

R277. Education, Administration.

R277-314. Provider-Specific Licenses.

R277-314-1. Authority and Purpose.

(1) This rule is authorized by:

(a) Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3, which vests general control and supervision over public education in the Board;

(b) Subsection 53E-3-401(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute the Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law; and

(c) Subsection 53E-6-201(1)(d), which requires the Board to establish a provider-specific license for educators providing academic instruction in online programs.

(2) The purpose of this rule is to set requirements and procedures for obtaining and using a provider-specific educator license.

R277-314-2. Definitions.

(1) "Authorized online course provider" or "provider" means the same as the term is defined in Subsection 53F-4-501(1).

(2) "Endorsement" means the same as the term is defined in Section R277-301-2.

(3) "License areas of concentration" or "license area" means the same as the term is defined in Section R277-301-2.

(4) "Renew" means to reissue or extend the length of time an educator license is valid consistent with Rule R277-302.

R277-314-3. Provider-Specific Educator License Structure.

(1) A provider-specific educator license shall include at least one of the following license areas of concentration:

(a) Elementary;

(b) Secondary; or

(c) Career and Technical Education;

(2) A provider may only request a license area identified in Subsection (1).

(3) A provider-specific license may only include provider-specific license areas and endorsements.

R277-314-4. Provider-Specific Educator License Requirements.

(1) The general requirements for a provider-specific educator license shall include:

(a) completion of a criminal background check, including:

(i) review of any criminal offenses and clearance in accordance with Rule R277-214; and

(ii) continued monitoring in accordance with Subsection 53G-11-403(1);

(b) completion of the educator ethics review no more than one calendar year before the application; and

(c) submission of a request by the provider no more than 60 days before the application, which includes the rationale for the request.

(2) The Superintendent may issue a provider-specific educator license to a candidate if:

(a) the provider requesting the provider-specific educator license has an adopted policy, posted on the provider's website, which includes:

(i) educator preparation and support:

(A) as established by the authorized online course provider; and

(B) aligned with the Utah Effective Teaching Standards described in Rule R277-530;

(ii) criteria for utilizing educators with a provider-specific license; and

(iii) compliance with all requirements of this rule;

(b) the provider applies on behalf of the candidate;

(c) the candidate meets all the requirements in this Section R277-314-4; and

(d) within the first year of employment, the provider trains the candidate on:

(i) educator ethics, including the educator standards described in Rule R277-217;

(ii) classroom management and instruction;

(iii) basic special education law and instruction; and

(iv) the Utah Effective Teaching Standards, described in Rule R277-530.

(3) A provider-specific license, license area, or endorsement is valid only for an authorized online course provider's programs and the educator's current assignment.

(4)(a) A provider-specific license, license area, or endorsement is valid for three years.

(b) A provider-specific license may renew after July 1 of the year of expiration.

(c) Prior to qualifying for renewal, an individual that holds a provider-specific Utah educator license shall:

(i) comply with the provider's policy for employment and professional learning;

(ii) provide documentation of 60 renewal hours, consistent with Section R277-302-7;

(iii) complete the USBE educator ethics review during the year prior to the date of renewal;

(iv) maintain ongoing background monitoring in accordance with Section 53E-6-401; and

(v) complete student and data security and privacy training for educators as described in Section R277-487-9.

(5) A provider may not issue a provider-specific endorsement in driver education.

(6) A provider-specific license expires immediately if the educator's assignment with the authorized online course provider that requested the license ends.

(7) A provider may request renewal of a provider-specific license if an educator meets professional learning requirements established by the Superintendent.

(8) The content knowledge and pedagogical requirements for a provider-specific educator license shall be established by the authorized online course provider.

(9) A provider that requests a provider-specific license, license area; or endorsement shall prominently post the following information on the provider's website:

(a) disclosure of the fact that the provider utilizes individuals holding provider-specific educator licenses, license areas, or endorsements;

(b) an explanation of the types of licenses issued by the provider;

(c) the percentage of the types of licenses, license areas, and endorsements held by educators employed by the provider, based on the employees' FTE as reported to the Superintendent; and

(d) a link to the Utah Educator Look-up tool provided by the Superintendent in accordance with Subsection R277-312-7(6).

KEY: License, Provider-specific

Date of Last Change: August 22, 2023

Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X, Sec 3; 53E-3-401(4); 53E-6-201(1)(d)