

**Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB174S1 **Patron:** Pekarsky
Bill Title: Virginia Student Teacher Scholarship Program established; report.

Bill Summary: Establishes the Virginia Student Teacher Scholarship Program, to be administered by the Department of Education in coordination with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, whereby a student teacher who (i) is completing a required supervised clinical practice through a traditional educator preparation program in the Commonwealth, (ii) is assigned to complete such supervised clinical practice at a public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth without pay, and (iii) applies and meets certain eligibility criteria shall be awarded a scholarship in an amount not to exceed \$7,500 per each supervised clinical practice experience to assist with expenses incurred during the supervised clinical practice. The bill contains provisions relating to Program administration and requires the Department to submit and publish an annual report containing certain Program data.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** 117 and 124, HB/SB 30
Explanation: A budget amendment would be necessary to support the Virginia Student Teacher Scholarship Program (Item 124) and implementation measures for the Department of Education (Item 117).

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
DOE	\$0	At least \$308,202	\$308,202	\$308,202	\$308,202	\$308,202
Direct Aid	\$0	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate

Position Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
DOE	0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

Fiscal Summary: This bill impacts the Department of Education (DOE) and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).

Any amount required to support the Virginia Student Teacher Scholarship Program is indeterminate and subject to appropriation.

If funds are appropriated for this program, DOE would require additional funding in order to administer the program. DOE anticipates the need for two additional positions to support the grant administration, who would perform duties such as Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) support for teachers, providing

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information and support for school division staff and program applications, communications, review of applications, compliance monitoring, award disbursements, and evaluation and reporting. DOE estimates a total cost of \$308,202 in ongoing general fund beginning in FY27, including salary, benefits, and technology to support these positions.

DOE also anticipates that there could be additional costs for technology related to the licensure and grant management systems. DOE's licensure system is scheduled to be replaced in the next year, so estimated costs to incorporate this program are indeterminate at this time. Costs to update the grant management system are dependent upon the amount appropriated for grants; DOE anticipates that if a large new grant program is funded, costs could reach up to an additional \$450,000 in the first year for implementation. Any actual technology-related costs are indeterminate at this time.

SCHEV anticipates no fiscal impact at this time.

Other: None.