

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-303. Educator Preparation Programs.**

3 **R277-303-1. 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 over public education in the Board;

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

9 (c) Subsection [53E-6-201\(3\)\(a\)](#), which directs the Board to establish the criteria for  
10 obtaining licenses; and

11 (d) Section [53E-6-302](#), which requires the Board to establish standards for  
12 approval of educator preparation programs.

13 (2) The purpose of this rule is to establish criteria for educator preparation  
14 programs in the State of Utah.

15 **R277-303-2. Definitions.**

16 (1)(a) "Educator preparation program" means a comprehensive program  
17 administered by an entity that is intended to prepare individuals to meet the requirements  
18 for a Utah professional license or license area of concentration.

19 (b) "Educator preparation program" may include a program developed by or  
20 associated with an institution of higher education, individual LEA, a consortium of LEAs, or  
21 the Board.

22 (2) "LEA" includes, for purposes of this rule, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the  
23 Blind.

24 (3) "License area" has the same meaning as set forth in Subsection [R277-301-](#)  
25 [2\(5\)\(a\)](#).

26 (4) "Professional license" means the educator license described in Section [R277-](#)  
27 [301-6](#).

28 **R277-303-3. Educator Preparation Program Review and Approval.**

29 (1) The Superintendent shall establish uniform procedures for initial approval and  
30 review of educator preparation programs to ensure compliance with this R277-303.

31 (2) The Superintendent shall approve an educator preparation program that meets  
32 the requirements of this rule and the standards for program approval established in:

33 (a) Rule [R277-304](#);

34 (b) Rule [R277-305](#);

35 (c) Rule [R277-306](#); and

36 (d) all other applicable Board rules.

37 (3) The Superintendent shall conduct an ongoing review of approved educator  
38 preparation programs and shall renew or deny approval for a program at least every  
39 seven years.

40 (4) The Superintendent may grant preliminary approval to a new educator  
41 preparation program within a Utah public college or university pending approval by the  
42 Utah State Board of Regents.

43 (5) The Superintendent shall make a report to the Board when an educator  
44 preparation program's initial application for approval is granted or denied.

45 (6) The Superintendent may place an approved educator preparation program on  
46 probation for:

47 (a) failure to meet program requirements detailed in applicable Board rules; or

48 (b) failure to submit complete and accurate information in a report required under  
49 this rule.

50 (7) The Board may revoke the approval of a probationary program that fails to  
51 meet probationary requirements with at least one year's notice to the educator preparation  
52 program.

53 (8) The Superintendent may require a program or subset of programs to submit  
54 reports to inform the annual report to the Board required in Section [R277-301-10](#).

55 (9) The Superintendent shall accept an approved educator preparation program's  
56 recommendations for a professional license or license area if the prospective licensee

57 meets all other requirements of Board rule.

58 **R277-303-4. Educator Preparation Programs.**

59 (1) An educator preparation program that applies for approval by the  
60 Superintendent shall demonstrate how it will ensure that participants:

61 (a) are prepared to meet the Utah Effective Educator Standards established in  
62 [R277-530](#);

63 (b) successfully complete or are prepared to complete the pedagogical  
64 performance assessment required in [R277-301](#);

65 (c) have met the competencies required in all applicable Board rules; ~~and~~

66 (d) have sufficiently demonstrated the ability to work in the applicable license area  
67 and subject area~~[-]; and~~

68 (e) include a pedagogical performance assessment meeting standards established  
69 by the Superintendent and approved by the Board for all new students enrolled in the  
70 program after January 1, 2020 and recommended for a Utah educator license after  
71 August 1, 2021 in all license areas for which such an assessment is available.

72 (2) In addition to the requirements of Subsection (1), an educator preparation  
73 program that is not also a Utah LEA shall:

74 (a) have a physical location in the state of Utah where participants attend classes;  
75 or

76 (b) if the program provides only online instruction:

77 (i) have the program's primary headquarters located in Utah; and

78 (ii) be licensed to do business through the Utah Department of Commerce; and

79 (c) establish entry requirements that are designed to ensure that only high quality  
80 individuals enter the preparation program, which include measures of:

81 (i) previous academic success;

82 (ii) disposition for employment in an educational setting; and

83 (iii) basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics; and

84 (d) include a pedagogical performance assessment meeting standards established

85 by the Superintendent and approved by the Board for all new students enrolled in the  
86 program after January 1, 2020 and recommended for a Utah educator license after  
87 August 1, 2021 in all license areas for which such an assessment is available.

88 (3)(a) If the Superintendent denies an application from an educator preparation  
89 program, the proposed educator preparation program may appeal the Superintendent's  
90 decision to the Board by submitting a written appeal to the Board Secretary.

91 (b) The Board shall assign an appeal under Subsection (3)(a) to a standing  
92 committee to make a recommendation to the full Board for final action.

93 (4) An approved educator preparation program may recommend an individual that  
94 completed the program for a professional license or license area for up to five years after  
95 the individual completed the program, as long as all current license requirements have  
96 been met.

97 (5) If five years have passed since an individual completed an approved educator  
98 preparation program, the program may recommend the individual for a professional  
99 license or license area if the program:

100 (a) reviews the individual's program; and

101 (b) requires the individual to complete any additional necessary requirements to  
102 meet current programs standards prior to making a licensing recommendation.

103 (6)(a) An approved educator preparation program may recommend an individual  
104 who began the program before January 1, 2020 for a professional license or license area  
105 without meeting the pedagogical performance assessment requirement in [R277-301](#), but  
106 must present documentation showing that the individual met the appropriate license  
107 requirements in effect prior to that date.

108 (b) Subsection (6)(a) supersedes Subsections (4) and (5).

109 **R277-303-5. Superintendent Responsibilities.**

110 (1) The Superintendent shall provide support to educator preparation programs  
111 and potential licensees to the extent that funding allows by:

112 (a) maintaining a website to:

- 113 (i) facilitate collaboration between educator preparation programs;  
114 (ii) facilitate communication between potential educators and approved programs;  
115 and  
116 (iii) provide access to up-to-date research on educator preparation and education  
117 practices;  
118 (b) reviewing third-party preparation materials for alignment with the Utah Effective  
119 Educator Standards in [R277-530](#); and  
120 (c) working with potential licensed educators to help them become licensed  
121 educators.  
122 (2) The Superintendent shall design and maintain a model educator preparation  
123 program that:  
124 (a) meets all requirements of all applicable Board rules;  
125 (b) may be adopted by an LEA or an accredited private school; and  
126 (c) is overseen by staff distinct from the staff responsible for ensuring educator  
127 preparation program compliance with all applicable Board rules.

128 **KEY: educator preparation program, pedagogical assessment, professional**  
129 **competency, programs**

130 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: August 12, 2020**

131 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53E-6-](#)  
132 [201\(3\)\(a\)](#)**