**§15678. Calculation of salary and benefit costs; school level teaching staff**

**1. Salary and benefit costs; teaching positions.**  The commissioner shall annually determine, for each school administrative unit, the salary and benefit costs of all school level teaching positions that are necessary to carry out this Act.

[PL 2003, c. 504, Pt. A, §6 (NEW).]

**2. Ratios.**  In calculating the salary and benefit costs pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall utilize the following student-to-teacher ratios.

A. For the elementary school level, the student-to-teacher ratio is 17:1. [PL 2003, c. 504, Pt. A, §6 (NEW).]

A-1. Notwithstanding paragraph A, for fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23 only, for the elementary school level, the student-to-teacher ratio is 16:1. [PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. C, §3 (AMD).]

B. For the middle school level, beginning July 1, 2017, the student-to-teacher ratio is 17:1. [PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. C, §32 (AMD).]

B-1. [PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. C, §4 (NEW); MRSA T. 20-A §15678, sub-§2, ¶B-1 (RP).]

C. For the high school level, beginning July 1, 2017, the student-to-teacher ratio is 16:1. [PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. C, §32 (AMD).]

D. For the kindergarten level, beginning July 1, 2018, the student-to-teacher ratio is 15:1. [PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. C, §32 (NEW).]

[PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. C, §§3, 4 (AMD).]

**3. Number of teaching positions required.**  The commissioner shall identify for each school administrative unit, using the pupil count arrived at under section 15674, subsection 1, paragraph C or D, whichever is applicable, the number of school level teaching positions that are required in order to achieve the student-to-teacher ratios set forth in subsection 2.

[PL 2021, c. 428, §6 (AMD).]

**4. Estimated salary costs.**  The commissioner shall determine the estimated salary cost for the number of school level teaching positions required under subsection 3. In order to calculate this amount, the commissioner shall use the salary matrix pursuant to section 15677 for all school level teaching positions in each category.

[PL 2003, c. 504, Pt. A, §6 (NEW).]

**5. Total salary and benefit costs for school level teaching staff.**  The total salary and benefit costs for school level teaching staff are equal to the sum of:

A. The amount identified pursuant to subsection 4; and [PL 2003, c. 504, Pt. A, §6 (NEW).]

B. The amount, as determined by the commissioner, that equals the statewide percentage of salary costs that represents the statewide average benefit costs. [PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §41 (AMD); PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §§72, 74 (AFF); PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. WW, §18 (AFF).]

[PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §41 (AMD); PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §§72, 74 (AFF); PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. WW, §18 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 504, §A6 (NEW). PL 2005, c. 2, §D41 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 2, §§D72,74 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 12, §WW18 (AFF). PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. C, §32 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 29, Pt. C, §4 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 428, §6 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. C, §§3, 4 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023
. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.