

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-614. Athletes and Students with Head Injuries.**

3 **R277-614-1. Authority and Purpose.**

4 (1) This rule is authorized by:

5 (a) [Utah Constitution X, Section 3](#), which vests general control and supervision in
6 the Board; and

7 (b) Section [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 (2) The purpose of this rule is to direct LEAs under the general control and
10 supervision of the Utah State Board of Education to adopt and enforce a head injury policy
11 for students participating in physical education and extracurricular sporting events.
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13 **R277-614-2. Definitions.**

14 (1) "Agent" has the same meaning as described in Subsection [26-53-102\(1\)](#).

15 (2) "Free play" means unstructured student play, games and field days during
16 school hours.

17 (3) "Head injury" means any injury to the head not described in Subsection [26-53-](#)
18 [102\(6\)](#) including a mild bump.

19 (4) "LEA" includes for purposes of this rule, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
20 Blind.

21 (5) "Parent" means a parent or legal guardian of a student for whom an LEA is
22 responsible.

23 (6) "Physical education class" means a structured school class that includes an
24 adult supervisor.

25 (7) "Sporting event" has the same meaning as described in Subsection [26-53-](#)
26 [102\(5\)](#).

27 (8) "Traumatic head injury" has the same meaning as described in Subsection [26-](#)
28 [53-102\(6\)](#).

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30 **R277-614-3. Superintendent Responsibilities.**

31 (1) The Superintendent shall, in consultation with Utah State Risk Management,
32 provide a model policy for LEAs to use in developing the policy required in Section R277-
33 614-4.

34 (2) The Superintendent shall provide model forms for LEAs to use to inform
35 parents of LEA policies and obtain parent signatures documenting the parents'
36 understanding of and willingness to adhere to LEA policies.

37 (3) The Superintendent shall provide professional development, as needed and
38 to the extent of funds available, to assist LEAs with training to:

39 (a) identify students' traumatic head injuries;

40 (b) provide notice to parents;

41 (c) encourage best practices in supporting a child in their recovery; and

42 (d) comply with the law.

43 (4) The Superintendent shall make the resources required by this Section R277-
44 614-3 available on the Board website.

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46 **R277-614-4. LEA Responsibilities.**

47 (1) An LEA shall comply with [Title 26, Chapter 53](#), Protection of Athletes with Head
48 Injuries Act, including all responsibilities of an amateur sports organization.

49 (2) All LEAs shall adopt and maintain a traumatic head injury policy for students:

50 (a) participating in physical education classes~~[-, excluding free play,]~~ offered by the
51 LEA; and

52 (b) participating in extracurricular activities sponsored by the LEA or statewide
53 athletic associations.

54 (3) An LEA's policy shall include:

55 (a) direction to agents to remove a student from a sporting event if the student is
56 suspected of sustaining a concussion or a traumatic head injury;

57 (b) the prohibition of the continued participation of a student removed under
58 Subsection (3)(a) until the student is evaluated by a trained qualified health care
59 professional;

60 (c) a written statement from a trained qualified health care provider clearing a
61 student removed under Subsection (3)(a) to resume participation in a sporting event;

62 (d) adequate training for agents, consistent with their involvement and
63 responsibility for supervising students in sporting events and physical education classes,
64 about traumatic head injuries and response to suspected student injuries, consistent with
65 the law; and

66 (e) a requirement of notice at least annually to parents of students who participate
67 in sporting events, to be acknowledged by a parent in writing, of an LEA's traumatic head
68 injury policy.

69 (4) An LEA shall post the policy required under Subsection (2) on the LEA's
70 website where the information will be readily accessible to the public and to parents.

71 (5) An LEA shall notify a parent if [an LEA becomes aware](#) ~~[is reported]~~
72 a student is reported to have experienced a head injury during school hours or a school
73 sanctioned activity, including during free play.

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75 **KEY: athletes, head injuries**

76 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: ~~[June 24, 2021]~~ 2022**

77 **Notice of Continuation: May 11, 2018**

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