

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-321. Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program.**

3 **R277-321-1. Authority and Purpose.**

4 (1) This rule is authorized by:

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

7 (b) Subsection [53E-3-401\(4\)](#), which permits the Board to make rules to execute the
8 Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law; and

9 (c) Subsection [53F-5-205\(9\)](#), which requires the Board to make rules to administer
10 the Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program.

11 (2) The purpose of this rule is to:

12 (a) distribute funds to paraeducators seeking to become licensed educators; and

13 (b) establish application and accountability procedures to provide funding to
14 prospective educators directly and fairly.

15 **R277-321-2. Definitions.**

16 (1) "LEA" includes, for purposes of this rule, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
17 Blind.

18 (2) "Paraeducator" means the same as that term is defined in Subsection
19 [53F-5-205\(1\)\(b\)](#).

20 (3) "Paraeducator Scholarship Selection Committee" or "committee" means the
21 committee established by the Board to select scholarship recipients as required by
22 Subsection [53F-5-205\(5\)](#).

23 (4) "Scholarship" means funds paid directly to a Utah institution of higher education
24 on behalf of a paraeducator in accordance with Subsection [53F-5-205\(7\)](#).

25 **R277-321-3. Scholarship Amounts and Requirements.**

26 (1) A paraeducator shall use a stipend awarded under this rule solely for expenses

27 allowed by Section 53F-5-205 and this rule annually between July 1 and the following June
28 30.

29 (2) A scholarship recipient shall remain continuously employed by an LEA in
30 accordance with Subsection 53F-5-205(8).

31 (3) A scholarship recipient shall provide documentation of progress toward
32 graduation, upon request by the scholarship recipient's employer or the Board.

33 (4) A scholarship recipient who does not remain employed for the duration of the
34 scholarship period or who does not satisfactorily complete funded courses shall be
35 responsible to reimburse the Board for the amount of scholarship funding.

36 **R277-321-4. Applicant Scholarships Recipient and LEA Responsibilities.**

37 (1) An LEA shall employ a scholarship recipient for a minimum of 10 hours per week
38 at the time of application for the scholarship and during any year in which the paraeducator
39 receives the scholarship.

40 (2) A scholarship applicant shall submit a completed application found on the Board
41 website to the applicant's LEA.

42 (3) An applicant shall provide university transcripts and information about tuition
43 expenses on the application based on the most recent information available from the Utah
44 institution of higher education to which the applicant has either been admitted or made
45 application.

46 (4) An LEA shall submit all applications to the Superintendent on or before May 15
47 annually.

48 (5) A scholarship recipient and the LEA whose employee receives funding under this
49 program shall cooperate with any monitoring conducted by the Superintendent.

50 **R277-321-5. Paraeducator Scholarship Selection Committee.**

51 (1) The committee shall consist of:

52 (a) the Superintendent;

53 (b) one representative of the Board of Regents designated by the Board of Regents;
54 (c) one representative of the largest parent/teacher association in the state;
55 (d) no more than two additional representatives of the general public designated by
56 the Board.

57 (2) The committee shall receive completed applications from LEAs consistent with
[R277-526-4](#).

59 (3) The committee shall determine funding for applicants from applications received
60 from LEAs after considering the number of applications received and the amount of
61 funding available.

62 (4) The committee may develop and consider additional selection criteria including:
63 (a) support from the recommending LEA; and
64 (b) geographical distribution of recipients.

65 (5) The committee shall provide names of scholarship recipients to the Board for
66 review and comment by August 1, annually.

67 (6) The committee or the Board may require a summary assessment of the
68 increased number of paraeducators who become educators and other program results
69 from participating scholarship recipients and LEAs.

70 **KEY: paraeducator, scholarship**

71 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment:**

72 **Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; [53E-3-401\(4\)](#);**
73 **[53F-5-205](#)**