

R277-526 received final approval by the Utah State Board of Education on September 2, 2021. R277-526 will be published in the October 1, 2021, Utah State Bulletin, subject to a 30-day comment period, with a first possible effective date of November 8, 2021.

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 ~~[R277-526. Paraeducator to Teacher Scholarship Program.~~

3 ~~R277-526-1. 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~~  
8 ~~the 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.~~

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16 ~~R277-526-2. Definitions.~~

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

19 ~~—— (2) "Paraeducator" means the same as that term is defined in Subsection~~  
20 ~~53F-5-205(1)(b).~~

21 ~~—— (3) "Paraeducator Scholarship Selection Committee" or "committee" means the~~  
22 ~~committee established by the Board to select scholarship recipients as required by~~  
23 ~~Subsection 53F-5-205(5).~~

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

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27 ~~R277-526-3. Scholarship Amounts and Requirements.~~

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28 ~~—— (1) A paraeducator shall use a stipend awarded under this rule solely for~~  
29 ~~expenses approved by Section 53F-5-205 and this rule annually between July 1 and the~~  
30 ~~following June 30.~~

31 ~~—— (2) A scholarship recipient shall remain continuously employed by an LEA in~~  
32 ~~accordance with Subsection [53F-5-205\(8\)](#).~~

33 ~~—— (3) A scholarship recipient shall provide documentation of progress toward~~  
34 ~~graduation, as requested by the scholarship recipient's employer or the Board.~~

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

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39 **~~R277-526-4. Applicant Scholarships Recipient and LEA Responsibilities.~~**

40 ~~—— (1) An LEA shall employ a scholarship recipient for a minimum of 10 hours per~~  
41 ~~week at the time of application for the scholarship and during any year in which the~~  
42 ~~paraeducator receives the scholarship.~~

43 ~~—— (2) A scholarship applicant shall submit a completed application found on the~~  
44 ~~Board website to the applicant's LEA.~~

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

49 ~~—— (4) An LEA shall submit all applications to the Superintendent on or before May 15~~  
50 ~~annually.~~

51 ~~—— (5) A scholarship recipient and the LEA whose employee receives funding under~~  
52 ~~this program shall cooperate on any assessment required by the Board.~~

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54 **~~R277-526-5. State Board of Education Staff/Committee Responsibilities.~~**

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- 55 ~~—— (1) The committee shall consist of:~~  
56 ~~—— (a) one representative of the Board designated by the Board;~~  
57 ~~—— (b) one representative of the Board of Regents designated by the Board of~~  
58 ~~Regents;~~  
59 ~~—— (c) one representative of the largest parent/teacher association in the state;~~  
60 ~~—— (d) no more than two additional representatives of the general public designated~~  
61 ~~by the Board.~~  
62 ~~—— (2) The committee shall receive completed applications from LEAs consistent with~~  
63 ~~R277-526-4.~~  
64 ~~—— (3) The committee shall determine funding for applicants from applications~~  
65 ~~received from LEAs after considering the number of applications received and the amount~~  
66 ~~of funding available.~~  
67 ~~—— (4) The committee may develop and consider additional selection criteria~~  
68 ~~including:~~  
69 ~~—— (a) support from the recommending LEA; and~~  
70 ~~—— (b) geographical distribution of recipients.~~  
71 ~~—— (5) The committee shall provide names of scholarship recipients to the Board for~~  
72 ~~review and comment by August 1, annually.~~  
73 ~~—— (6) The committee or the Board may require a summary assessment of the~~  
74 ~~increased number of paraeducators who become educators and other program results~~  
75 ~~from participating scholarship recipients and LEAs.~~

76  
77 **KEY:** ~~paraeducators, scholarships~~

78 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment:** ~~February 7, 2017~~

79 **Notice of Continuation:** ~~December 14, 2016~~

80 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law:** ~~Art X Sec 3; [53E-3-401\(4\)](#);~~

81 [53F-5-205\(9\)](#)