

R277. Education, Administration.

R277-927. Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) Program.

R277-927-1. Authority, Purpose, and Oversight Category.

(1) This rule is authorized by:

(a) Utah Constitution [Article X, Section 3](#), which vests general control and supervision of 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) Section [53F-2-416](#), which requires the Board to calculate and distribute student and teacher success program money to LEAs;

(d) Section [53G-7-1304](#), which requires the Board to make rules for an LEA governing board to calculate and distribute a school's allocation of program money for each school within the LEA; and

(e) Section [53G-7-1306](#), which requires the Board to determine:

(i) a threshold of points under the statewide school accountability system that designates a school as succeeding in school performance and student academic achievement; and

(ii) performance standards for certain schools.

(2) The purpose of this rule is to:

(a) set standards for the Board's distribution of student and teacher success program money to LEAs;

(b) set standards governing an LEA's distribution of student and teacher success program money to each school within the LEA; and

(c) to establish certain accountability standards related to the student and teacher success program.

(3) This rule is categorized as Category 2 as described in Rule R277-111.

R277-927-2. Definitions.

(1)(a) As used in Section [53G-7-1304](#), "capital expenditures" are funds used to acquire, maintain, or upgrade physical assets like property, building, technology infrastructure, or equipment and may include:

- (i) improvements to a building or school grounds;
- (ii) a school bus;
- (iii) rent, lease, or bond payments; and
- (iv) a portable classroom or costs related to moving a portable classroom.
- (b) "Capital expenditures" does not include student technology devices.
- (2) "Early childhood education" as used in Subsection [53G-7-1304](#)(1) includes preschool programs.
- (3) "Program" means the student and teacher success program created in Section [53G-7-1302](#).
- (4) "Satellite school" means the same as that term is defined in Rule R277-550.
- (5) "School personnel who work directly with and support students in an academic role" does not include:
 - (a) school level administrative or operational staff;
 - (b) building and maintenance staff, including custodial and grounds staff;
 - (c) transportation staff;
 - (d) child nutrition services staff;
 - (e) operational or facility support staff;
 - (f) financial staff;
 - (g) information technology staff;
 - (h) legal staff;
 - (i) secretarial staff; or
 - (j) other district level staff paid on an administrative salary schedule.

R277-927-3. Program Requirements and Board Distribution of Program Money.

(1)(a) The Superintendent shall distribute an LEA's annual program allocation, in equal payment amounts, to an LEA once the LEA submits the LEA's student success framework through the Board's grant management system.

(b) If an LEA amends the LEA's student success framework, the LEA shall submit the amended student success framework through the Board's grant management system.

(2) If the LEA previously submitted a student success framework, before the LEA receives the LEA's annual program allocation, the LEA shall submit annual assurances in accordance with the requirements of Rule R277-108.

(3) If an LEA fails to submit the LEA's student success framework as described in Subsection (1) or annual assurances described in Subsection (2) to the Superintendent:

(a) the LEA may not receive a program allocation for that fiscal year; and

(b) the undistributed balance will be included with the new year appropriation and distributed in the following fiscal year according to the formula described in Subsection [53F-2-416](#)(3).

(4) For purposes of calculating the formula described in Subsection [53F-2-416](#)(3), "weighted pupil units" means:

(a) for an existing LEA:

(i) the weighted pupil units for the prior year for the minimum school basic program; minus

(ii) the weighted pupil units allocated for foreign exchange students; and

(b) for a new LEA or a charter school opening a new satellite campus:

(i) the weighted pupil units based on the LEA's projected enrollment for the current year for the minimum school basic program; minus

(ii) the weighted pupil units allocated for foreign exchange students; and

(c) for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind, the prior year October 1 headcount multiplied by two.

(5) For a new LEA or a charter school opening a new satellite campus during the second year of operation, the Superintendent shall increase or decrease the LEA's first year distribution of funds to reflect the LEA's actual first year October 1 counts.

(6) For purposes of determining whether a school district in a county of the first, second, or third class has an approved board local levy for the maximum amount allowed for the purposes described in Subsection [53G-7-1304](#)(2)(c)(i)(A), the school district meets the property tax requirements of Subsection [53G-7-1304](#)(2)(a)(i) if in the applicable fiscal year:

(a) the school district's rate imposed for the board local levy is equal to the maximum amount allowed under Section [53F-8-302](#); or

(b)(i) the school district's board local levy rate meets or exceeds an amount equal to the certified board local levy rate; and

(ii) the school district's board local levy rate equaled the maximum amount allowed under Section [53F-8-302](#) sometime within the prior five fiscal years.

(7) For purposes of determining whether a school district in a county of the first, second, or third class increased the school district's board local levy by at least .0001 per dollar of taxable value as described in Subsection [53G-7-1304](#)(2)(c)(i)(B), a school district that does not meet the property tax requirements of Subsection (6), the school district meets the requirements of Subsection [53G-7-1304](#)(2)(c)(i)(B) if the school district's board local levy rate for the current fiscal year is at least .0001 per dollar of taxable value more than the school district's board local levy rate imposed in the prior fiscal year.

(8) The Superintendent shall determine the state average teacher salary using the most recent Superintendent's Annual Report of Average Teacher Salaries.

(9) For a new LEA in the new LEA's first or second year of operation, the new LEA's average teacher salary is equal to the state average teacher salary.

R277-927-4. LEA Financial Reporting and Prohibited Uses of Program Funds.

(1) An LEA shall report expenditures of program money by location according to the Board approved chart of accounts.

(2) An LEA may not use program money:

(a) for a purpose described in Subsection [53G-7-1304](#)(1);

(b) to support adult education; or

(c) to pay for contracted services commonly performed by the following staff:

(i) school level administration staff;

(ii) building and maintenance staff, including custodial staff;

(iii) transportation staff;

(iv) child nutrition services staff;

(v) operational or facility support staff; or

(vi) district level staff.

(3) As used in Subsection [53G-7-1304](#)(2), "district administration costs" does not include salary driven benefits for school personnel charged at the district level.

(4)(a) An LEA may carry over restricted program funds into the next fiscal year to support a purpose identified by the LEA governing board student success framework.

(b) If an LEA carries over funds as described in Subsection (4)(a), the LEA shall report the funds according to the Board approved chart of accounts.

R277-927-5. LEA Allocations to Schools.

(1) An LEA with two or more schools shall establish a policy that defines how the LEA will calculate and distribute program allocations based on prior year average daily membership as determined by the Superintendent, to all schools within the LEA, including how the LEA will calculate allocations for new schools within the LEA.

(2) For a new school within an LEA, the LEA shall calculate and distribute the school's allocation based on the school's projected October 1 headcount for the applicable school year.

(3) After calculating an LEA's school level allocations, an LEA may make adjustments to individual school ADM values and school level allocations due to changes in current year student enrollment for reasons including:

- (a) changes in school boundaries;
- (b) changes to feeder school patterns;
- (c) changes in grade levels offered; or
- (d) significant student growth of 30% or more.

R277-927-6. Accountability Performance Standards.

(1) For purposes of determining the threshold of points that designates a school as succeeding in school performance as described in Subsection [53G-7-1306](#)(1)(a), a school is succeeding in school performance if, in the most recently published school determinations, the school has:

(a) 43.5% or more of the total points possible for a school that is an elementary or middle school; or

(b) 46% or more of the total points possible for a school that enrolls students in grade 12.

(2) For purposes of determining the performance standards for a school described in Subsection [53G-7-1306](#)(1)(b), a school meets the performance standards if the school meets the criteria described in Subsection [53E-5-203](#)(2).

KEY: Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA), program money, allocation

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Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401](#)(4); [53F-2-416](#); [53G-7-1304](#); [53G-7-1306](#)