

R277-461 received final approval by the Utah State Board of Education on May 3, 2018. R277-461 is published in the June 1, 2018 Utah State Bulletin, subject to a 30-day comment period, with a first possible effective date of July 9, 2018.

R277. Education, Administration.

R277-461. Elementary School Counselor Grant Program.

R277-461-1. 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) Section 53F-5-209, which directs the Board to make rules to administer the Elementary School Counselor Grant Program; and
 - (c) 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.
- (2) The purpose of this rule is to provide:
 - (a) an application procedure;
 - (b) criteria and procedures for awarding grants; and
 - (c) requirements for grant recipients.

R277-461-2. Definitions.

- (1) "Grant" means funding awarded by the Board to an LEA to hire qualifying personnel for purposes of supporting school-based mental health, in accordance with Section 53F-5-209.
- (2) "Qualifying personnel" means:
 - (a) a school counselor or school social worker, as defined in Section 53F-5-209(1)(e); or
 - (b) a Board-licensed school psychologist who is assigned to a school and funded by grant funds to carry out work described in Subsection 53F-5-209(1)(e)(ii).

R277-461-3. Grant Applications.

- (1) The Superintendent shall develop and make available a grant application for LEAs, consistent with the requirements in Subsection 53F-5-209(4)(a).
- (2) The grant application shall require the LEA to report how it intends to provide the matching funds required in Subsection 53F-5-209(4)(b), including the source of funding the LEA intends to use.
- (3) For each grant cycle that the Superintendent is authorized to solicit grant applications, the Superintendent shall publish a timeline on the Board's website by March 30, including a date for the application release, and due dates for an LEA to submit required materials.

R277-461-4. Procedures and Criteria for Awarding a Grant.

- (1) An LEA applying for a grant shall commit to establishing, at a minimum, a 3-year plan and program for using the grant funds.
- (2) In accordance with Subsection 53F-5-209(3), the Superintendent shall prioritize LEA applications that propose to target funds as outlined in statute.

- (3) For purposes of prioritizing grants under this Rule, the Superintendent shall examine behaviors and indicators in schools for childhood trauma, including:
- (a) office referrals or discipline reports;
 - (b) absenteeism;
 - (c) free or reduced-price lunch;
 - (d) homelessness;
 - (e) school-reported referrals to the Utah Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS);
 - (f) foster care;
 - (g) intergenerational poverty; and
 - (h) grade 3 reading proficiency.

R277-461-5. Grant Recipient Requirements, Accountability, and Reporting.

(1) A grant recipient shall engage in systemic leadership and planning to align efforts in supporting school improvement and school-based mental health, based on the Utah School Counseling Program Model.

(2) Grant funds may only be used to pay for salaries and benefits for qualified personnel.

(3) A full-time equivalent (FTE) position who is a qualifying personnel funded by grant funds may not be assigned to more than two schools.

(4) Qualifying personnel funded by these grant funds shall:

- (a) implement a systemic school-based mental health program;
- (b) participate in USBE trainings;
- (c) participate in quarterly collaboration meetings with USBE;
- (d) in accordance with Subsection 53F-5-209(8), participate in trauma-informed modules; and
- (e) implement data projects.

(5) A data project is a process in which qualifying personnel and others:

- (a) identify a school's needs based on analysis of school data;
- (b) establish one or more interventions to address the needs or problems identified from the data;
- (c) design and implement, through a systemic approach, the intervention; and
- (d) examine and evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention, based on the school data.

(6) The Superintendent shall establish a process and accompanying forms for grant recipients to document grant requirements, which may include an initial implementation report and a year-end accountability report.

(7) A grant recipient shall report its findings and outcomes from a data project to:

- (a) the school personnel;
- (b) the local school board or charter governing board; and
- (c) the Superintendent.

(8)(a) If a grant recipient plans to discontinue its program for any reason at any time in the three-year period, the grant recipient shall notify the Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, in writing.

(b) The written notification shall include a detailed explanation of why the grant recipient is discontinuing the program before the end of its three-year commitment.

KEY: grant program, school counselor, mental health, trauma-informed practice

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: 2018

Notice of Continuation:

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53A-1-401