

As Introduced

135th General Assembly

Regular Session

2023-2024

H. B. No. 312

Representatives White, Young, T.

**Cosponsors: Representatives Seitz, Johnson, Willis, Dobos, Hillyer, Grim, Hall,
Plummer, Lampton, Creech**

A BILL

To enact section 3301.85 of the Revised Code to 1
establish the Regional Partnerships Program and 2
to make an appropriation. 3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3301.85 of the Revised Code be 4
enacted to read as follows: 5

Sec. 3301.85. (A) The department of education and 6
workforce, in conjunction with the department of higher 7
education, shall create, administer, and oversee the prenatal- 8
to-five early childhood to post-secondary regional partnerships 9
program to support existing and establish new early childhood to 10
post-secondary regional partnerships throughout Ohio. Each 11
partnership shall consist of prenatal-to-five early learning 12
programs, primary and secondary schools, out-of-school time 13
providers, post-secondary institutions, and workforce and 14
community partners that are located in the same region and that 15
are working collaboratively to increase educational attainment 16
and economic mobility outcomes for children and adults. 17

(B) The departments shall do both of the following: 18

(1) Coordinate and convene a cohort of all existing and 19
emerging regional partnerships at least quarterly to share best 20
practices and assist in organizational development and growth; 21

(2) Distribute grants, in a manner determined by the 22
departments, to qualifying partnerships to support regional 23
collaboration programs that align educational resources and 24
community support with regional in-demand workforce skills, 25
opportunities, and jobs; 26

(3) Work to ensure that at least one regional partnership 27
exists within each of the six different regions of the state, as 28
determined by JobsOhio, as defined in section 187.01 of the 29
Revised Code; 30

(4) Report the progress and outcomes of each regional 31
partnership at least twice a year to the director of education 32
and workforce and the chancellor of higher education, and 33
annually to the governor and the general assembly. 34

(C) (1) Qualifying partnerships eligible to apply for 35
grants under this section shall demonstrate all of the 36
following: 37

(a) An identified theory of action and explicit commitment 38
to address all areas of the education and workforce continuum 39
over time, including a commitment to measure and report targeted 40
attainment outcome metrics; 41

(b) How it will integrate and align its work with business 42
advisory councils created under section 3313.82 of the Revised 43
Code within the region, industry sector partnerships, and other 44
regional educational attainment efforts as appropriate; 45

(c) How it will work with local health care systems, service providers, and other stakeholders to better address the workforce readiness, mental health, and well-being skills children and young adults need to be successful in and beyond elementary and secondary school years. 46
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(2) Qualifying partnerships shall report all of the following performance metrics for their region to the department of education and workforce and the department of higher education: 51
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(a) Kindergarten readiness; 55

(b) Third-grade reading proficiency; 56

(c) Middle grade math proficiency; 57

(d) High school graduation rates; 58

(e) Free application for federal student aid completion rates; 59
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(f) Post-secondary enrollment; 61

(g) Post-secondary credential or degree completion; 62

(h) Employment for their region that includes the following: 63
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(i) Percentage of recent graduates who found employment within one year of completing a post-secondary credential or degree; 65
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(ii) Percentage of recent graduates who completed some form of work-based learning while enrolled in a post-secondary institution. 68
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(D) Beginning January 1, 2025, the director and department of children and youth shall participate in the administration of 71
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prenatal-to-five early childhood to post-secondary regional 73
partnerships program and the distribution of grants under this 74
section in conjunction with the departments of education and 75
workforce and higher education. 76

Section 2. All items in this act are hereby appropriated 77
as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the 78
credit of the designated fund. For all operating appropriations 79
made in this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 80
2024 and those in the second column are for fiscal year 2025. 81
The operating appropriations made in this act are in addition to 82
any other operating appropriations made for these fiscal years. 83

Section 3. 84

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A	EDU DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE				
B	General Revenue Fund				
C	GRF	200545	Career-Technical Education Enhancements	\$2,500,000	\$0
D	TOTAL GRF General Revenue Fund			\$2,500,000	\$0
E	TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$2,500,000	\$0

CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION ENHANCEMENTS 86

The foregoing appropriation item 200545, Career-Technical 87
Education Enhancements, shall be used to support the Prenatal- 88
to-Five Early Childhood to Post-secondary Regional Partnerships 89

Program created in section 3301.85 of the Revised Code.	90
An amount equal to the unexpended, unencumbered balance of	91
the foregoing appropriation item 200545, Career-Technical	92
Education Enhancements, at the end of fiscal year 2024 is hereby	93
reappropriated for the same purpose in fiscal year 2025.	94
Section 4. Within the limits set forth in this act, the	95
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts	96
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation	97
made in this act, and shall determine the manner in which	98
appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures from	99
operating appropriations contained in this act shall be	100
accounted for as though made in, and are subject to all	101
applicable provisions of, H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly.	102