

New Laws in effect for the 2023-24 school year

Note: This is intended as a summary of new laws only. Please review the provided statutes for specific requirements, opportunities, and obligations.

State Budget and Charter School Funding

- Increases the K-12 tuition support formula funding by \$1.5B over the next two years or a 10% increase compared to FY23 levels. [IC 20-43-6-3](#).
- Elimination of Textbook and Curricular Fees - \$160M allotted for the Curricular Materials Reimbursement Fund for public schools. [IC 20-24-8-2](#).
- Academic Performance Grants [IC 20-43-10.5-1](#) adds new incentives for academic outcomes. The grant amount is equal to the aggregate of the single largest amount. For example, when a student qualifies for multiple grants, the school will only receive funding for that student's highest amount grant below.
 - Early Graduation (\$1,500 each year). [IC 20-43-10.5-2](#).
 - Honors (\$1,500 or \$1,500 each year). [IC 20-43-10.5-3](#).
 - Dual Credits (\$40 each year). [IC 20-43-10.5-4\(1\)\(B\)](#).
 - Indiana College Core (\$1,500 each year). [IC 20-43-10.5-4\(2\)\(B\)](#).
 - Associate degrees (\$2,500 allocated each year). [IC 20-43-10.5-4\(3\)\(B\)](#).
- Charter and Innovation Network School Grant increased to \$1,400 per pupil for each year of the biennium. [IC 20-24-13-6](#).
- Increased funding for adult learners by \$16.3M. [IC 20-24-7-13.5](#).
- School corporations in the State of Indiana may provide funding from operating or school safety referendums to charter schools within their district. School corporations in Marion, Lake, St. Joseph and Vanderburgh counties adopting referendum resolutions after May 10, 2023 must communicate to charter schools within their district their referendum intentions and provide them with an opportunity to participate in their operating and school safety referendum. Virtual charter schools and adult high schools are ineligible. This section does not apply to, and distributions are not required for, a school corporation that is designated as a distressed political subdivision under [IC 6-1.1-20.3](#).

- If school corporations in other counties choose to share referendum dollars they are exempted from the “\$1 law.” [IC 20-26-7.1-1](#).
- Required sharing of the incremental growth in local property tax dollars with charter school students in Marion, Lake, St. Joseph and Vanderburgh counties starting in FY25. [IC 20-24-7-6.1](#) The distribution calculation can be found here: [IC 20-46-8-11.2](#). Virtual charter schools and adult high schools are ineligible. This does not apply to a school corporation that is designated as a distressed political subdivision under [IC 6-1.1-20.3](#).
- The county auditor of Marion, Lake, St. Joseph and Vanderburgh counties must distribute money that is received as part of a tax levy collected under IC 20-46-9 to applicable charter schools within their district. [IC 20-24-7-6.2](#) Virtual charter schools and adult high schools are ineligible. This does not apply to a school corporation that is designated as a distressed political subdivision under [IC 6-1.1-20.3](#).
- Establishes the Charter School Capital Grant Fund (Charter School Facility Grant Program) as well as its uses and parameters. [IC 20-24-14](#).
- Allows all charter schools to utilize the Indiana Bond Bank and the Common School Fund (for low interest technology and construction loans). [IC 20-49-4-23](#) and [IC 20-20-13-7](#), respectively.

New Requirements

- Requires public schools to report information regarding reading and writing curricula, remedial programs, and administrative contact information on the school’s website. [IC 20-26-5-44.2](#).
- Requires a school corporation to differentiate the amount of salary increases or increments for teachers who possess a required literacy endorsement. [IC 20-28-9-1.5](#).
- Requires each public school to provide information to DOE concerning physical injuries to employees by students and DOE to report the information on their website. [IC 20-19-3-27.5](#).
- Requires DOE to provide information to all school types and requires each school to post the information on the school's website home page, including pass rates of assessments, graduation rates, SAT scores (average composite), percentage of students who enrolled in

and passed AP, IB, dual credit courses, Cambridge International Exam, and more. [IC 20-19-11](#).

- DOE is required to create rankings of school pass rates, school SAT scores, students enrolled in/passed AP, IB, dual credit, and Cambridge International, and then disaggregate by FRL.
- Each elementary and high school must post this information no later than Oct. 15, 2023 and Oct. 15 each year after.

- Requires special education grade 8 through 12 case conference committees to discuss decision making skills and alternatives to appointing a guardian. [IC 20-35-6-4](#).

- Requires all school types to offer a financial literacy course as a separate standalone subject. Becomes a graduation requirement starting with the 2028 graduating cohort. [IC 20-32-4-17](#). Creates requirements for the content that must be covered in the course. State Board may allow a course to satisfy one or more diploma course requirements. [IC 20-30-5-19](#).

- By October 2023, elementary schools of all school types must submit information to DOE regarding whether the school provides instruction on cursive writing and which grade level it is provided to. [IC 20-19-3-30](#).

- Requires students at all school types to complete and submit FAFSA by April 15 of their senior year unless:
 - Their parent signs a waiver.
 - The counselor or principal signs a waiver due to being unable to reach the parents after two attempts. [IC 20-26-5-42.2](#).

- Requires all school types to consider using a more comprehensive expanded criminal history background check for employment. [IC 20-26-5-10](#).

- Prohibits all school types from employing or contracting with individuals convicted of certain offenses. [IC 20-26-5-11.2](#).

- After June 30, 2023, allows all school types to employ or contract with individuals convicted of other certain offenses with a majority vote of the school board, or the equivalent for a charter school, or with a notification of the appointing authority. [IC 20-26-5-11.2](#).

- Requires all school types that receives a reference request from another school to disclose specified incidents to the requesting school. [IC 20-26-5-11.5](#).
- Schools are required to notify in writing at least one parent of a request made by the student to change the student's name, pronoun, title, or word to identify the student no later than 5 business days. [IC 20-33-7.5](#).
- A credit for an algebra course earned prior to grade 9 and meets a specific math course requirement must count toward the credit requirements for an academic honors diploma. [IC 20-32-4-1.7](#).
- Requires the creation of a multi-disciplinary threat assessment team (school safety team) in every school corporation in Indiana, comprised of safety specialists like law enforcement, school resource officers, counselors and social workers. The group is tasked with providing guidance to students, staff and teachers along with the updated and individualized plans for their school corporation. [IC 10-21-1-1\(10\)](#).
- Schools that use a third-party vendor in providing personal analyses, evaluations, or survey
 - Neither the school nor the vendor may record, collect, or maintain the responses or results in a manner that would identify an individual student. [IC 20-26-21-3](#).
 - The school must provide parents two requests for written consent before administering the analysis, evaluation, or survey. If the parent does not decline, the school may administer it. [IC 20-26-21-4](#).
- The school must post a copy of it on their website and send with each notice an explanation of the reasons that it is being administered. [IC 20-26-21-4](#).
- Each school must also establish and maintain a grievance procedure for complaints regarding a violation of this provision. [IC 20-26-21-6](#).
- After June 30, 2023, contracts between schools and a third-party vendor concerning a personal analysis, survey, or evaluation must contain a breach of contract provision. [IC 20-26-21-9](#).

New Restrictions

- Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, a superintendent, advisory committee, or governing body or the equivalent for a charter school: shall adopt curriculum or supplemental materials for reading that are aligned with the science of reading and to the

student's reading proficiency; and may not adopt curriculum or supplemental materials for reading that are based on the three-cueing model. [IC 20-26-12-24.5](#).

- Schools, school employees, and third-party vendors are prohibited from to provide instruction on human sexuality for K-3 students. [IC 20-30-17](#).
- Requires a secondary or postsecondary educational institution to ensure that a student's completion of a work-based learning course is indicated on the student's transcript. [IC 20-37-3-4](#).
- Requires public schools to publicly post their library catalogs and establish a procedure to allow parents and community members to file challenges to books they believe are inappropriate. [IC 20-26-5.5-1](#).
- If a state agency, school, or an employee of a state agency or school requires/makes part of a course, awards a grade or course credit, or otherwise incentivizes a student to engage in: (1) political activism; (2) lobbying; or (3) efforts to persuade members of the legislative or executive branch at the federal, state, or local level; the student shall not be required to adopt, affirm, affiliate, or take any action that would result in favoring any particular position on the issue or issues involved without offering an alternative option for the student to complete the assignment or receive extra credit or other incentivization that allows for the favoring of an alternative position. [IC 20-33-1.5-3](#).

Removed Requirements

- Repeals teacher training requirements regarding criminal gang organizations awareness, certain information concerning homeless students, and recognizing the signs and symptoms of seizures and the appropriate steps to be taken to respond to the symptoms. Instead requires that information concerning these subjects be included within the curriculum of teacher preparation programs. [IC 20-28-3-5.5](#).
- Repeals the school corporation annual performance report law, the charter school obligation to publish an annual performance report, the performance-based awards law, and annual financial reports by school corporations. [IC 20-28-11.5-4](#).

Other Changes

- Extended the maximum length of a charter from 7 to 15 years. [IC 20-24-4-1\(5\)\(A\)](#).

- Adds charter and non-public schools to the list of those able to issue adjunct teaching permits. Allows adjunct teachers to teach CTE. [IC 20-28-5-27](#).
- Provides that all school types may not require a student to participate in any particular graduation pathway to be eligible to graduate. [IC 20-32-4-1.8](#).
- Removes a provision that provides that not more than 1% of students of a cohort may receive an alternate diploma. Provides that, for purposes of determining a school's or school corporation's graduation rate, not more than one percent of a school's or school corporation's graduation cohort that receives an alternate diploma may be counted as having graduated. [IC 20-32-4-14](#).
- Outlines procedures for the “\$1 law.” [IC 20-26-7-47](#) , [IC 20-26-7.1-4](#) , [IC 20-26-7.1-4.5](#) , [IC 20-26-7.1-5](#) , [IC 20-26-7.1-5.3](#), [IC 20-26-7.1-6](#), [IC 20-26-7.1-9](#), [IC 20-26-7.1-10](#).
- Expands the uses of the Indiana Secured School Fund while making changes to its reporting requirements and application procedures. [IC 10-21-1-2](#).
 - The Safe Schools Fund is repealed and consolidated with the Indiana Secure Safety Fund . The Indiana Secured School Fund is accessible to all school types.
- Provides funding for optional handgun training for teachers and staff of all school types. (Existing law allows schools to set a policy on teachers and staff carrying firearms in school). [IC 10-21-1-16](#).
- Moves up deadlines for recommending and approving streamlined academic standards to June 1, 2023 in order to implement the new standards in the 2023-2024 school year. [IC 20-31-3-1](#).
- A school psychologist may provide services on a private basis to an individual if they receives a referral from the individual's parent if the individual is an unemancipated minor. [IC 20-28-12-4](#).
- CHE and DOE shall identify and notify students that meet the 21st Century Scholars program requirements of their eligibility, that they can opt out of the program at any time, and they must agree to the conditions in order to participate. [IC 21-12-6-5.5](#).

- Innovation School Changes:
 - Provides protections for Innovation school autonomy. [IC 20-25.7-4-6](#).
 - Requires new innovation agreements to include a process for renewal decisions including an appeals process for innovation school renewals to the State Board of Education. [IC 20-25.7-4-5](#).
 - Caps any administrative fee included in an innovation agreement to 1% of the total amount of tuition support for the innovation school. [IC 20-25.7-4-5](#).
 - Allows an innovation school and school corporation to transfer ownership of a facility outside the \$1 law. [IC 20-25.7-4-6](#).
 - Prohibits a school corporation from requiring an innovation school to contract for specific services provided by the school corporation or other entity. [IC 20-25.7-4-6](#).

Grants

- **Robotics Competition Program** - Creates a robotics competition program fund which provides grants to eligible robotics programs of all school types. [IC 20-20-45.5](#).
- **Indiana Secured School Fund** - All school types may apply for a grant from the Indiana Secured School Fund to purchase an AED. Schools may ensure that an AED is properly maintained and develop a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest that: Establishes a goal of responding within three minutes and requires the performance of periodic drills. School coaches, assistant coaches, marching band leaders, drama and musical leaders, and extracurricular activity leaders of all school types may ensure that an operational AED is present at each event. [IC 20-34-8-3.5](#).
- **Teacher Education Scholarship Programs** - Increases the annual scholarship amount that the CHE may award under the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship program from \$7,500 to \$10,000 and removes limits on the number of scholarships that may be awarded. Award amount of \$10,000 each academic year for not more than four academic years. [IC 21-12-16.5-8](#) Establishes the Next Generation Hoosier Minority Educators Scholarship program and fund. [IC 21-12-16.5](#).
- **Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship Program** - Those enrolled in a transition to teaching program may apply for a one-time scholarship under the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship program. IC 21-12-16.5-8 Establishes requirements to qualify for the one-time scholarship (maximum amount of a scholarship is \$10,000). [IC 21-12-16-5.5](#) The total annual number of scholarships awarded from the next generation Hoosier educators scholarship fund to individuals enrolled in a transition to teaching program may not exceed \$1,000,000. [IC 21-12-16-8.5](#).

- **Earline S. Rogers Student Teach Scholarship for Minority students** - Increases the annual scholarship amount a recipient may receive from \$4,000 to \$5,000. [IC 21-13-8-2](#).
- **Career Scholarship Accounts** - Provides \$5,000 per student each year they participate in work-based learning, apprenticeships, and postsecondary acceleration. [IC 20-51.4-4.5-4](#).