

Block 1

2026-27 Small County and Low Wealth Signing Bonus for Teachers (PRC 0062) Survey

Required Respondents: All LEAs that receive Small County funding (PRC 0019) and/or Low-Wealth funding (PRC 0031) are **required to complete this survey**, even if they do not intend to participate in the signing bonus program. If your LEA **does not intend to participate**, completing the survey requires only four steps:

- Select your LEA.
- Answer **No** to the participation question.
- Provide your contact information.
- Submit the survey.

Purpose: This survey collects the information needed to prepare allotments for the Small County and Low-Wealth Signing Bonus for Teachers (PRC 0062), in accordance with [G.S. 115C-302.8](#).

Reporting Period: Report data for the 2026–27 fiscal year.

Reporting Amounts: When entering dollar amounts, report bonus amounts only. Do not include FICA/Social Security costs. Enter whole numbers only. Do not enter dollar (\$) signs or commas.

Due Date: Responses are due by Friday, **October 23, 2026**.

Contact: For questions, contact David Cauthorn, School Business

Definitions:

Eligible employee – A person who meets all of the following criteria:

- Accepts employment as a teacher with an eligible employer.
- Was not employed by that eligible employer in the prior fiscal year.
- Is employed by that eligible employer as of October 1 of the school year for which the teacher accepts employment.

Eligible employer – The governing board of a local school administrative unit that receives at least one of the following in the year in which the teacher accepts employment:

- Small county school system supplemental funding.
- Supplemental funding for local school administrative units in low-wealth counties.

Local funds – Matching funds provided by an eligible employer to enable an eligible employee to qualify for the signing bonus program

Teacher – Teachers and instructional support personnel.

Signing Bonus Program – To the extent funds are provided for this purpose, the Department of Public Instruction shall establish and administer a signing bonus program for teachers. Signing bonuses shall be provided each school year to all eligible employees who are employed by an eligible employer as long as they are matched on the basis of one dollar (\$1.00) in State funds for every one dollar (\$1.00) in local funds, up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in State funds.

Limited Exclusion from Future Signing Bonuses – A teacher who receives a signing bonus pursuant to this section is ineligible to receive another signing bonus pursuant to this section or a similar enactment of the General Assembly for at least two full school years. This section shall not apply to any legislatively mandated bonuses received by teachers that are not signing bonuses.

Bonuses as Additions – The bonuses awarded pursuant to this section shall be in addition to any regular wage or other bonus a teacher receives or is scheduled to receive.

Not for Retirement – Notwithstanding G.S. 135-1(7a), the bonuses awarded are not subject to retirement contributions and are not included when calculating the teacher's retirement benefit.

Select Your District/PSU.

Does your LEA intend to participate in the PRC 0062 signing bonus program?

Select No if your LEA does not expect any eligible employees to receive the bonus.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

How many employees in your LEA meet the eligibility requirements and are expected to receive the PRC 0062 signing bonus?

Eligible employee – A person who meets all of the following criteria:

- Accepts employment as a teacher or instructional support personnel with an eligible employer for the 2026–27 school year.
- Was not employed by that eligible employer during the 2025–26 fiscal year.
- Is employed by that eligible employer as of October 1, 2026.

Exclude eligible employees who have declined or are expected to decline the bonus. Enter a whole number.

What is the average planned local matching amount under PRC 0062 per employee receiving the bonus?

- *If every employee receiving the bonus will receive the same local matching amount, enter that amount. Otherwise, enter the average.*
- *Include only the local amount that will be matched with State funds under PRC 0062.*
- *Do not include any additional local-only bonus amount.*
- *The local matching amount cannot exceed \$1,000 per employee.*
- *Enter a whole-dollar amount using numbers only. Do not enter decimals, a dollar sign, or commas.*

\$ Amount: \$

What is the average State matching amount under PRC 0062 per employee receiving the bonus?

- *The amount must equal the average planned local matching amount entered in the previous question.*
- *The State matching amount cannot exceed \$1,000 per employee.*
- *Enter a whole-dollar amount using numbers only. Do not enter decimals, a dollar sign, or commas.*

\$ Amount: \$

What is the average planned total PRC 0062 signing bonus per employee receiving the bonus, including both the local and State matching amounts?

- *Add the average planned local matching amount and the average State matching amount reported in the previous questions.*
- *Do not include any additional local-only bonus amount.*
- *The total PRC 0062 signing bonus cannot exceed **\$2,000** per employee.*
- *Enter a whole-dollar amount using numbers only. Do not enter decimals, a dollar sign, or commas.*

\$ Amount: \$

In which month will your LEA pay the PRC 0062 signing bonus?
Select one month.

Provide the following contact information.

First Name

Last Name

Title/Position

Work Email Address

Work Phone Number

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