



Indiana Department of Education 2019 Legislative Priority

Advocate for the continuation of Teacher Appreciation Grants

Teacher Appreciation Grants (TAG) are a component of Indiana's present systematic, statewide teacher compensation efforts. According to Indiana Department of Education's *Indiana Teacher Survey: Your Voice Matters*, 88% of teachers who responded were unsatisfied with their salaries. Additionally, among teachers responding interest in leaving the profession, pay was the number one reason communicated through the survey. TAG supports teacher retention and attraction by providing additional stipends.

The continuation of TAG demonstrates legislative support for teachers. In some cases, TAG is the only source of increased income a teacher will receive. These grants are typically awarded as a stipend for teachers rated as effective or highly effective using the most recently completed teacher evaluation ratings.

Quick Facts

- ❑ During the 2017 budget cycle, legislators approved \$30M TAG grants for, FY18 and FY19.
- ❑ Indiana Code 20-43-10-3.5 stipulates the governing body must differentiate between effective and highly effective teachers.
- ❑ The amount awarded to each school corporation is equal to \$30M multiplied by Average Daily Membership (student count), which is reduced for all districts if the \$30M appropriation is insufficient.
- ❑ According to Indiana Department of Education's *Indiana Teacher Survey: Your Voice Matters*, 88% of teachers who responded were unsatisfied with their salaries.
- ❑ Among teachers responding interest in leaving the profession, pay was the number one reason communicated through the survey.
- ❑ Within the first five years (2011-2016), 35% of educators leave the profession.