

15.1-09-33.1 School board authority -Payment of signing bonuses.

1. The board of a school district may offer and, upon the signing of the contract by both parties, pay a signing bonus to an individual who:

- a. Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board;**
- b. Has signed a contract of employment to serve as a classroom teacher in the district; and**
- c. Was not employed as a classroom teacher by the board of a school district in this state during the previous school year.**

2. The board may pay to the individual the signing bonus authorized by subsection 1 in:

- a. One lump sum upon the individual signing a contract of employment; or**
- b. Installments over a period of time not to exceed three years from the date the individual signed a contract of employment.**

3. A signing bonus paid under this section:

- a. Is in addition to any amount payable under a negotiated teachers' contract;**
- b. May not be included in the district's negotiated salary schedule; and**
- c. May not be included as salary for continuing contract purposes.**