

R277. Education, Administration.

R277-528. Use of Public Education Job Enhancement Program (PEJEP) Funds.

R277-528-1. Definitions.

A. "Board" means the Utah State Board of Education.

B. "Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)" is a nationally recognized organization which provides accreditation of professional teacher education programs in institutions offering baccalaureate and graduate degrees for the preparation of K-12 teachers.

C. "National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)" is a nationally recognized organization which accredits the education units providing baccalaureate and graduate degree programs for the preparation of teachers and other professional personnel for elementary and secondary schools.

D. "PEJEP awards" means awards granted to eligible PEJEP participants that satisfy the purposes of the original PEJEP funding and USOE documentation requirements.

E. "Public Education Job Enhancement Program (PEJEP)" means a program authorized under Section 53A-1a-601(2).

F. "Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)" is a nationally recognized organization which provides accreditation of professional teacher education programs in institutions offering baccalaureate and graduate degrees for the preparation of K-12 teachers.

G. "USOE" means the Utah State Office of Education.

R277-528-2. Authority and Purpose.

A. The rule is authorized by Article X, Section 3 of the Utah Constitution, which places general control and supervision of the public schools under the Board; Section 53A-1a-601(3)(c)(2) which requires the Board to make a rule that provides for repayment of a portion of the initial payment by the teacher if the teacher fails to complete the Program with exceptions; Section 53A-1a-601(5)(b) which directs the Board to develop criteria for PEJEP awards; and Section 53A-1-401(3) which allows the Board to adopt rules in accordance with its responsibilities.

B. The purpose of this rule is to provide standards and procedures for ongoing

participation in PEJEP.

R277-528-3. PEJEP Participants.

A. PEJEP participants shall commit to required courses for advanced degrees and endorsements consistent with Section 53A-1a-601(2).

B. Qualified Utah institutions of higher education shall be reimbursed for the tuition for eligible PEJEP participants.

C. PEJEP participants shall receive textbook reimbursements directly.

D. PEJEP participants shall provide documentation annually, by October 1, to the USOE, demonstrating full-time employment as educators during the previous school year.

E. If a PEJEP participant changes employers, leaves public education, or moves from the state, he shall notify the USOE immediately. The USOE may require repayment or partial repayment, consistent with Section 53A-1a-601(3)(c)(ii).

F. PEJEP participants shall notify the USOE of the participants' satisfaction of their teaching commitment at the conclusion of their Program.

R277-528-4. University Program Eligibility.

A. A Utah higher education institution (university) program that provides licensure and endorsements in areas outlined in Section 53A-1a-601(2) shall be eligible to receive tuition reimbursement for eligible PEJEP participants.

B. University endorsement or education programs that desire to enroll PEJEP participants shall meet the following minimum requirements:

(1) provide documentation to the USOE of university program accreditation by NCATE/TEAC/CAEP;

(2) provide to the USOE an overview of the university endorsement program including:

(a) program requirements and eligibility standards for participants;

(b) a screening process for prospective participants;

(c) course syllabi; and

(d) a yearly evaluation of the program.

C. The USOE may determine the eligibility of university programs on an annual

basis.

D. The USOE shall reimburse tuition directly to university programs for PEJEP participants.

R277-528-5. Evaluation.

A. The USOE shall maintain records of PEJEP award participants.

B. The USOE shall prepare an annual report for the Board that demonstrates use of PEJEP funding consistent with the intent of original PEJEP legislation.

KEY: educator, award

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Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 53A-1a-601; 53A-1-401(3)