

R277-711 received final approval by the Utah State Board of Education on August 1, 2019. R277-711 is published in the September 1, 2019 Utah State Bulletin, subject to a 30-day comment period, with a first possible effective date of October 8, 2019.

~~[R277. Education, Administration.~~

~~R277-711. High Quality School Readiness Expansion.~~

~~R277-711-1. 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) 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;~~

~~—— (c) Section 53F-5-303, which requires the Board to make rules to:~~

~~—— (i) implement a grant program for LEAs to increase capacity in high-quality school readiness programs; and~~

~~—— (ii) create a tool to determine quality of a school readiness program; and~~

~~—— (d) Section 53F-5-304, which requires the Board to make rules to implement a grant program for home-based technology programs to provide high-quality school readiness programs.~~

~~—— (2) The purpose of this rule is to:~~

~~—— (a) designate the tool for the Superintendent to use in determining if a school readiness program is high quality; and~~

~~—— (b) designate procedures for an LEA to apply to the Board to receive grant money.~~

~~R277-711-2. Definitions.~~

~~—— (1) "Eligible LEA" means an LEA that provides a school readiness program that the Superintendent has determined to be a high-quality program consistent with procedures established in this Rule.~~

~~—— (2) "Program" means the high-quality school readiness expansion program established in Title 53F, Chapter 5, Part 3, Expanded Access to High Quality School Readiness Programs Act.~~

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~~R277-711-3. Grant Applications - Timelines.~~

- ~~—— (1) The Superintendent shall:~~
 - ~~—— (a) develop a grant application that allows an LEA to apply to participate in the program; and~~
 - ~~—— (b) make the grant application available on the Board's website.~~
- ~~—— (2) An LEA may apply for a grant described in Section 53F-5-303 by submitting an application to the Superintendent on or before the date published on the Board's website.~~
- ~~—— (3)(a) An LEA may notify the Superintendent of the LEA's intention to apply for a grant at any time.~~
 - ~~—— (b) If an LEA intends to be considered for a grant for the upcoming school year, the LEA shall submit a letter of intent by the deadline established by the Superintendent and published on the Board's website.~~
- ~~—— (4) For each year the Superintendent is authorized to solicit grant applications, the Superintendent shall publish a timeline on the Board's website by March 1, including a date for the application release, and due dates for the LEA to submit required materials.~~
- ~~—— (5) The Superintendent shall evaluate each application using the tool described in Section R277-711-4 to determine if the applying LEA is an eligible LEA.~~
- ~~—— (6) The Superintendent shall notify an eligible LEA of successful receipt of a grant by July 1.~~

~~R277-711-4. Superintendent and LEA Responsibilities - Tool to Determine Quality of an LEA School Readiness Program.~~

- ~~—— (1) The Superintendent shall create a tool to determine whether or not an LEA school readiness program may be designated as high quality.~~
- ~~—— (2) The tool described in Subsection (1) shall consist of the following components:~~
 - ~~—— (a)(i) the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS) observational tool for an observer to rate a program through a site visit; or~~
 - ~~—— (ii) another observational tool that the Superintendent trusts to be a reliable tool;~~

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~~—— (b) an application from the LEA containing the high quality components described in 53F-6-304; and~~

~~—— (c) an on-site visit and interview with the Superintendent's designated staff.~~

~~—— (3) The Superintendent shall establish a scoring rubric for how the application will be evaluated, and make the rubric available to applicants.~~

~~—— (4) The Superintendent shall maintain a list of state-funded high-quality school readiness programs operating in each LEA's geographic boundaries, which have been designated as high quality through use of the tool.~~

~~—— (5) The Superintendent shall provide for a flag in a student's data file to indicate the type of state-funded high-quality school readiness program that the student participated in.~~

~~—— (6)(a) The Superintendent may require an LEA that receives program money to develop a corrective action plan and successfully implement the corrective action plan if the LEA fails to:~~

~~—— (i) comply with statutory provisions or the requirements of this Rule;~~

~~—— (ii) meet expected goals; or~~

~~—— (iii) maintain all the high-quality elements of the school readiness program.~~

~~—— (b) If an LEA fails to successfully implement a corrective action plan described in Subsection (6)(a), the Superintendent may discontinue or reduce funding of program grant monies to the LEA.~~

~~—— (7) The Superintendent shall administer the grant program for home-based technology providers as provided in Section 53F-5-304.~~

~~—— (8) The Superintendent shall administer and oversee the evaluation of the program as provided in Section 53F-5-307.~~

KEY: grant, school readiness program

Date of Enactment of Last Substantive Amendment: October 11, 2016

Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401(4);

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~~53F-5-303; 53F-5-304~~