



**153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL:	HOUSE BILL NO. 51
SPONSOR:	Representative K. Williams
DESCRIPTION:	AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE EDUCATOR APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature of the Governor.
2. This Act requires that the Delaware Educator Apprenticeship Program be expanded to include paraprofessional apprenticeships, including registered youth apprenticeship programs. A pilot program for the paraprofessional registered occupation program shall begin in the 2025-2026 school year and shall be expanded based on interest and funding in the 2026-2027 school year and beyond.
3. According to the Department of Education, it is anticipated, based on projected interest, that there will be approximately 10 apprentices in year one, 25 apprentices in year two, and 50 apprentices in year three if sufficient funding is available to expand programming.
4. Projected program majors include Early Childhood, Elementary Education, Middle-Level English, Middle-Level Math, Middle-Level Science, and Middle-Level Social Studies. Cooperating institutions of higher education include Wilmington University and Delaware Technical Community College.
5. Program costs vary depending on the program major and cooperating institution of higher education.
 - a) It is anticipated that in year one, Wilmington University will be the sole provider, offering all 6 program majors. Wilmington University will continue offering all 6 program majors in years two and three, and beyond.
 - i. The costs associated with this program includes tuition, fees, books, materials, and licensure exams. The average annual cost per student at Wilmington University is estimated to be between \$23,347 to \$24,246.
 - b) It is anticipated that in years two and three, and beyond, Delaware Technical Community College will also be a provider, offering the Elementary Education program major.
 - i. The costs associated with this program includes tuition, fees, books, and materials. The average annual cost per student at Delaware Technical Community College is estimated to be \$3,237.
 - c) Additionally, costs may be reduced based on student aid eligibility. The exact reduction from student aid is unknown until program candidates are identified and individual student aid eligibility is determined.

6. This Act requires that the Department of Education, in partnership with the Department of Labor, apply for State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula (SAEF) federal grants, both formula and competitive funding, for the pilot year. According to the Department of Education, if SAEF grant funds are unavailable or insufficient, there are sufficient funds within the Teacher Recruitment and Retention state general fund appropriation for the pilot year.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2026: \$240,615
Fiscal Year 2027: \$376,811
Fiscal Year 2028: \$994,517

Prepared by Kiley Thomson
Office of the Controller General