

Legislature

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(Amends Iowa Code Chapter 284.6) The Legislature appropriated up to \$20 million to be used for local district and AEA professional development purposes. Last year's appropriations of and requirements for \$10 million for the equivalent of one day of professional development and the \$6.625 million in "Pot 2" were replaced with this year's \$20 million appropriation. As in previous years, the allocation to each district will be based upon the average per diem contract salary for each district multiplied by the total number of full-time equivalent teachers. Note that the definition of "teacher" for purposes described in Iowa Code Chapter 284 has been expanded. (See item E below). **SF 277 changed the use of the funds to "...providing professional development to teachers, including additional salaries for time beyond the normal negotiated agreement; pay for substitute teachers, professional development materials, speakers, and professional development content; and costs associated with implementing the individual professional development plans."** (See item C below for description of who determines how these funds are expended. The district administration/board no longer have sole authority to determine use of these funds.) These funds may not supplant existing funding for professional development activities (e.g. general fund, federal funding sources, carryover of state P.D. funds from the previous school year, etc). Districts are required to certify to the Iowa Department of Education (DE) how funds received were used (more information on data collection to follow later in the summer). Funds will be disbursed to districts and AEAs in one payment, on or about October 15. The amount to be distributed to each district and AEA will be posted on the DE website in early summer.

B. Attendance center professional development plan

(Amends Iowa Code Chapter 284.6) In addition to the previously required district professional development plan and the individual plan for each teacher, SF 277 added the requirement that **each attendance center "shall develop an attendance center professional development plan."** The plan must be based upon the needs of teachers, the Iowa teaching standards, the district professional development plan, and the student achievement goals of the attendance center and the district. The legislation did not establish a date by which attendance center plans must be developed, but it is advisable to develop these plans early in the upcoming school year. (The district professional plan is already incorporated into the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. The attendance center plans do not need to be incorporated into the CSIP,