

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 2024

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2024

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2023–24 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 3131

Introduced by Assembly Member McCarty

February 16, 2024

An act to amend Sections 53075 and 88830 of the Education Code, relating to career technical education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 3131, as amended, McCarty. California Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program: Strong Workforce Program: ~~positive consideration for applicants in~~ *equity multiplier*: historically redlined communities.

Existing law establishes the California Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program, administered by the State Department of Education, with the purpose of encouraging, maintaining, and strengthening the delivery of high-quality career technical education programs. Existing law provides, for the 2021–22 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, that \$300,000,000 shall be available to the department, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for the program.

Existing law, commencing with the 2023–24 fiscal year, appropriates \$300,000,000 each fiscal year from the General Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for allocation for the Local Control Funding Formula Equity Multiplier apportionment, as provided. Existing law requires the funding to be allocated to eligible local educational agencies that generate a specified local control funding

formula entitlement based on, among other things, the percentage of unduplicated pupils served.

Existing law establishes the Strong Workforce Program to provide funding to career technical education regional consortia made up of community college districts and local educational agencies, as specified. Existing law also establishes a K–12 component of the Strong Workforce Program. Existing law provides that, commencing with the 2018–19 fiscal year, the amount appropriated in the annual Budget Act for the K–12 component of the program is used to create, support, or expand high-quality career technical education programs at the K–12 level that are aligned with the workforce development efforts occurring through the program. Existing law requires each consortium to form a K–12 Selection Committee, as specified, for purposes of awarding grants under the K–12 component of the program.

Existing law, for both the California Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program and the K–12 component of the Strong Workforce Program, requires that applicants with certain characteristics be given positive consideration, as specified.

This bill would require the department, in consultation with the executive director of the State Board of Education, when determining grant recipients for the California Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program, ~~and to additionally give positive consideration to applicants that include local educational agencies that qualify for the above-described Local Control Funding Formula Equity Multiplier apportionment, as provided.~~ The bill would also require the K–12 Selection Committees, when determining grant recipients under the K–12 component of the Strong Workforce Program, to additionally give positive consideration to applicants located in historically redlined communities, as determined by the department.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 53075 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 53075. (a) When determining proposed grant recipients, the
- 4 department, in consultation with the executive director of the state
- 5 board, shall do both of the following:

1 (1) Give positive consideration to each of the following
2 characteristics in an applicant:

3 (A) Serving unduplicated pupils, as defined in Section 42238.02.

4 (B) Serving pupil subgroups that have higher than average
5 dropout rates as identified by the Superintendent.

6 (C) Located in an area of the state with a high unemployment
7 rate.

8 (D) Offer an existing high-quality regional-based career
9 technical education program as a joint powers agency or county
10 office of education.

11 ~~(E) Located in a historically redlined community, as determined~~
12 ~~by the department.~~

13 *(E) The applicant is, or includes, a local educational agency*
14 *receiving Local Control Funding Formula Equity Multiplier*
15 *funding pursuant to Section 42238.024, as identified through the*
16 *stability rate data file produced by the department in the prior*
17 *fiscal year.*

18 (2) Give positive consideration to programs to the extent they
19 do any of the following:

20 (A) Successfully leverage one or both of the following:

21 (i) Existing structures, requirements, and resources of the federal
22 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century
23 Act (Perkins V) (Public Law 115-224), California Partnership
24 Academies, or Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive
25 Grants.

26 (ii) Contributions from industry, labor, and philanthropic
27 sources.

28 (B) Engage in regional collaboration with postsecondary
29 educational institutions, including the Strong Workforce Program
30 consortium operating in their respective geographic areas, or other
31 local educational agencies to align career pathway instruction with
32 postsecondary program requirements. This shall include, but not
33 be limited to, pathway programs provided under an adopted College
34 and Career Access Pathways partnership agreement pursuant to
35 Section 76004.

36 (C) Make significant investment in career technical education
37 infrastructure, equipment, and facilities.

38 (D) Operate within rural school districts.

39 (b) When determining grant recipients, the department, in
40 consultation with the executive director of the state board, shall

1 give greatest weight to the applicant characteristics included in
2 paragraph (1) of subdivision (a).

3 (c) Grant recipients are encouraged to use funds provided for
4 in subdivision (d) of Section 53070 to create high school programs
5 that provide career-themed coursework with articulated pathways
6 to postsecondary education, including programs established through
7 a College and Career Access Pathways partnership agreement
8 pursuant to Section 76004, and to develop pathway programs that
9 lead into careers that are in high demand in the state.

10 SEC. 2. Section 88830 of the Education Code is amended to
11 read:

12 88830. (a) When determining grant recipients under the K–12
13 component of the Strong Workforce Program, the K–12 Selection
14 Committee shall consider past performance of grantees before
15 awarding additional funds to those reapplying for grants.

16 (b) (1) The K–12 Selection Committee shall give positive
17 consideration to each of the following characteristics in an
18 applicant:

19 (A) Aligned programs serving unduplicated pupils, as defined
20 in Section 42238.02.

21 (B) Programs that the K–12 Selection Committee, in
22 consultation with the consortium, determines most effectively meet
23 the needs of the local and regional economies.

24 (C) Programs serving pupil subgroups that have higher than
25 average dropout rates as identified by the Superintendent of Public
26 Instruction.

27 (D) Programs located in an area of the state with a high
28 unemployment rate.

29 (E) Programs located in a historically redlined community, as
30 determined by the department.

31 (2) When determining grant recipients, the K–12 Selection
32 Committee shall give greatest weight to the applicant characteristics
33 included in this subdivision.

34 (c) The K–12 Selection Committee shall also give positive
35 consideration to programs to the extent they do any of the
36 following:

37 (1) Successfully leverage one or both of the following:

38 (A) Existing structures, requirements, and resources of the
39 federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st
40 Century Act (Perkins V) (Public Law 115-224), the partnership

1 academies program pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with
2 Section 54690) of Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2, or
3 the agricultural career technical education incentive program
4 pursuant to Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 52460) of
5 Chapter 9 of Part 28 of Division 4 of Title 2.

6 (B) Contributions from industry, labor, and philanthropic
7 sources.

8 (2) Make significant investments in career technical education
9 infrastructure, equipment, and facilities.

10 (3) Operate within rural school districts.

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