STATE OF NEW YORK

5608

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 25, 2025

Introduced by Sens. ASHBY, HELMING -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing a New York state English as a new language teaching assistance program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 669-i to read as follows:

§ 669-i. New York state English as a new language teaching assistance program. 1. Undergraduate and/or graduate students who are matriculated in an approved undergraduate or graduate program at a degree granting institution leading to a career as a teacher in primary or secondary education shall be eligible for an award under this section, provided the applicant: (a) register for and pass a bilingual education assessment exam; (b) completes a minimum of forty school days in a college-supervised student teaching experience under the instruction of an English as a new language teacher and in a school located within New York state providing primary or secondary education recognized by the board of regents or the university of the state of New York; and (c) complies with the applicable provisions of this article and all requirements promulgated by the corporation for the administration of the program.

2. Within amounts appropriated therefor, awards shall be granted to applicants that the corporation has certified are eligible to receive such awards. Such awards shall be made to recipients after the successful completion of requirements, as defined by the corporation.

3. Recipients shall receive a payment equal to the annual tuition charged to state resident students attending an undergraduate program full-time at the state university of New York, or actual tuition charged, whichever is less.

4. Recipients shall be authorized to count the forty school days required under paragraph (b) of subdivision one of this section towards

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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their necessary teaching experience hours for New York state teacher certificates.

5. The corporation is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this section, including exploring whether more frequent bilingual education assessment exam periods can be offered.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.