

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 supervision
6 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 allows 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 approval
12 of educator preparation programs.

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

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16 **R277-303-2. Definitions.**

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

20 (b) "Educator preparation program" may include a program developed by or associated
21 with an institution of higher education, individual LEA, a consortium of LEAs, or 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 [R277-301-2\(5\)\(a\)](#).

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

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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 the
32 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 on[-]going review of approved educator
38 preparation programs and shall renew or deny approval for a program at least every seven
39 years.

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

43 (5) The Superintendent shall make a report to the Board when an educator preparation
44 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 this
49 rule.

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

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

54 (9) The Superintendent shall accept an approved educator preparation program's
55 recommendations for a professional license or license area if the prospective licensee has met
56 all other requirements of Board rule.

57

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

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

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

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

65 (c) have met the competencies required in ~~[R277-301]~~ all applicable Board rules; and

66 (d) have sufficiently demonstrated the ability to work in the applicable license area and
67 subject area.

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

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

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

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

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

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

76 (i) previous academic success;

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

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

79 ~~[(d) include a student teaching or intern experience that meets the requirements~~
80 ~~detailed in:~~

81 ~~—— (i) Rule R277-304;~~

82 ~~—— (ii) Rule R277-305; and~~

83 ~~—— (iii) Rule R277-306; and]~~

84 ~~([e]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 program
86 after January 1, 2020 and recommended for a Utah educator license after August 1, 2021 in
87 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 committee
92 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 the
95 individual completed the program, as long as all current license requirements have been met.

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

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

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

102 (6)(a) ~~[Notwithstanding Subsections (4) and (5), an]~~ An approved educator preparation
103 program may recommend an individual who began the program before January 1, 2020 for
104 a professional license or license area without meeting the pedagogical performance
105 assessment requirement in [R277-301](#), but must present documentation showing that the
106 individual met the appropriate license requirements in effect prior to that date.

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

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

110 (1) The Superintendent shall provide support to educator preparation programs and
111 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; and

115 (iii) provide access to up-to-date research on educator preparation and education
116 practices;

117 (b) reviewing third-party preparation materials for alignment with the Utah Effective
118 Educator Standards in [R277-530](#); and

119 (c) working with potential licensed educators to help them become licensed educators.

120 (2) The Superintendent shall design and maintain a model educator preparation
121 program that:

122 (a) meets all requirements of ~~[this rule]~~ all applicable Board rules;

123 (b) may be adopted by an LEA or an accredited private school; and

124 (c) is overseen by staff distinct from the staff responsible for ensuring educator
125 preparation program compliance with ~~[this Rule R277-303]~~ all applicable Board rules.

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127 ~~[R277-303-6. Effective Date.~~

128 ~~— This rule will be effective beginning January 1, 2020.]~~

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130 **KEY: educator preparation program, pedagogical assessment, professional**
131 **competency, programs**

132 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: July 2, 2019**

133 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53E-6-](#)**
134 **[201\(3\)\(a\)](#)**

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