

[5-213.] 5-216.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) (i) "Cost of living adjustment" means a percentage increase in salaries that applies among all grades and steps.

(ii) "Cost of living adjustment" does not include salary increases for promotions, increments, or step increases, or similar salary increases received by employees as a regular part of the operation of a personnel system.

(3) "Full-time equivalent enrollment" has the meaning indicated in § 5-202 of this subtitle.

(4) "State share" means the State share of basic current expenses provided under § 5-202 of this subtitle divided by the amount of the basic current expenses to be shared for that county.

(5) "Teacher salary base" means the total salaries and wages of teachers employed by a county board for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the Governor's Challenge Grant is calculated, as determined by the Department of Budget and Management and the State Superintendent.

(6) "Teacher" means any certificated professional public school employee who is not an administrator.

(7) "Wealth" has the meaning stated in § 5-202 of this subtitle.

(8) "Wealth per pupil" means wealth divided by full-time equivalent enrollment.

(b) There is a Governor's Teacher Salary Challenge Program.

(c) The Governor's Teacher Salary Challenge Program shall provide grants to county boards for the purpose of increasing teacher salaries in order to improve recruitment and retention of well qualified teachers.

(d) (1) Each grant made to a county board shall be calculated based on:

- (i) A percentage component;
- (ii) A wealth adjusted component;
- (iii) A hold harmless component;
- (iv) A targeted component; and
- (v) A transitional component.

(2) The percentage component shall be calculated as follows:

(i) For fiscal year 2001, multiply the teacher salary base for the county board by 0.01;

(ii) For fiscal year 2002: