



# SLT Compliance Newsletter

## November 2023

Greetings from the School Children's Trust (SCT) section of the USBE,

Our team has received positive feedback for the training newsletters sent out to Principals and School Community Councils this year. We are now offering an additional periodic newsletter intended to share information regarding program implementation, plan review, and compliance topics. The newsletters will be sent to LEA main contacts and principals/directors, but the information is also applicable to plan reviewers, business administrators, Board members, and school administrators. You're encouraged to share this newsletter with those audiences (and any others you see fit) within your education community. Additionally, please reach out to Kira Bennett with any feedback, or with requests for topics to highlight in future newsletters.

We hope this information supports you in your outstanding efforts and contributions to the School LAND Trust program and to K-12 students in Utah State. Thank you for all you do!

### Rule Changes

Updates to Administrative Rule impacting the School LAND Trust program were approved in the November USBE Board meeting. Changes are summarized below. Please refer to published Administrative Rule on the USBE website prior to implementing:

#### APPROPRIATE USE OF SLT PROGRAM FUNDS

R277-477-4 (2): *High schools* was updated to *secondary schools* to allow middle and junior high schools to identify "increasing graduation rate" and "promoting college and career readiness" when creating SLT goals.

R277-477-4 (5): The cap of \$7,000 for an academic goal that incorporates digital citizenship training or safety principles has been removed and is no longer a limit for SLT spending.

#### COMPLIANCE REVIEWS

R277-477-2 & R277-477-4: The definition of a sample of Final Reports for the purpose of compliance monitoring has been removed. The process and reports that are used in a compliance monitoring review have been updated.

### NEW to SLT Reporting Website

Changes to the School LAND Trust website have been released. Thank you for feedback that promotes continual website improvement.

#### COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP & PRINCIPAL ASSURANCE

These forms are now separated on the SLT reporting website. Please access through each respective form link. The Council Form must be completed prior to the submission of the Principal Assurance. Upon successful submission, a form status will display a status of "Completed."

#### AUTOMATIC EMAILS

Automatic emails will be submitted by the SLT system for:

- Council Membership form submission. Communication will be sent to all council members included in the form.
- Plan/Amendments. During the submission process, plan reviewers and the SCT will be notified of a plan awaiting review. Following plan finalization, council members will be notified the plan has and receive a link to view the plan.

SLT reporting website: <https://schoollandtrust.schools.utah.gov>

### Compliance Monitoring

#### COMPLIANCE MONITORING PROCESS

Previously LEAs had a SLT compliance review once every 10 years. The process has been updated, and compliance reviews will now be conducted for each LEA every 4-5 years.

#### CHARTER SLT PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

Charter Budget Officers (Business Administrators) will be the LEA reviewer for SLT plans/amendments rather than the authorizer. Charter Business Administrators will need LEA Admin access to the reporting website prior to January 15, 2024. More information coming soon!

#### WATCHING FOR UNALLOWABLE EXPENSES

When submitting or reviewing plans, please watch out for the following to avoid plans being sent back for edits:

- Mini-grants
- Vague planned expenditures- it is required by law that expenditures using SLT funds are specific & clearly support academic achievement. *Examples of non-specific expenditures: "supplies", "PD", "technology".*

Reference R277-477-4 for appropriate use of program funds.

### Options to Contact the SCT

The School Children's Trust section at the Utah State Board of Education is responsible for administration, training, and compliance for the School LAND Trust program.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

You can contact the SCT team by using the group email: [schoollandtrust@schools.utah.gov](mailto:schoollandtrust@schools.utah.gov)

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