 2015 eliminates the stipend for classroom teachers who hold Advanced Professional Certification, but do not hold National Board Certification.