

**6A-10.060 The Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program.**

(1) Eligibility for payment(s) of the certification fee subsidy, teaching salary bonus, and mentoring salary bonus, pursuant to Section 1012.72, F.S., requires the following:

(a) Full-time employment as instructional personnel within the meaning of Sections 1012.01(2)(a)-(c), F.S., as reflected by contract, the school district's personnel salary schedule, or the school district's approved staffing plan;

(b) Engaging exclusively in activities that further student instruction; for example, through advising, teaching and mentoring students, coaching or mentoring teachers through in class modeling, monitoring, and advising, and offering information resources to students;

(c) Teaching students a majority of the time;

(d) Completing and signing, as applicable, the following forms incorporated herein by reference and submitting all items they require: DHETP-1, Application and Instructions for Teacher Certification Fee Subsidy, DHETP-2, Letter of Intent/Promissory Note, DHETP-3, Salary Bonus Request Form, and DHETP-4, Mentoring Services Bonus Request Form, to become effective May 2004, all available at the Florida Department of Education, Florida Excellent Teaching Program, 325 W. Gaines St., Ste. 126, Tallahassee, FL 32399;

(e) Demonstrating satisfactory performance on the most recent, regular annual performance appraisal conducted pursuant to Section 1012.34, F.S.;

(f) Holding a valid Florida educator's certificate that has not been subject to discipline as the result of a final order of the Education Practices Commission after a formal, informal, or show cause hearing or settlement agreement within the five (5) years immediately prior to the district's certification pursuant to Section 1012.72(2)(c), F.S.

(2) Eligibility to receive the certificate fee subsidy additionally requires adherence to all requirements, procedures, and deadlines of the school district, Department, and National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

(3) Eligibility to receive payments of the teaching salary bonus and mentoring salary bonus additionally requires proof of a valid NBPTS certificate or notice of certificate award.

(4) Eligibility to receive payment(s) of the mentoring salary bonus additionally requires meeting the requirements for the teaching salary bonus and the equivalent of twelve (12) workdays of mentoring and related services to public classroom teachers pursuant to Section 1012.72, F.S. Related services must include instruction in

helping teachers work more effectively with the families of their students. The twelve (12) workdays of mentoring and related services may not be completed during student contact hours during the one hundred ninety six (196) days of required service.

(5)(a) The Department shall forgive repayment of the certification fee subsidy paid to the NBPTS under the circumstances set forth in Section 1012.72(2)(d), F.S., in the event of the death of the recipient, a total and permanent disability which renders the recipient unable to work, or a reassignment of a military spouse to active duty outside the State of Florida.

(b) Death shall be verified by submission of a copy of the certificate of death. A total and permanent disability shall be verified in writing by a Florida licensed medical physician. An active military assignment outside the State of Florida shall be verified by a copy of the order of reassignment.

(6) Pro rata repayment to the Department of the teaching salary bonus and mentoring salary bonus shall be required of all recipients who during the teaching year in which the subsidy or bonus was received satisfy paragraphs (1)(a)-(c) of this rule, less than the entire school year except for leave duly authorized and granted.

(7) Full repayment to the Department of the teacher certification fee, teaching salary bonus and mentoring salary bonus shall be required of all recipients who following receipt of same no longer satisfy the eligibility requirement listed in paragraphs (1)(e) and (1)(f) of this rule, during the fiscal year in which the subsidy or bonus was received.

(8)(a) A recipient of the certification fee subsidy, teaching salary bonus and mentoring salary bonus owing a refund to the State of Florida may establish a repayment schedule agreeable to the Department which shall not exceed a period of two (2) years from the date of the written notice from the Department requesting repayment of the fee.

(b) Repayment of the certification fee subsidy, teaching salary bonus, and mentoring salary bonus may be deferred for a period not to exceed one (1) year from the date of the written notice from the Department requesting repayment of the fee for a temporary disability which renders a recipient unable to work or for other hardships as determined by the Department to render the recipient unable to work or to make repayment. A written request shall be submitted to the Department for consideration of a deferment of the repayment. The Department may request documentation of the conditions supporting the request for a deferment.

(c) Repayment of the certification fee, teaching salary bonus, and mentoring salary bonus shall be to the Florida

Department of Education.

*Rulemaking Authority 1012.72 FS. Law Implemented 1012.72 FS. History—New 7-12-99, Amended 5-29-00, 5-25-04, 6-21-05.*

*Repealed.*