



Utah State Board of Education



2025 Public Education Summary

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Foreword

This publication represents the combined efforts of staff members at the Utah State Board of Education (USBE). It serves as a single-source review of education-related legislation from the 2025 Legislative Session.

The publication is prepared for state school board members, local education agency (LEA) board members, superintendents, charter school administrators, and school business administrators. It may also be helpful to other public education organizations and to members of the Utah Legislature.

The main body of the report provides an overview of each education-related bill that was enacted and outlines possible actions that may be taken by USBE, local school boards, and charter school governing boards to implement the legislation. Summary information on funding provisions and bills that did not pass is also included.

This publication is a service of USBE and is intended as a resource—not as a directive or set of assignments—for local education agencies. The Utah State Board of Education will adopt administrative rules, as needed, to implement new legislation.

This report is not intended to serve as a formal legal opinion or interpretation of legislative activity. Comments or suggestions for future editions are welcome and should be directed to:

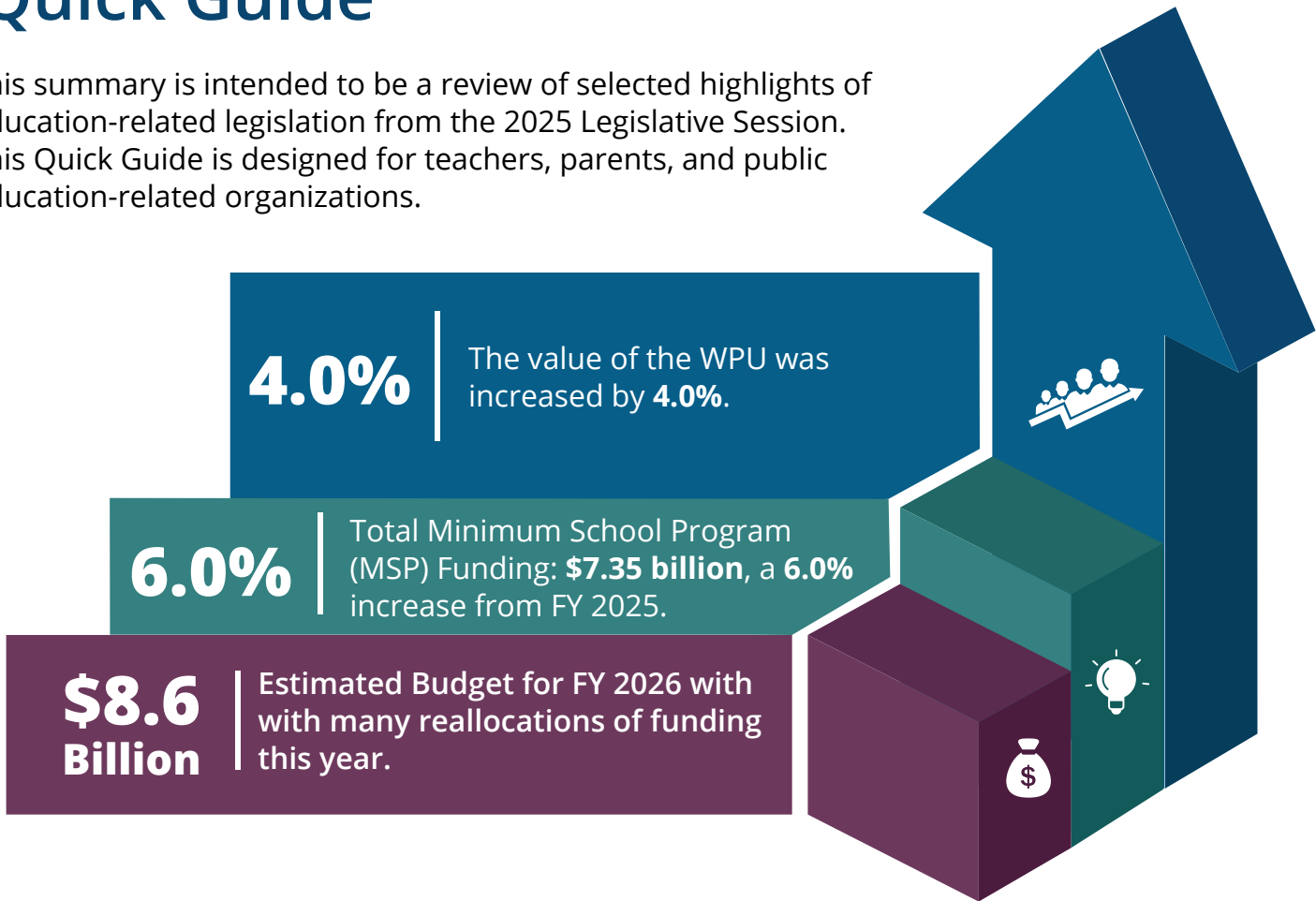
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Quick Guide

This summary is intended to be a review of selected highlights of education-related legislation from the 2025 Legislative Session. This Quick Guide is designed for teachers, parents, and public education-related organizations.



Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) Value	FY 2025	FY 2026	Increase	Percentage
	\$4,494	\$4,674	\$180	4.0%

Notable Education Stabilization Funding Distribution



Catalyst Center
\$65 Million
One-Time



School Safety Support Grant
\$25 Million
One-Time



First Credential
\$29 Million
One-Time



Educator Prep. and Collaboration Time
\$77 Million
One-Time

Notable Funding Highlights

Educator Support

Educator Support
Professional Stipends

\$4.8 Million

One-Time

Educator Salary
Adjustment

\$10,350

Ongoing

Stipends for Future
Educators

\$12.4 Million

One-Time

Rural Student Support

Rural Schools Athletic
Facilities Grant

\$4.39 Million

One-Time

Necessarily Existent Small
Schools Increase

\$16.3 Million

Ongoing

Small School Capital
Projections

\$12.5 Million

One-Time

Technology

Writing Instruction and AI
Plagiarism Solution

\$900,000

One-Time

K-12 Computer Science
Initiative

\$2 Million

One-Time

Additional Funding

Grow Your Own Teacher &
Counselor Program

7.3 Million

One-Time

Utah Fits All
Program

\$40 Million*

Ongoing

Food Security
Amendments

\$2.5 Million

One-Time

Student Information
Systems

\$10 Million

One-Time

** Plus a one time \$20 million reduction*

General Session Agency Appropriation

FY 2025 Requests

Program	Bill	One-Time	Ongoing
Anti-Bullying Coalition CCF-Stand4kind	HB2	\$300,000	
Assessment to Achievement - Artificial Intelligence (A2AI)	HB2	\$4,300,000	
Capital Outlay - Enrollment Growth Program	HB2		-\$5,638,800
Carson Smith Opportunity Scholarship	HB2		\$4,000,000
Catalyst Center Grant Program	SB3	\$65,000,000	\$250,000
Charter School Funding Amendments	HB219	\$4,000,000	
Charter School Funding Base Program	HB2	\$3,600,000	
CPR Training Grant Program	HB2		-\$270,000
CTE College and Career Awareness Reduction	HB2		-\$1,960,700
CTE Student Organization Reduction	HB2		-\$2,247,500
Digital Teaching and Learning Reductions	HB2	-\$461,600	-\$1,500,000
Early Literacy Software Utilization	HB2	-\$3,899,900	-\$2,000,000
Educator Professional Time	SB	\$77,700,000	
Educator Salary Adjustment	HB2		\$47,380,000
Educator Support Professional Bonus	HB2	\$45,200,000	
Elementary Reading Assessment Tool	HB2		-\$800,000
English Learner Amendments	SB3	\$5,000,000	
Ethnic Studies Reduction	SB	-\$18,800	-\$75,500
Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement Amendments	SB99	\$600,000	
First Credential for All	SB3	\$27,000,000	
First Credential Program	HB260/SB3	\$2,000,000	
Flexible Allocation - WPU Distribution	HB2		-\$1,852,000
Food Security Amendments	SB3	\$2,516,900	
Grow Your Own Educator Pipeline	HB2	\$7,327,000	
High School Rodeo - Athlete and Ambulance Grants	HB2/SB3		\$145,000

Program	Bill	One-Time	Ongoing
K12 Computer Science for Utah	HB2	\$2,000,000	
MSP Formula Distribution Updates	SB1	\$95,000,000	
PreK-12 Public School-Based Telehealth Program	SB3	\$200,000	
Professional Learning Grant Program Reallocation	HB2		-\$3,935,000
Professional Staff to Flexible Allocation	HB2		\$266,916,200
Professional Staff to Flexible Allocation - Transfer Out	HB2		-\$269,269,300
Project29	HB2	\$300,000	
Research Supported Social Skill Development Program Continuation	HB2	\$600,000	
Rural School Athletic Facilities Grants	HB462	\$4,390,000	
Rural Utah Student Initiative	HB2	\$610,000	
School Discipline Amendments	SB3	\$44,000	\$39,800
School LAND Trust Distribution	SB	\$5,092,600	
School Safety Needs Assessment Findings	HB40		\$25,000,000
School Trust Land Amendments	SB3		\$167,100
Small School District Capital Projects Fund	HB2	\$12,500,000	
Small Schools Economies of Scale	SB3		\$16,322,300
Special Education Impact Aid Reductions	HB2		-\$3,441,700
Statewide Online Education Program Amendments	SB3	\$117,400	\$51,600
Statewide Online Education Program Modifications	SB3	\$83,000	
Stipends for Future Educators Grant Program Amendments		\$12,400,000	
Student Credential Account (SCA) Statewide Usage	SB3	\$3,800,000	
Student Health and Counseling Support Program Reductions	HB2	\$(108,700)	-\$1,500,000
Student Information System (SIS)	HB2	\$10,000,000	
Teacher Supplies & Materials	SB1	\$8,800,000	
Utah Fits All Scholarship Enhancement	HB2	-\$20,000,000	\$40,000,000
Utah Fits All Scholarship Program Amendments	SB3	-\$20,000,000	\$122,587,600
Writing Instruction and AI Plagiarism Solution	HB2	\$900,000	

Featured Education Bills



WHAT

- Creates a variety of school safety compliance standards and requirements.
- Establishes the school safety foundation.
- Specifically it targets four main categories:
 - » School Safety Assessments
 - » School Safety Personnel
 - » Cybersecurity and School Building Safety
 - » Rule Updates



WHY

- The public education system must ensure a safe environment where students can learn without fear, addressing potential threats and promoting security across schools.
- School safety is crucial for academic success as a secure environment fosters a positive, focused learning atmosphere for students and staff alike.



HOW

- USBE and LEAs will need to complete a variety of actions in order to keep updated on the implementation of this law.
- LEAs will ensure school safety assessments are completed, buildings are up to new safety standards, update emergency preparedness plans, and provide resources available for victims of sexual extortion to education personnel and parents through the required training on child sexual abuse and human trafficking prevention training.

Additional Requirements



A school safety assessment to be conducted for each school every three years.



School guardians to complete a fit to carry assessment.



Protective film on exterior windows surrounding entry ways and interior windows of instructional areas.



LEAs to provide prevention training on child sexual abuse, human trafficking prevention and sexual extortion every three years.

Flag Display Amendments

HB 77 Representative Lee
Senator McCay



WHAT

- The bill restricts the display of certain flags in public schools and on government properties. Specifically, it bans flags that are not among the approved list, which includes the U.S. flag, Utah state flag, military flags, flags representing municipalities, counties, or other political subdivisions, flags of Native American tribes, official flags of licensed colleges or universities, Olympic flags, and certain historical flags used for educational purposes.
- Outlines the responsibilities of the state auditor and attorney general in ensuring compliance and defending individuals enforcing the flag display statute.



WHY

Regulate the display of flags on government property, ensuring that only specific flags are displayed.



HOW

- **Flag Display Regulations:**
 - » Schools and districts must ensure that only exempt flags are displayed on their property.
- **Protection of Student Expression:**
 - » The bill does not limit the authority of local education agencies related to student expression under applicable federal or state law and LEAs must still protect all students from discrimination.

Defining Terms



Displaying a Flag

To place a flag in a prominent location on government property where the flag is easily visible.



Flag

Refers to a usually rectangular piece of fabric with a specific design that symbolizes a location, government entity, or cause.



Specifics

Specific designs and what 'prominent location' means are not defined.



The Bill does not include banners, stickers, or pins.



WHAT

- The bill mandates written parental consent before delivering telehealth or other health care services to students in public schools.
- Establishes criteria for in-school mental health therapy, specifying who is authorized to provide such restrictive services. It also requires parental consent and mandates certain notifications to parents regarding their children's therapy sessions.
- Allows parents to designate specific topics that authorized personnel are not permitted to discuss during school therapy sessions.



WHY

This bill aims to ensure that families are informed about health care services that are being provided to their child.



HOW

- USBE will develop and distribute training materials for educators and school staff to ensure compliance with HB281's requirements, focusing on distinguishing restricted services from other health-related activities.
- The Utah Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with USBE, will provide ongoing support to school districts through workshops and consultations to help them implement the new guidelines effectively and navigate any challenges with restricted services.

Defining Terms



Restricted Service does not include:

- Describing basic stress management strategies.
- Informing students and parents of the availability of a restricted service.
- Engaging in generalized crisis response, which does not include one-on-one therapy.

Telehealth Services: Health services provided remotely through technology (e.g., video calls, online consultations) to students within the school system.

Mental Health Therapy:

Therapeutic services aimed at addressing emotional, psychological, or behavioral issues in students, provided by qualified mental health professionals.

Generalized Crisis Response:

Immediate, non-specific interventions in response to a crisis that are not intended to provide in-depth, individualized therapy.



WHAT

- Establishes clear standards for the use of seclusion and physical restraint in schools, ensuring these practices are used only in specific, emergency situations and in a manner that respects student rights.
- Requires LEAs to systematically collect and report data on all instances of emergency seclusion and physical restraint, creating transparency and accountability in the use of these methods.



WHY

- To improve school safety by creating well-defined guidelines for emergency safety interventions, ensuring these methods are used appropriately and only when necessary for the safety of students and staff.
- To hold schools accountable for their use of these practices by establishing consequences for improper use, protecting students from potential harm or abuse.



HOW

- USBE will revise and update all relevant rules, guidelines, and incorporated documents to reflect the new standards for seclusion and physical restraint, ensuring consistency and clarity across the state.
- USBE will offer ongoing technical assistance and training to LEAs to ensure proper implementation of the updated rules and best practices in managing student behavior.

Additional Highlights

LEA must collect and report discipline data to USBE annually, including:

- Duration of the ESI
- Stated purpose of the ESI
- Alternative interventions used
- Student demographic information



ESI

“Emergency safety intervention” is defined as: the use of seclusion or physical restraint when a student presents an immediate danger to self or others.

Seclusion

The involuntary confinement of a student alone in a room or area from which the student is physically prevented from leaving, in response to an emergency situation.

Physical Restraint

The use of physical force to restrict a student’s movement, typically to prevent harm to themselves or others during an emergency situation.

High School Credit Amendments

HB 191 Representative Teuscher
Senator Filmore



WHAT

- Establishes a formal process by which high school students may earn credit through the “packet method”.
- Clarifies the distinction between original and replacement credit.
- Sets clear limitations on packet use.



WHY

Aims to bring greater consistency, transparency, and quality control to the use of instructional packets, which have often been used informally or inconsistently across schools.



HOW

- USBE will establish standards for use of the packet method to award credit
- Recommending packets that align with the standards
- USBE will maintain a list of recommended packets in the Recommended Instructional Materials System (RIMS) website.
- LEAs will need to adhere to the internal processes for approving instructional packets used for original or replacement credit, ensuring they meet standards outlined in State Board rules.

What is the Packet Method?



The “**packet method**” is an instructional approach involving independent completion of materials with limited or no direct teacher instruction.

Packets may not be used to replace grades for GPA improvement.



Packets can only be used for original credit or replacement credit.

Original credit

The student has not attempted a course of instruction before.



Replacement Credit

The student has attempted a course, but failed to earn credit.

First Credential Program

HB 260 Representative Peterson
Senator Milner



WHAT

- Replaces the PRIME Pilot program and establishes the Utah First Credential program.
 - » The PRIME pilot program was created in the 2020 Utah State Legislature general session by H.B. 336.
- Requires the creation of a Master Credential List that identifies approved industry-recognized credentials, ensuring alignment with labor market needs and promoting seamless transfer to higher education institutions and technical colleges.



WHY

The new First Credential Program will encourage and facilitate each Utah public education student's skill development, workplace and college readiness, and seamless transition to post-high school educational and employment opportunities.



HOW

New regional pathway coordinators will collaborate with regional secondary and postsecondary professionals

- Support the implementation of the Utah First Credential program.
- Ensure that credits earned for a first credential certificate are accepted.
- Transferable to institutions of higher education.

Additional Information

First Credential Oversight Committee

- Established by education leaders: The Utah Commissioner of Higher Education, State Superintendent, and Governor's Education Advisor will form the First Credential Oversight Committee.
- The committee will create the First Credential Master Plan, which includes a Master Credential List of approved credentials.



Program Submission Process

USBE will create an online platform for schools and organizations to submit their credential programs for review and inclusion in the Master Credential List, ensuring the programs meet established standards and serve students' career-readiness needs; ensuring credential certificates are accepted and are transferable.



WHAT

- Creates the Catalyst Center Grant Program to provide funding and support for LEAs in establishing or expanding Catalyst Centers—innovative hubs designed to enhance student learning, workforce development, and community engagement through targeted programs and resources.
- The program aims to facilitate the development of centers that foster career readiness, academic success, and partnerships between schools, businesses, and community organizations.



WHY

- To increase student access to programs or facilities that provide profession-based learning experiences and instruction that replicate professional environments
- Incorporate industry-standard tools/technologies into instruction
- Facilitate mentorship and participation by industry professionals where students develop
- Implement projects that address specific needs or objectives identified by industry partners.



HOW

LEAs may apply for the grant to create or expand centers by demonstrating alignment with labor market needs, LEA strategic plans, and state career and technical education goals.

Additional Information

Catalyst Centers Location

Catalyst Centers may be established on higher education campuses, leveraging existing resources and partnerships to expand opportunities for students and the community.

Program Administration

USBE will hire a Catalyst Program Director to oversee the administration, coordination, and implementation of the Catalyst Center Grant Program, ensuring alignment with State CTE goals .

CTE Educator Licensing Exemption

Certain individuals teaching Career and Technical Education (CTE) are exempt from traditional educator licensing requirements, allowing for more flexibility in hiring qualified professionals with industry-specific experience.

Fine Arts Credit for Applied Crafts & Technical Arts

The bill creates requirements related to fine arts credit in applied crafts and technical arts, providing students with additional pathways to meet graduation requirements while pursuing technical skill development.

2025 Other Notable Education Bills

The following are notable bills which passed during the 2025 General Session.

**HB
124**

Education Industry Employee Privacy

This bill prohibits LEAs from selling employee data and from requiring the employees install or use certain technologies on their personal devices.

**SB
178**

Devices in Public Schools

Prohibits student use of cellphones, smart watches, and similar devices during classroom hours, with specific exemptions. LEAs can also decide their own exemptions.

**HB
344**

School Fees

Ensures that students have at least one option to complete all required courses and credits by paying no fees and not needing a waiver. LEAs are prohibited from charging fees for certain non-fee courses or increasing fees to supplement prohibited fees.

**HB
381**

Civics Education Amendments

Requires at least 1.0 credit of the required 3.5 social studies units be in American constitutional government and citizenship and removed the civics test requirement for high school students. USBE will have until the 2026-2027 school year to change the standards.

**SB
39**

Education Testing Amendments

Eliminates the USBE-administered High School Assessment in the 2026-2027 school year and requires the USBE to adopt a standards assessment for English language arts, mathematics, and science in grades 9 & 10.

HB 104

Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments

Requires LEAs to provide firearm safety instruction to students at least 3 times from K-6 grade and twice in middle school and high school.

HB 233

School Curriculum Amendments

Prohibits LEAs from allowing groups that perform elective abortion to provide health-related instruction or materials in schools.

HB 402

Food Additives in Schools

Prohibits food containing certain food additives from being provided in a public school, with exceptions. Prohibited food additives are: potassium bromate, propylparaben, FD&C Blue No. 1, Blue No. 2, Green No. 3, Red No. 3, Red No. 40, Yellow No. 5, and Yellow No. 6.

HB 100

Food Security Amendment

Provides meals at no charge to K-12 students who are eligible for reduced-price school lunch.

MSP Comparison Tables

MSP FY 2025/FY 2026 Comparison

A. Basic School Program

Program	FY25 Appropriation	FY26 Appropriation	Growth
Kindergarten	\$168,900,646	\$194,453,900	15%
Grades 1-12	\$2,732,253,300	\$2,825,895,900	3%
Foreign Exchange Students	\$1,627,500	\$2,009,700	23%
Necessarily Existent Small Schools	\$48,910,500	\$67,151,800	37%
Enrollment Growth Contingency	\$19,101,000	\$19,101,000	0%
Mid and Final Year Distribution Balance	\$45,000,000	\$50,000,000	N/A
Professional Staff	\$258,211,900	0	-100%
Total Basic School Program	\$3,274,004,846	\$3,158,612,300	-4%

B. Restricted School Program

Program	FY25 Appropriation	FY26 Appropriation	Growth
Special Education - Regular - Add-on	\$455,467,000	\$467,687,300	3%
Special Education - Regular - Self-Contained	\$52,076,600	\$54,643,800	5%
Special Education - Pre-School	\$50,809,200	\$52,227,300	3%
Special Education - Extended Year	\$2,053,800	\$2,112,600	3%
Special Education - Impact Aid	\$9,257,600	\$6,074,400	-34%
Extended Year for Special Educators	\$4,085,200	\$4,248,900	4%
Students At-Risk - Add-on	\$129,845,500	\$130,501,400	1%
CTE Add-on	\$130,716,900	\$130,155,200	0%
Class Size Reduction	\$190,352,500	\$195,658,500	3%
Total Basic School Program	\$1,024,664,300	\$1,043,309,400	2%

MSP FY 2025/FY 2026 Comparison

B. Related to Basic School Programs: General

Program	FY25 Appropriation	FY26 Appropriation	Growth
Pupil Transportation	\$130,775,200	\$134,414,900	3%
Charter School Local Replacement	\$263,073,100	\$302,909,000	15%
Charter School Funding Base	\$11,465,000	\$11,465,000	0%
Flexible Allocation	\$1,858,000	\$266,916,200	14,266%
Students At-risk Gang Prevention	\$2,400,000	\$0	-100%
Youth-in-Care	\$33,043,600	\$33,963,300	3%
Adult Education	\$18,570,900	\$19,087,700	3%
Enhancement for Accelerated Students	\$7,183,700	\$7,383,700	3%
Concurrent Enrollment	\$20,669,900	\$23,345,400	13%
Educator Salary Adjustments	\$424,050,300	\$490,200,000	16%
School Based Education Support Professional Bonus	\$0	\$45,200,000	N/A
Teacher Salary Supplement Program	\$26,036,200	\$0	-100%
SHINE - Salary Supplement for Highly Needed Educators	\$0	\$26,036,200	N/A
Teacher Supplies and materials	\$13,900,000	\$14,300,000	3%
Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools	\$801,000	\$600,000	-25%
Grants for Professional Learning	\$3,935,000	\$0	-100%
Educator Professional Time	\$74,000,000	\$77,700,000	5%
School LAND Trust Program	\$106,222,000	\$111,314,500	5%
Teacher and Student Success Programs	\$197,041,000	\$228,549,600	16%
Student Health and Counseling Support	\$25,480,000	\$23,480,000	-8%
Dual Immersion	\$7,646,900	\$7,859,700	3%
Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning	\$20,445,000	\$19,445,000	-5%
Emergency Funding for English Learners	\$0	\$5,000,000	N/A
Grow Your Own Teacher	\$0	\$7,327,000	N/A
Digital Teaching and Learning Program	\$19,852,400	\$18,352,400	-8%
Total Basic School Program	\$1,408,449,200	\$1,875,147,800	33%

MSP FY 2025/FY 2026 Comparison

C. Voted and Board Local Levy Programs

Program	FY25 Appropriation	FY26 Appropriation	Growth
Board Local Levy	\$473,923,900	\$511,057,100	8%
Voted Local Levy	\$731,045,500	\$761,947,600	4%
Total Voted and Board	\$1,204,969,400	\$1,273,004,700	6%

Grand Total	\$6,615,143,100	\$6,949,036,000	6%
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Program Funding Details

MSP Basic School Programs

Changes to this section include the following:

- \$178.6 million Ongoing Increase: **WPU value \$4,674**
- \$100.1 million Ongoing Enrollment Growth
- \$16,322,300 ongoing increase to implement the provisions of HB396 Small School District Scale of Operations Formula.
- \$269,269,300 ongoing program *reduction* for reallocation: Professional Staff
- \$4,208,200 ongoing program *reduction*: Career & Technical Education District Add-On (CTE Student Organization and Career Awareness)
- \$3,441,700 ongoing program *reduction*: Special Education Impact Aid

MSP Related to Basic School Programs

Changes to this section include the following:

- \$7,327,000 one-time to continue Grow your Own Teacher and Counselor Pipeline program.
- \$269,269,200 ongoing reallocation from Professional Staff to Flexible Allocation.
- \$(4,205,000) ongoing *reduction* from Flexible Allocation.
- \$(3,935,000) ongoing *reduction* for reallocation: Grants for Professional Learning.
- \$3,600,000 one-time increase to Charter School Funding Base Program.
- \$(1,500,000) ongoing *reduction* for reallocation from Digital Teaching and Learning.
- \$600,000 one-time *funding* to implement the provisions of SB099 Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement Amendments.
- \$(2,000,000) ongoing *reduction* for relocation from Student Health and Counseling program.

2025 Bills Passed

House Education Bills

HB 2 PUBLIC EDUCATION BASE BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Stephen Whyte and Sen. Heidi Balderree

Bill Summary: This bill appropriates funds for public education for FY26, makes reallocations, and eliminates some existing programs. Notably, this bill provides a \$1,000 educator salary adjustment increase, provides a one-time \$1,000 educator support professional stipend, removes the professional staff program, makes major changes to the voted and board local levy program, and makes many other budget adjustments.

USBE Action: Incorporate budget changes into legislative estimates and LEA distributions and adjust rules as necessary

LEA Action: Awareness of educator salary adjustment increases, educator support professional stipends, professional staff program removal, board program changes, and other budget changes.

Funding: This bill appropriates \$139,350,000, including \$112,635,700 from the Income Tax and Uniform School Funds for FY 2025, plus \$134,092,000, including \$42,855,000 from the General, Income Tax, or Uniform School Funds for FY 2026 to the State Board of Education to support the operations for school districts, charter schools, and state education agencies and programs. It transfers another \$51,409,200 in FY 2026 from state funds into other funds and accounts.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov; Deborah Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, 801-538-7627, deborah.jacobson@schools.utah.gov

HB 8 STATE AGENCY AND HIGHER EDUCATION COMPENSATION APPROPRIATIONS

Sponsors: Rep. Walt Brooks and Sen. Scott Sandall

Bill Summary: This bill provides a 2.5% labor market increase for state agency employees, funding for health and dental benefit cost changes as recommended by PEHP, an up-to \$26 per pay period match for 401(k), and other compensation adjustments as authorized.

USBE Action: Awareness of the 2.5% salary increase and 401K match funded.

LEA Action: None

Funding: This bill appropriates \$136,754,600 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2026,

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Deborah Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, 801-538-7627, deborah.jacobson@schools.utah.gov

HB 40 SCHOOL SAFETY AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Ryan Wilcox and Sen. Ann Millner

Bill Summary: This bill introduces Bill HB 40, School Safety Amendments, introduces new

compliance standards and requirements for Utah schools. Key changes include establishing a school safety foundation, requiring a State Charter School Board liaison, mandating school safety assessments every three years, and requiring universal key boxes at each school. School guardians must complete a “fit to carry” assessment. Public and private schools must conduct radio coverage testing and install protective film on exterior and interior windows by 2035 or 2040, depending on school size. The school security task force will now be required to study cybersecurity requirements. Child sexual abuse prevention materials must include information on the risks of sharing intimate images and resources for sexual extortion victims. Virtual parent seminars can be held and recorded for LEA website availability.

USBE Action:

- The Director of School Safety and Student Services at USBE or the Director’s designee will be a member of the Public Education Advisory Board.
- USBE shall establish standards for universal key box installation and placement, access control and monitoring, maintenance schedules, and compliance verification.
- USBE shall, in coordination with the state security chief, ensure new construction or major remodeling of a school building includes the installation of automated external defibrillators in appropriate locations and shall provide technical assistance to LEAs.
- USBE shall make available resources related to substance abuse, bullying, mental health, depression, suicide awareness, suicide prevention, internet safety including pornography addiction and the SafeUT Crisis Line.

LEA Action:

- LEAs shall complete a School Safety Assessment by October 15 once every three years, document the rotating or staggered assessment schedule and share this schedule with the state security chief, the School Safety Center, the county security chief, and the local law enforcement of relevant jurisdiction.
- For public and private schools, an initial radio coverage test must be conducted by a qualified professional using appropriate testing equipment, and a report of the results must be submitted to the fire code official.
- The exterior windows surrounding the immediate entryways and interior windows of a classroom entrance or instructional area need to be protected by security film glazing or ballistic windows. This will need to be completed by July 1st, 2035 for 1st and 2nd class schools and by July 2040 for 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th class schools. All schools interior windows and classroom entrances or instructional areas will need to be protected by July 1, 2040.
- LEAs shall physically mark all hallways and doorways consistent with the incident response method or system the state security chief creates.
- LEA emergency preparedness plans and emergency response plans need to include cardiac emergency preparedness.
- LEAs shall ensure, before the school year begins, all school building personnel receive training on the protocol and appropriate use of the panic alert device. The lead teacher shall wear the panic device.

- LEAs shall ensure that security cameras within a school building are accessible by public safety answering points.
- LEAs must install and maintain universal access key boxes at main entry points. These boxes must contain master keys for complete school access, be accessible only to authorized emergency responders, and be electronically monitored, weather-resistant, and vandal-resistant. LEAs are required to conduct quarterly inspections, promptly update contents and inventories, document all activity, and replace damaged boxes. They must also coordinate with local emergency responders on placement and access protocols, maintain current contact information, and include key box details in emergency plans, building diagrams, and training materials
- School guardians and hired security guards must complete an initial “fit to carry” assessment approved by the Department of Health and Human Services. A provider must administer the screening and maintain compliance with mental health screening requirements consistent with law enforcement standards.
- LEAs shall provide, once every three years, training and instruction on child sexual abuse, human trafficking prevention and awareness that includes appropriate responses to incidents of sexual extortion, including connecting victims with support services and resources available for victims of sexual extortion.

Funding: \$25,000,000

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Rhett Larsen, School Safety Center Coordinator, 801-538-7997, rhett.larsen@schools.utah.gov

Shauntelle Cota, Director of School Safety and Student Services, 801-538-7502, shauntelle.cota@schools.utah.gov

Dean Dykstra, School Construction Specialist, 801-538-7939, dean.dykstra@schools.utah.gov

Paul Kremer, Utah State Charter School Board Executive Director, 801-538-7958, paul.kremer@schools.utah.gov

Cathy Davis, Education Specialist, 801-538-7861, cathy.davis@schools.utah.gov

Tanya Albornoz, Prevention Coordinator, 801-538-7812, tanya.albornoz@schools.utah.gov

HB 42 ENGLISH LEARNER AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Candice Pierucci, Sen. Heidi Balderree

Bill Summary: This bill provides LEAs with emergency funding, if enrollment of students learning English at a school increases by 75% or more above the previous three-year average enrollment for students learning English in the school. There must also be 30 or more students above the previous three-year average enrollment for students learning English in the school. USBE is required to oversee an application process and distribute these emergency funds. The bill also instructs LEAs on the use of these funds.

USBE Action: The USBE shall create rules to determine a method for measuring an increase in enrollment at a school, identify a school that meets the threshold requirement and, depending

on the available funds, prioritize applications and distribute funding based on the greatest percentage increase in enrollment for students learning English and the severity of the financial need of the school.

LEA Action: LEAs seeking this emergency funding are required to submit an application that demonstrates substantial need for the emergency funding, includes the percentage by which the school's student learning English enrollment exceeds the previous three-year average for the school, and demonstrates that the school has insufficient existing funds to adequately support the increased student learning English enrollment.

Funding: \$5,000,000 One-time

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USB E Contact:

Christelle Estrada, Education Specialist: Title III, Refugee & Immigrant Programs, 801-538-7888, christelle.estrada@schools.utah.gov

Megan Lopez, Education Specialist, Secondary English Language Arts, WIDA, A2A Program Manager, 801-538-7723, megan.lopez@schools.utah.gov

Max Lang, ESSA and Related State Initiatives Coordinator, 801-538-7725
max.lang@schools.utah.gov

Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

Aaron Brough, Director of Data and Statistics, 801-538-7922, aaron.brough@schools.utah.gov

HB 43 EDUCATION PROGRAM SUNSET AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Karen Peterson and Sen. Lincoln Fillmore

Bill Summary: This bill extends sunset dates for the grant for professional learning and the elementary teacher preparation assessment grant to July 1, 2028. It also extends the sunset date for Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program to July 1, 2026.

USB E Action: Awareness of sunset date changes and program continuation.

LEA Action: Awareness of sunset date changes and program continuation.

Funding: No new funding

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USB E Contact: Julie Clark, Literacy and Early Learning Coordinator, 801-538-7661, julie.clark@schools.utah.gov

Robert Austin, Humanities Team Coordinator, 801-538-7575, robert.austin@schools.utah.gov

HB 76 PUBLIC EDUCATION REVISIONS

Sponsors: Rep. Tracy Miller and Sen. Heidi Balderree

Bill Summary: This bill makes various changes to education programs, including SHINE, school fees, early learning, and kindergarten. It allows LEAs to increase teacher supplements,

USBE to use a small portion of Early Interactive Reading Software Program (EISP) funds for administration, and LEAs to enroll certain underage kindergarteners. It also changes toilet training requirements, reduces early learning plan needs, and allows fees for fine arts courses.

USBE Action: USBE may use up to 6% of the early interactive reading software appropriation for administrative costs. USBE is required to distribute 94% of the funds to the LEAs. The USBE will amend its rule on toilet training.

LEA Action:

- LEAs may increase the amount of funds provided to teachers in the Teacher Salary Supplement Program if the LEA ensures proper distribution of funds to the LEA's teachers and there is a remaining carry forward or leftover balance. Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind is included as a LEA for this provision.
- LEAs may enroll children that are less than 5 years old if they move to Utah from another state and were enrolled in kindergarten in that state and it is the same school year.
- Awareness that an additional individual learning plan is no longer required for the college and career readiness plan.
- Awareness that Early Learning Plans require two goals.
- Awareness that LEAs may not charge a fee for an activity that is expressly required for the instruction of established core standards unless it is an elective, including a course for which a student earns credit toward a fine arts.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact:

School Fees: Scott Crapo, Fiscal Monitor, 801-538-7840, scott.crapo@schools.utah.gov

Early Learning: Julie Clark, Literacy and Early Learning Coordinator, 801- 538-7661, julie.clark@schools.utah.gov

SHINE: Julie Lundell, Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Evaluation Specialist, 801-538-7584, julie.lundell@schools.utah.gov

Erica Horsely, TSSP / NBPTS / ETHPS Specialist, 801-538-7741, erica.horsley@schools.utah.gov

College and Career Readiness Plans: Bethany Marker, School Counseling and Student Services Specialist, 801-538-7929, bethany.marker@schools.utah.gov

Kindergarten Toilet Training: Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

LauraLee Gillespie, Program Support Coordinator, 801-538-7866, lauralee.gillespie@schools.utah.gov

Kindergarten Enrollment: Aaron Brough, Director of Data and Statistics, 801-538-7922, aaron.brough@schools.utah.gov

Christine Elegante, K-3 Literacy Specialist, 801-538-7782, christine.elegante@schools.utah.gov

Early Learning Software: Michael Iwasaki, Director of Purchasing and Contracts, 801-538-7621, michael.iwasaki@schools.utah.gov

Amber Wright, Digital and Instructional Materials Specialist, 801-538-7754, amber.wright@schools.utah.gov

HB 77 FLAG DISPLAY AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Trevor Lee and Sen. Daniel McCay

Bill Summary: This bill defines which flags can be displayed in or on government property. It requires the state auditor to ensure compliance through fines. This bill requires the attorney general to defend and the state to hold harmless an individual acting under state law to enforce the flag display law within the public education system.

USBE Action: Awareness on which flags are permitted to be displayed.

LEA Action: Awareness on which flags are permitted to be displayed.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Holly Bell, Education Specialist, 801-538-7828, holly.bell@schools.utah.gov

Ben Rasmussen, Director of Law and Professional Practices, 801-538-7835, ben.rasmussen@schools.utah.gov

HB 100 FOOD SECURITY AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Tyler Clancy and Sen. Kirk Cullimore

Bill Summary: This bill provides one-time funding to reimburse an LEA for lunches provided to a public K-12 student who qualifies for reduced-price meals, based on household size and income level. The LEA will not charge a reduced-price meal to qualifying student accounts. It prohibits LEAs from stigmatizing students who cannot afford meals and encourages LEAs to reduce food waste. It requires communications regarding a student's meal debt to be directed only to the student's parents.

USBE Action:

- USBE shall reimburse LEAs for each reimbursable lunch in an amount equal to the difference between the federal reimbursement rates for a meal and a reduced-price meal, as determined annually by the United States Department of Agriculture.
- USBE shall establish a reimbursement system providing a monthly reimbursement to LEAs that provide meals and accepting private donations and grants for funding the school meal program.
- USBE may provide guidance and support to a school implementing food waste prevention strategies.
- If funding is insufficient USBE shall distribute the available funds in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year to each LEA on a pro rata basis.

LEA Action:

- LEAs participating in the National School Lunch Program shall provide lunch to an eligible student on a school day at no charge.
- LEAs may not publicly identify or stigmatize a student unable to pay for a meal or require a student to perform chores to pay for a meal, unless the requirement applies equally to all students.
- LEAs shall direct communications regarding a student's meal debt only to the student's parent.
- Participating LEAs shall consider, if possible, reducing food waste by following the education model health and wellness policy on nutrition and establishing a share table program.
- LEAs can ask parents of an eligible student to cover the remaining cost of a subsidized lunch.

Funding: \$2,516,900 One-time Funded in SB003.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Kimberly Loveland, Director of Child Nutrition Programs, 801-538-7513, kimberly.loveland@schools.utah.gov

HB 104 FIREARM SAFETY IN SCHOOLS AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Rex Shipp and Sen. Ronald Winterton

Bill Summary: This bill requires LEAs to provide firearm safety instruction to students in K-12 grades.

USBE Action: Update rule to include firearm safety in standards for curriculum and instruction.

LEA Action:

- LEAs shall, in a manner that is developmentally appropriate, present firearm safety instruction at least three times while a student is attending kindergarten through grade 6 and at least twice in middle school and high school. This instruction will emphasize the best practices and guidelines for the safe handling and storage of a firearm to prevent accidents and ensure personal safety.
- Instruction may consist of using live instruction, a video, online materials, an existing hunter safety course, the health education curriculum, the physical education curriculum, firearm safety curricula or materials the attorney general's office created.
- LEAs shall ensure that any statement regarding a firearm is politically neutral.
- A school shall, before providing firearm safety instruction, notify a student's parent or legal guardian of the instruction and provide details on how to opt out. A school may provide an alternative educational activity to a student whose parent or legal guardian opts the student out of firearm safety instruction.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Jodi Parker, Health Education Specialist, 801-538-7734,
jodi.parker@schools.utah.gov

HB 106 INCOME TAX REVISIONS

Sponsors: Rep. Kay Christofferson and Sen. Daniel McCay

Bill Summary: This bill amends the corporate franchise, income and individual income tax rate. It enacts nonrefundable corporate and individual income tax credits for employer-provided child care and allows a taxpayer to claim the nonrefundable child tax credit for child dependents under one year old and up to five years old.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025. This bill has retrospective operation for a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

USBE Contact: None

HB 110 COMBINED BASIC TAX RATE REDUCTION

Sponsors: Rep. Tiara Auxier and Sen. Daniel McCay

Bill Summary: This bill will reduce the statewide basic property tax levy by approximately \$8 million in value per WPU (\$32 million total for fiscal year 2026). This revenue will no longer be added to the Teacher and Student Success Program, but the ongoing funding for that program will be unaffected.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None, reduced statewide basic property tax levy will no longer add \$32 million additional to the Teacher and Student Success Program. Ongoing funding is unaffected.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026

USBE Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov
Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

HB 124 EDUCATION INDUSTRY EMPLOYEE PRIVACY

Sponsors: Rep. Trevor Lee and Sen. Chris Wilson

Bill Summary: This bill restricts LEAs from selling or transferring certain contact information, with some exceptions. It prohibits requiring the use of certain technologies on personal devices and requires LEAs to provide accommodations for mandatory technology use under certain circumstances. It allows an employee to file written complaints with USBE about violations of

this code, permits USBE to investigate complaints and lays out consequences for violations.

USBE Action:

- USBE may not sell or otherwise transfer an employee's work-related contact information to a third party if the sale or transfer is an isolated or standalone transaction.
- USBE may not distribute an employee's work-related contact information in a manner that would interfere with an employee's ability to access or use work-related accounts, contacts, email lists, or other contact information resources necessary to perform the employee's job duties.
- The USBE shall investigate any complaint alleging violations under this code and take licensure or corrective action if USBE determines that action necessary.
- Awareness that an employee may file a written complaint with USBE alleging violations of this code.

LEA Action:

- LEAs may not sell or otherwise transfer an employee's work-related contact information to a third party if the sale or transfer is an isolated or standalone transaction.
- LEAs shall publicly disclose a records request and any fees charged for the information if allowed by law.
- LEAs may not distribute an employee's work-related contact information in a manner that would interfere with an employee's ability to access or use work-related accounts, contacts, email lists, or other contact information resources necessary to perform the employee's job duties.
- LEAs may not require an employee to use required technology on a personal device if the required access would allow for access to data or information outside of the required technology.
- LEAs must provide accommodations for required technology if an employee objects to the terms of that technology.
- LEAs may not take adverse action against an employee for exercising rights under this section and requesting reasonable accommodations.
- Awareness that an employee may file a written complaint with USBE alleging violations of this chapter.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

HB 144 SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTRACTING AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Ariel Defay and Sen. John Johnson

Bill Summary: This bill prohibits a LEA from contracting with the United States Department

of Justice unless the attorney general's office reviews the contract or settlement agreement. It requires the attorney general's office to review each proposed contract or settlement agreement and allows USBE and the attorney general's office to make recommendations regarding the contract or settlement agreement.

USBE Action: USBE may make recommendations regarding the contract or settlement agreements. USBE is not responsible to enforce terms or conditions of any contract or settlement reviewed.

LEA Action: LEAs may not enter into contracts or settlements with the Federal Government without the attorney general's office and USBE's review of the contract or settlement.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: LauraLee Gillespie, Program Support Coordinator, 801-538-7866, lauralee.gillespie@schools.utah.gov

Holly Bell, Education Specialist, 801-538-7828, holly.bell@schools.utah.gov

HB 157 ENERGY EDUCATION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Colin Jack and Sen. Derrin Owens

Bill Summary: This bill requires the Office of Energy Development to develop and maintain energy education programs and curricula for grades K-12 as well as develop and provide professional development training for educators. It establishes the Energy Education and Workforce Development Task Force and outlines the responsibilities and duties of the task force. Requires an annual report to the Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee.

USBE Action: The state superintendent of public instruction, or the superintendent's designee from the State Board of Education elementary science team and the state superintendent of public instruction, or the superintendent's designee from the State Board of Education secondary science team to take part as members of the Energy Education and Workforce Development Advisory Group.

LEA Action: Awareness of optional curriculum creation LEAs may use.

Funding: No new funding

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact:

Milo Maughan, Secondary Science Education Specialist, 801-538-7808, milo.maughan@schools.utah.gov

Michelle Berg, Elementary Science and STEM Specialist, michelle.berg@schools.utah.gov

HB 161 SCHOOL BUS ROUTE AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Ashlee Matthews and Sen. Karen Kwan

Bill Summary: This bill changes student eligibility for school buses by including a student in

grade 6, if grade 6 is in a middle school, who lives at least two miles from their school.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Ron Litchfield, State Student Transportation Specialist, 801-538-7577, ron.litchfield@schools.utah.gov

HB 184 SCHOOL TRUST LAND AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Tracy Miller and Sen. David Hinkins

Bill Summary: This bill clarifies action plans and the implementation of action plans for a school or charter school trust land council. This bill adds a requirement for USBE to train on the Open and Public Meetings Act and expands who receives training. The USBE process for reviewing school compliance with the program is changed and there are some new responsibilities in oversight and transparency for the state superintendent.

USBE Action: USBE will provide annual training opportunities about the responsibilities and formation of a school community council or charter trust council.

The superintendent will calculate and initiate the annual School LAND Trust distribution to schools through USBE financials. The superintendent will ensure the School LAND Trust website provides transparency and accountability to school communities about School LAND Trust plants, reports and expenditures.

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: \$167,100 funded in SB003

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Paula Plant, School Children's Trust Director, 801-538-7555, paula.plant@schools.utah.gov

HB 191 HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Jordan Teuscher and Sen. Lincoln Fillmore

Bill Summary: This bill allows LEAs to award high school student credit for a course completed through the packet method if the packet meets certain requirements. The credit must be replacement credit or original credit, not grade improvement. This bill requires USBE to review and approve packets. USBE will also keep a list of state approved packets on their website. USBE will report about the use of packets in LEAs to the legislature annually.

USBE Action: USBE shall report on students in a LEA who receive academic credit through the packet method to the Education Interim Committee in the legislature. USBE is required to maintain a comprehensive list of USBE approved packets in the Recommended Instructional Materials System on the USBE website.

LEA Action: LEAs will assign a distinct course name and number for credit earned through the packet method to easily identify the use of the packet method on a student transcript. LEAs will also need to track and record the number of packets used to award original credit or replacement credit each school year.

Funding: \$2,200 One-time funded in SB003

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Cathy Gray, Graduation and Concurrent Enrollment Specialist, 801-538-7830, cathy.gray@schools.utah.gov

Teri Davis, Physical Education & Instructional Materials Specialist, 801-538-7655, teri.davis@schools.utah.gov

HB 204 STIPENDS FOR FUTURE EDUCATORS GRANT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Karen Peterson and Sen. Chris Wilson

Bill Summary: This bill provides that a student teacher is eligible for the program if they are working at a LEA in the state and intend to continue to work in the state, regardless of the institution they are enrolled in. This bill limits the availability of program funds if the student teacher receives funding from another state's program. This bill allows a student teacher being compensated for working in an extracurricular activity to still be eligible. This bill requires USBE to report the anticipated program costs annually.

USBE Action: No later than October 15 of each year, USBE will report an estimated cost for each of the one-time stipends for this program to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: \$12,400,000 One-time Funded in SB003

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Malia Hite, Executive Coordinator of Education Licensing, 801-538-7895, malia.hite@schools.utah.gov

Kristin Campbell, Research Consultant III, 801-538-7892, kristin.campbell@schools.utah.gov

Erica Horsley, TSSP / NBPTS / ETHPS Specialist, 801-538-7741, erica.horsley@schools.utah.gov

HB 209 HOMESCHOOL AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Nicholeen Peck and Sen. Daniel McCay

Bill Summary: This bill requires one-time initial notification from parents to withdraw or choose not to enroll a school-age child in public school for the purposes of homeschooling. It removes the requirement for parents to submit an affidavit for students who begin homeschooling at the start of an academic year. This bill removes the requirement for parents to attest to criminal background history and establishes procedures for local school boards to process letters of intent. It removes liability from local school boards after a student disenrolls.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Local school boards may not require notification from parents if they provided notification on or before May 7, 2025 of their intent to homeschool. The local school board will maintain a record of the notification and acknowledge receipt of the notification to the parent within 30 days.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USB Contact: Cassie Hays, Parent Liaison and Engagement Specialist, 801-538-7845, cassie.hays@schools.utah.gov

HB 219 CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING REVISIONS

Sponsors: Rep. Neil Walter and Sen. Lincoln Fillmore

Bill Summary: This bill modifies criteria for qualifying charter schools under the Charter School Credit Enhancement Program. It expands evaluation standards for charter school operating history, specifies financial metrics for program qualification, establishes additional requirements for annual program certification and establishes credit rating-based maintenance fees for participating charter schools. This bill also creates parameters for state appropriation repayment procedures.

USB Action: Awareness

LEA Action: A qualifying charter school that receives money from an appropriation to restore amounts on deposit in a debt service reserve fund to the debt service reserve fund requirement, shall repay the state as the authority shall require, provided that: (i) the repayment schedule is not over five years from the date of the appropriation (ii) the authority shall establish a minimum annual repayment amount (iii) the authority shall provide annual reports to the Legislature on the status of all outstanding repayment obligations.

Funding: \$4,000,000

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USB Contact: Scott Jones, Deputy State Superintendent of Operations, 801-538-7615, scott.jones@schools.utah.gov

HB 228 PUBLIC EDUCATION IMMUNIZATION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Karianne Lisonbee and Sen. Kirk Cullimore

Bill Summary: This bill removes the expiration of a vaccination exemption form. The vaccination exemption form is valid for as long as the student remains enrolled in the public education system and is a part of the student's permanent school record. This requires a school to provide a student's immunization record to a new school when the school transfers a student's school record.

USB Action: Awareness

LEA Action: If submitted, a school must provide the student's vaccination exemption form to another school when a student transfers. LEAs can expect only one vaccination exemption for a student and this exemption will not expire.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

Kendra Muir, School Nursing / Wellness Specialist, 801-538-7904, kendra.muir@schools.utah.gov

HB 233 SCHOOL CURRICULUM AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Nicholeen Peck and Sen. Scott Sandall

Bill Summary: This bill prohibits a local education agency from allowing entities that perform elective abortions to provide health-related instruction or materials in public schools. Entities include an employee, representative or affiliate that performs elective abortions or provides a debranded maturation curriculum.

USBE Action: USBE will create a rule that will impose a monetary penalty on LEAs that violate this section and withhold funds for continued noncompliance.

LEA Action: LEAs cannot allow an entity employee, representative, or affiliate that performs elective abortions or provides debranded maturation curriculum to deliver instruction or provide materials on health topics in schools.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Jodi Parker, Health Education Specialist, 801-538-7734,
jodi.parker@schools.utah.gov

Teri Davis, Physical Education & Instructional Materials Specialist, 801-538-7655,
teri.davis@schools.utah.gov

HB 260 FIRST CREDENTIAL PROGRAM

Sponsors: Rep. Val Peterson and Sen. Ann Millner

Bill Summary: This bill repeals the PRIME program and replaces it to create the First Credential Program. It requires designated pathway development positions to perform certain duties and requires the development of a master plan for scaling credentialing programs. This bill establishes a master credential list of approved industry-recognized credentials, ensures credits are transferable to higher education institutions and technical colleges and provides a scholarship for students who complete the program. It requires annual review and updates based on labor market needs. It provides a grant for implementation and incentives for outcomes. This bill mandates partnerships between schools, employers, and apprenticeship programs. It also promotes stackable credentials that lead to career advancement.

USBE Action: The State Superintendent along with the Commissioner and Governor's office will establish the First Credential Oversight Committee that USBE will staff. USBE will develop an online application system for credential submissions and ensure the credentials review committee reflects diverse expertise. Existing industry-recognized credentials will be automatically included on the initial list and reviewed within a year for compliance. USBE will award a first credential certificate to students who complete approved coursework,

apprenticeships, or credential programs and may administer a first credential grant program for LEAs.

LEA Action: LEAs applying for a first credential grant must submit a needs assessment and a grant application to the First Credential Oversight Committee. The application must include current first credential data, preliminary goals for expanding credential opportunities, and, if applicable, plans for industry certification program licenses. These plans should outline certification details, employer endorsements, assessment procedures, and alignment with the master credential list and existing programs.

Funding: \$2,000,000 one-time funded in HB260 and \$27,800,000 funded in SB003

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact:

Thalea Longhurst, Director of Career and Technical Education, 801-538-7889,
thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov

Lavinia Gripentrog, Secondary Transition Specialist, 801-538-7645,
lavinia.gripentrog@schools.utah.gov

Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent Of Student Learning, 801-538-7811,
darin.nielsen@schools.utah.gov

HB 267 PUBLIC SECTOR LABOR UNION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Jordan Teuscher and Sen. Kirk Cullimore

Bill Summary: This bill requires a labor organization for which a public employer collects union dues to provide an annual accounting to the labor organization members and to the Labor Commission. It prohibits a public employer from recognizing a labor organization as a bargaining agent for public employees or entering into collective bargaining contracts. It also prohibits using public money or public property to assist, promote, or deter union organizing or administration. This bill excludes new labor organization employees from participating in Utah Retirement Systems. It authorizes the state risk manager to acquire and administer professional liability insurance for disputes between K-12 personnel and a public employer and other public employees if needed.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Dakota Cambruzzi, Human Resources Director,
dakota.cambruzzi@schools.utah.gov

HB 268 NONRESIDENT ONLINE SCHOOL AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Tracy Miller and Sen. Lincoln Fillmore

Bill Summary: This bill exempts resident school districts from paying nonresident districts for

students enrolled in an online school.

USB E Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Resident districts do not pay nonresident districts for students who are enrolled in an online school within the nonresident district.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USB E Contact: Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

HB 281 HEALTH CURRICULUM AND PROCEDURES AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Stephanie Gricius and Sen. Kirk Cullimore

Bill Summary: This bill mandates parental consent for telehealth and restricted mental health services in schools, defines these services, and sets provider and notification requirements. It also modifies health instruction, adding curriculum elements.

USB E Action: USB E, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services, will provide guidance on conduct and practices related to restricted services. It will establish health curriculum requirements in accordance with the law, including the addition of the “success sequence,” and recommend instructional materials.

LEA Action: For authorized personnel to provide a restricted service the relevant LEA, school or authorized personnel shall obtain informed written parental consent before the first session of a restricted service in a given school year. Schools shall use a consent form that includes a number of fields listed in the bill including an option to opt out of receiving notifications and an opportunity to identify topics or issues that the parent intends the authorized person to address or not address with the student. Unless a student’s parent opts out of receiving notifications from the authorized personnel, the authorized personnel must provide a notice that the service took place and a description of the topic within one business day. The requirement to obtain prior informed written parental consent does not apply in a case where a delay to contact a parent would create an immediate serious risk of suicide or serious bodily injury.

Funding: None

Effective Date: Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect July 1, 2025. The actions affecting the following sections take effect on July 1, 2026: Section 53G-10-402 (Effective 07/01/26); and Section 53G-10-403 (Effective 07/01/26).

USB E Contact:

Mental Health Therapy: Krisanne Lewis, Student Services Coordinator, 801-538-7882, krisanne.lewis@schools.utah.gov

Health Curriculum: Jodi Parker, Health Education Specialist, 801-538-7734, jodi.parker@schools.utah.gov

HB 308 DRIVING BY MINORS AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Jill Koford and Sen. Wayne Harper

Bill Summary: This bill allows an individual with a learner permit who is younger than 18 years old to drive with an adult other than the parent. The parent must give authorization, the adult sitting next to the minor must be 21 years or older with a driver's license and the parent must not be a licensed driver.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Audra Urie, Driver Education Specialist, 801-538-7648, audra.urie@schools.utah.gov

HB 333 MEDICATIONS IN SCHOOLS AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Jill Koford and Sen. Ann Millner

Bill Summary: This bill updates school emergency medication laws to include epinephrine. Schools must stock at least one accessible "injectable" epinephrine "rescue medication" form of medication for emergencies to be used by qualified adults. Schools may keep injectable epinephrine and provide annual training. It defines and allows student self-administration of epinephrine nasal spray, and permits trained adults to administer both types of epinephrine.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Kendra Muir, School Nursing / Wellness Specialist, 801-538-7904, kendra.muir@schools.utah.gov

HB 344 SCHOOL FEES AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Mark Strong and Sen. Ann Millner

Bill Summary: This bill requires LEAs to ensure that a student has at least one pathway to complete all required courses and credits without paying a fee or using a waiver. It requires LEAs to clearly disclose any fee related to a course or activity in the description within a LEA's registration materials. This bill also prohibits LEAs from charging a student fees for certain non-fee courses, charging a general fee or charging a fee to supplement a fee the LEA is prohibited from charging. LEAs can charge student fees for expenses beyond the common delivery of instruction, fee courses, instructional supplies, extracurricular activities, a discretionary project and more.

USBE Action: If USBE finds a LEA in violation, it may impose corrective action, including requiring

repayment of improper fees, withholding state funds, or suspending the LEA's authority to charge fees.

LEA Action: A LEA may not charge a secondary student a fee for an expense related to a non-fee course, a textbook, school equipment or a common education expense. A LEA may not charge an elementary school student a fee for supplies or activities used during the regular school day. An elementary school teacher may provide a suggested list of supplies, but there must be a notice on that list. LEAs may charge a secondary student a fee for instructional equipment, a school activity trip including related transportation, food, lodging, and admission charges, school activity clothing, a discretionary project or a competency remediation program. LEAs may also charge for an expense related to a course, activity, or program that is a fee course or an expense related to certain post-secondary-related courses.

Funding: None

Effective Date: Except as provided in Subsection (2), May 7, 2025; or if approved by two-thirds of all members elected to each house: upon approval by the governor; without the governor's signature, the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8; or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.

USBE Contact: Scott Crapo, Fiscal Monitor, 801-538-7840, scott.crapo@schools.utah.gov

HB 381 CIVICS EDUCATION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Douglas Welton and Sen. Lincoln Fillmore

Bill Summary: This bill changes the .5 credit US Government and Citizenship graduation requirement class into a 1.0 credit American Constitutional Government and Citizenship Class. This bill extends a deadline for certain instructional materials recommendations. It also removes the civics testing requirement for high school students.

USBE Action: USBE will, in collaboration with the Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative at Utah Valley University, create standards for the American Constitutional Government and Citizenship course.

LEA Action: Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, LEAs must offer instruction to fulfil the American constitutional government and citizenship requirement.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Robert Austin, Humanities Team Coordinator, 801-538-7575, robert.austin@schools.utah.gov

Stephanie Patton, Adult Education Coordinator, 801-538-7989, stephanie.patton@schools.utah.gov

HB 396 SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCALE OF OPERATIONS FORMULA

Sponsors: Rep. Karen Peterson and Sen. David Hinkins

Bill Summary: This bill amends the formula for necessarily existent small schools funding.

USBE Action: USBE will adopt a formula to calculate additional weighted pupil units using a two-factor distribution.

LEA Action: A local school board will use money distributed to effectively operate schools in remote areas with low student populations. If a school district intends to split a school that qualifies as a necessarily existent small school or has these schools within the past five years, they must submit a proposal to USBE for review and approval.

Funding: \$16,322,300 Funded in SB 3

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

HB 402 FOOD ADDITIVES IN SCHOOLS

Sponsors: Rep. Kristen Chevrier and Sen. Heidi Balderree

Bill Summary: This bill prohibits consumable items containing certain food additives from being provided in a public school, with exceptions. These exceptions include: (1) a student's parent may provide students with these food items during the school day, (2) a teacher may provide students with these food items if the teacher gets permission from the students' parents at the start of each school semester (3) a person may sell these food items as concession items at a school sponsored event or extra-curricular activity (4) these food items may be sold in a vending machine. These exceptions do not apply for charter schools or school districts with 5,500 students or less.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, a LEA may not sell, donate, offer, or serve on school grounds during the school day, food that contains: potassium bromate, propylparaben, FD&C Blue No. 1, FD&C Blue No. 2, FD&C Green No. 3, FD&C Red No. 3, FD&C Red No. 40, FD&C Yellow No. 5 and FD&C Yellow No. 6.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Kimberly Loveland, Director of Child Nutrition Programs, 801-538-7513, kimberly.loveland@schools.utah.gov

HB 424 SCHOOL ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY COMMISSION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Nelson Abbott and Sen. Brady Brammer

Bill Summary: This bill amends provisions related to the School Activity Eligibility Commission. It broadens the scope of available appointees to the commission, modifies quorum requirements and establishes that eligibility determinations apply for a given school year. The bill also prohibits public schools from participating in athletic associations that do not provide administrative staff support to the commission. Additionally, it outlines procedures for scheduling commission meetings throughout the school year, including submission deadlines

and provisions for ad-hoc meetings.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: LEAs must verify student eligibility for gender-designated sports based on residency, age, academic standing, and sex as listed on an unamended birth certificate. They must also ensure public schools do not fund or join athletic associations that fail to comply with state eligibility requirements and commission oversight.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Teri Davis, Physical Education & Instructional Materials Specialist, 801-538-7655, teri.davis@schools.utah.gov

HB 428 PROPERTY TAX CHANGES

Sponsors: Rep. Jill Koford and Sen. Stephanie Pitcher

Bill Summary: This bill requires consensus certification of the minimum basic tax rate by the State Tax Commission, the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. It allows the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to cover shortfalls in the basic school program and increases the residential property tax exemption from 45% to 50% of fair market value.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

HB 444 DATA PRIVACY AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Jefferson Moss and Sen. Kirk Cullimore

Bill Summary: This bill modifies the Utah Government Data Privacy Act established in 2024. It clarifies and modifies data privacy responsibilities for governmental agencies, including USBE and LEAs. It requires governmental agencies to initiate data privacy programs, create privacy notices, and report annually to the Office of Data Privacy. This bill also updates the roles and scopes of the State Privacy Auditor and the Chief Privacy Officer.

USBE Action/LEA Action

- Initiate a privacy program by December 31, 2025
- Create privacy annotations
- Designate and report a chief administrative officer

- Create or update website privacy notices
- Update policies and procedures regarding data breach response and privacy notices
- Address non-compliant data practices by July 1, 2027
- Annually submit a privacy program report to the Office of Data Privacy
- Upon request, coordinate with the state privacy auditor to ensure compliance and address any deficiencies in data protection practices

Funding: None

Effective Date: Except as provided in Subsection (2), May 7, 2025; or if approved by two-thirds of all members elected to each house: upon approval by the governor;)without the governor's signature, the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8; or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.

USBE Contact: Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

HB 447 STATEWIDE CATALYST CAMPUS MODEL

Sponsors: Rep. Mike Schultz and Sen. Ann Millner

Bill Summary: This bill establishes the Catalyst Center Grant Program to support LEAs in creating or expanding workforce-aligned programs. It sets requirements for grant applications, encourages collaboration with industry partners and allows catalyst centers to be located on higher education campuses. The bill also introduces requirements for art and fine arts credits in applied crafts and technical arts, outlines funding distribution, and mandates reporting on program outcomes.

USBE Action: USBE shall establish the Catalyst Center Grant Program to provide funding to a LEA to create or expand an existing catalyst center. USBE will develop and execute a marketing and outreach plan for the Catalyst Center Grant Program.

LEA Action: LEAs may apply for the grant and, if awarded, must collaborate with higher education institutions when applicable. They must also submit an annual report to USBE detailing grant fund usage, progress toward goals, industry and education partnerships, alignment with labor market data and student participation and outcomes.

Funding: \$250,000 Ongoing and \$65,000,000 one-time funded in SB003

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact:

Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent Of Student Learning, 801-538-7811, darin.nielsen@schools.utah.gov

Thalea Longhurst, Director of Career and Technical Education, 801-538-7889, thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov

Malia Hite, Executive Coordinator of Education Licensing, 801-538-7895, malia.hite@schools.utah.gov

HB 455 UTAH FITS ALL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Candice Pierucci and Sen. Kirk Cullimore

Bill Summary: This bill modifies the Utah Fits All Scholarship Program in a number of ways. This bill updates residency requirements, defines the role of the program manager, establishes a financial oversight committee and adds audit requirements. The bill allows LEAs to participate as qualified providers and permits the rollover of unused scholarship funds under certain conditions. It creates a restricted account to manage program funds and clarifies the role of the State Tax Commission in income verification. Additionally, the bill sets limits on how scholarship funds can be spent, including caps on certain extracurricular and physical education expenses, and prohibitions on the use of funds for non-educational items.

USBE Action: USBE must oversee the UFA scholarship program by managing contracts, enforcing compliance and ensuring proper fund distribution. This includes appointing a contract administrator, monitoring financial and enrollment compliance and establishing rules and reporting requirements for contract entities. USBE is also responsible for maintaining a public website with program information, ensuring timely fund disbursement, and creating a system to verify student enrollment to prevent duplicate enrollments.

LEA Action: LEAs that act as qualifying providers must ensure a clear separation between scholarship and public education students in their enrollment systems. They must adhere to USBE's reporting processes, verification processes and maintain accurate enrollment records. Additionally, they are responsible for tracking student eligibility, reporting discrepancies, and completing training on proper enrollment procedures.

Funding: \$102,634,700

Effective Date: Except as provided in Subsection (2), May 7, 2025; or if approved by two-thirds of all members elected to each house: upon approval by the governor; without the governor's signature, the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8; or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.

USBE Contact: Scott Jones, Deputy State Superintendent of Operations, 801-538-7615, scott.jones@schools.utah.gov

HB 462 RURAL SCHOOL FUNDING AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Tiara Auxier and Sen. David Hinkins

Bill Summary: This bill establishes the Rural School Sports Facilities Grant Program to fund the construction or refurbishment of sports facilities in rural public schools. LEAs in rural areas can apply for these grants, and USBE is required to report on the program upon request.

USBE Action: USBE will create a process for application, selection and distribution of program funds. Applications will be selected based on the greatest need, the financial feasibility of a project and the potential benefit possible for the community. Upon request, the director shall submit a report on the program to the Education Interim Committee and the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

LEA Action: To be an eligible school for this grant program LEAs must be located in fourth, fifth, or sixth class counties or have fewer than 3,000 students enrolled in the school district. To apply for the grant program, school districts must submit an application with an eligible school identified within the school district, evidence for the need for construction or refurbishment of a sports facility, a description and an estimate of a budget and timeline for completion. While construction is ongoing, a selected school district will submit a report to USBE by the end of each year.

Funding: \$4,390,000 One-time

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

HB 475 PUBLIC FUNDS REPORTING AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Neil Walter and Sen. Evan Vickers

Bill Summary: This bill mandates that the State Auditor annually prepare a report detailing the total balance of cash, cash equivalents, and investments as of the last day of the preceding fiscal year for each entity holding public funds. The report must be publicly accessible on the State Auditor's website.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

HB 477 SCHOOL TRESPASS AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Matt MacPherson and Sen. Heidi Balderree

Bill Summary: This bill modifies provisions related to trespassing on school property by clarifying definitions and establishing penalties for unauthorized entry. It ensures that individuals engaging in public comment on school premises are not considered trespassing. The bill outlines procedures for school authorities to issue trespass notices and provides enforcement guidelines for law enforcement.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Rhett Larsen, School Safety Center Coordinator, 801-538-7997, rhett.larsen@schools.utah.gov

HB 508 SCHOOL DATA AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Matt MacPherson and Sen. Lincoln Fillmore

Bill Summary: This bill establishes the Data Systems and Reporting Advisory Committee to assist USBE in studying student information systems used in LEAs, as well as data collection, retention, and reporting practices within LEAs. The committee will include representatives from school districts, charter schools, USBE, and other relevant stakeholders. USBE, with input from the advisory committee, must submit a report detailing findings, fiscal impacts, and recommendations for potential changes. The Education Interim Committee will review the reports and may propose legislation for the 2026 and 2027 General Session.

USBE Action: USBE will

- Create the Data Systems and Reporting Advisory Committee
- Evaluate student information systems, assessing costs, capabilities, and potential for a statewide system
- Study LEA data practices, including collection, retention, and security
- Review reporting requirements to identify opportunities for streamlining
- Gather input from educators, administrators, and system vendors
- Submit reports with findings and recommendations to the Education Interim Committee by September 15, 2025 and again by September 15, 2026

LEA Action: LEAs may be requested to collaborate by providing data and feedback for these reports.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact:

Jared Felt, Director of Information Technology, 801 538-7759, jared.felt@schools.utah.gov

Aaron Brough, Director of Data and Statistics, 801-538-7922, aaron.brough@schools.utah.gov

Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

HB 545 SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE AGREEMENTS

Sponsors: Rep. Karen Peterson and Sen. Lincoln Fillmore

Bill Summary: This bill mandates that a local school board may not enter into or renew agreements that delegate decision-making or governance authority to private associations or external groups. Additionally, school boards cannot transfer governance authority to school councils or committees, except for school community councils as defined in state law.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

HCR 2 CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DIRECTING PEHP REGARDING PHARMACEUTICAL REBATES

Sponsors: Rep. Norman Thurston and Sen. Wayne Harper

Bill Summary: This resolution directs the Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program to give the estimated value of pharmaceutical rebates to state plan members at the point of sale.

USB E Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: None

USB E Contact: Dakota Cambruzzi, Human Resources Director,
dakota.cambruzzi@schools.utah.gov

2025 Bills Passed

Senate Education Bills

SB 1 PUBLIC EDUCATION BASE BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Heidi Balderree and Rep. Stephen Whyte

Bill Summary: This bill appropriates funds for the support and operation of public education for fiscal year 2026, requires USBE to provide data for budget adjustments by October 15 each year, and requires USBE rulemaking ensuring LEA compliance with providing required information.

USBE Action: USBE will make rules establishing updated requirements for LEAs to provide enrollment counts, educator counts, etc.

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: This bill appropriates \$149,586,000, including \$3,493,700 from the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund for FY 2025, plus \$8,348,513,900, including \$4,999,005,500 from the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund for FY 2026 to the State Board of Education to support the operations of school districts, charter schools, and state education agencies and programs. It adjusts categorical programs in the Minimum School Program for anticipated student enrollment changes. This bill provides a 4.0 percent inflationary adjustment to the WPU Value and sets the initial value for FY 2026 at \$4,674. The bill transfers another \$924,902,500 in FY 2026 from the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund into other funds and accounts.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Scott Jones, Deputy State Superintendent of Operations, 801-538-7615, scott.jones@schools.utah.gov

SB 3 APPROPRIATIONS ADJUSTMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Jerry Stevenson and Rep. Val Peterson

Bill Summary: Provides budget increases and decreases for the use and support of certain public education programs

USBE Action: Distribute funds as appropriated

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: This bill appropriates \$93,036,900, including \$13,151,800 from the General/Income Tax Funds for FY 2025, plus \$287,068,900, including \$29,032,800 from the General/Income Tax Funds for FY 2026. These appropriations support the operations and capital acquisitions of the state government, including expendable funds and accounts. It transfers another \$285,000 in FY 2025 and \$120,948,600 in FY 2026 from the General/Income Tax Funds into other funds and accounts. The bill transfers \$842 million between the General Fund and Income Tax Fund in FY 2026.

Effective Date: May 7, 2025 and for Section 2 July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Scott Jones, Deputy State Superintendent of Operations, 801-538-7615, scott.jones@schools.utah.gov

Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

SB 13 PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Joseph Ellison

Bill Summary: This bill allows certain rental businesses to charge a fee on the rental of heavy equipment for reimbursement of property taxes (recovery fee) and requires recovery fees to be separately itemized. This bill clarifies that recovery fees are not subject to sales and use tax. It also prohibits a rental business from charging a recovery fee to a governmental entity. It requires the State Tax Commission to coordinate with county auditors and the Multicounty Appraisal Trust to conduct a study on the recovery fee rate and provide a report with recommendations to the Legislature. Finally it requires county auditors and the Multicounty Appraisal Trust to share requested information with the State Tax Commission for purposes of conducting the study.**USBE Action:** None

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

USBE Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

SB 17 SERVICES FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

Sponsors: Sen. Ann Millner and Rep. Val Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill establishes enrollment and graduation provisions for K-12 students of Department of Defense civilian employees. Schools must accept unofficial records for enrollment, allow attendance while immunization records transfer, and provide access to extracurricular activities regardless of deadlines. It also requires schools to recognize equivalent coursework for graduation and coordinate with the previous state to issue a diploma if a senior cannot meet Utah's requirements.

USBE Action: None

LEA Action: LEAs must:

- Enroll students based on unofficial records, place them in the same grade level, and allow 30 days for immunizations.
- Match prior coursework, allow additional evaluations, provide services for disabilities, waive prerequisites as needed, and ensure extracurricular access.
- Waive or provide alternatives for graduation requirements, accept exit exams or alternative tests, and for senior transfers, help secure a diploma from their previous school if needed.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Ben Rasmussen, Director of Law and Professional Practices, 801-538-7835, ben.rasmussen@schools.utah.gov

SB 19 UTAH RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AMENDMENTS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Sponsors: Sen. Heidi Balderree and Rep. Val Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill changes retirement plan rules for certain employees under the Utah Retirement Systems. It allows immediate access to employer retirement contributions if an employee or their spouse receives military relocation orders outside Utah. It also changes the vetting options for military members and gives some Utah National Guard personnel the option to opt out of the retirement system, letting them access employer contributions right away.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Dakota Cambruzzi, Human Resources Director, dakota.cambruzzi@schools.utah.gov

SB 21 LONG-TERM DISABILITY AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Wayne Harper and Rep. Cheryl Acton

Bill Summary: This bill revises the definition of objective medical impairment, updates application procedures for long-term disability benefits and clarifies eligibility for mental health-related disabilities until mid-2026. It also adjusts exclusions for monthly benefits and assigns the administration of certain disability benefits for volunteer emergency medical personnel to the Public Employees' Long-Term Disability program.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Dakota Cambruzzi, Human Resources Director, dakota.cambruzzi@schools.utah.gov

SB 22 STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Wayne Harper and Rep. Cheryl Acton

Bill Summary: This bill modifies the definition of gainful employment for the Public Employees' Long-Term Disability Act. It includes pay for time that exceeds an eligible employee's regular schedule in the calculation of their regular monthly salary. Additionally, the bill establishes a death benefit for employees receiving long-term disability benefits and makes life assistance counseling offered by the Utah State Retirement Office available to these employees. The state-paid basic life insurance benefit for exempt state employees is increased, and additional state-paid basic life insurance benefit tiers are created for exempt state employees. The bill also directs savings from a reduction in long-term disability premium rates to be used to pay for the

cost of the changes in this bill.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Dakota Cambruzzi, Human Resources Director, dakota.cambruzzi@schools.utah.gov

SB 29 CHARTER SCHOOL AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Stephanie Gricius

Bill Summary: This bill grants USBE authority to adjust funding for new or expanding charter schools when actual enrollment exceeds initial estimates by at least 10%. To address funding gaps, USBE may reallocate unspent funds from designated programs in a specified priority order. The bill also requires USBE to report these adjustments to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.

USBE Action: USBE must adjust funding for new or expanding charter schools if enrollment is 10% below estimates, using unencumbered funds. USBE will provide temporary funding until final enrollment counts are available and report all funding adjustments to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.

LEA Action: Awareness for charter schools that are expanding.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

Paul Kremer, Utah State Charter School Board Executive Director, 801-538-7958, paul.kremer@schools.utah.gov

SB 35 STATEWIDE ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS

Sponsors: Sen. John Johnson and Rep. Tiara Auxier

Bill Summary: This bill updates the Statewide Online Education Program to support small public high schools with fewer than 1,000 students. It requires USBE to set funding priorities based on school needs, including course availability, geographic isolation and staff capacity. An annual assessment will identify high-need schools, and recipient schools must report on fund usage and student outcomes.

USBE Action: USBE will establish a prioritized funding system for schools unable to offer courses due to enrollment, staffing, geography, or financial constraints. USBE will conduct an annual assessment to identify schools with the greatest need and adjust funding priorities based on outcomes. Upon request, USBE will submit a report to the Education Interim Committee detailing funding distribution, funding justification, student outcomes and recommendations for

improvement.

LEA Action: LEA recipients must report on fund usage, student participation and achievement to demonstrate continued need.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USB E Contact: Quinn Kellis, TSL and Educational Leadership Development Coordinator, 801-538-7785, quinn.kellis@schools.utah.gov

Tami Gear, Student Support Fiscal, Data, and Access Coordinator, 801-538-7724, tami.gear@schools.utah.gov

SB 37 MINIMUM BASIC TAX RATE AMENDMENTS - VETOED

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Val Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill ensures state funding in an amount that covers the total cost of the basic school program for a school district that imposes the combined minimum basic tax rate. It requires school districts that impose the combined minimum basic tax remit to the state the revenue the tax generates. This bill repeals provisions regarding state and local contributions toward the basic school program. **USB E Action:** Internal process changes but no rules needed

LEA Action: Awareness; Requires school districts that impose the combined minimum basic tax to remit to the state the revenue the tax generates.

Funding: Projected increase of \$842 million to the General Fund from the basic tax levy and increased distribution to school districts of \$842 million from the Uniform School Fund

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USB E Contact: Dale Frost, Minimum School Program Administrator, 801-538-7606, dale.frost@schools.utah.gov

SB 39 EDUCATION TESTING AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. John Johnson and Rep. Candice Pierucci

Bill Summary: This bill expands the grade levels required to participate in Utah's standardized assessments for English, mathematics, science and writing. It also removes the mandate to use a different assessment for students in grades 9 and 10.

USB E Action: USB E will extend mathematics, English and science standards assessments to grades 9 and 10 after July 1, 2026.

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: USB E carryforward funds have been reserved for paying for the additional item development. The existing ongoing funding for the grade 9 and 10 assessments are expected to cover the new assessments.

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Cydnee McCarty, Director of Assessment and Accountability, 801-538-7654, cydnee.mccarty@schools.utah.gov

SB 46 YOUTH ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE, MARIJUANA, AND OTHER DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAM SUNSET EXTENSION

Sponsors: Sen. Evan Vickers and Rep. Jennifer Dailey-Provost

Bill Summary: This bill clarifies the scope of the Youth Electronic Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention Program and requires its advisory committee to meet at least quarterly. It establishes a priority order for distributing funds. The bill extends the program and committee's sunset dates. It also allows USBE to reduce funding for positive behavior specialists or plans if funds are insufficient.

USBE Action: USBE will distribute funding as available rather than the \$1,000 per school.

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Clarissa Stebbing, Prevention Specialist, 801-538-7821, clarissa.stebbing@schools.utah.gov

SB 66 SCHOOL PERSONNEL AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Norman Thurston

Bill Summary: This bill amends the definitions of classified school employee and classified employee to "education support professional".

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Malia Hite, Executive Coordinator of Education Licensing, 801-538-7895, malia.hite@schools.utah.gov

SB 95 TRUTH IN TAXATION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Heidi Balderree and Rep. Colin Jack

Bill Summary: This bill addresses the public hearing requirements for increasing the property tax rate. This bill defines "meeting" to align with the definition in the Open and Public Meetings Act and clarifies that a public hearing on increasing the property tax rate above the certified tax rate requires the presence of a quorum of the taxing entity.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025. This bill has retrospective operation to January 1, 2025.

USB E Contact: None

SB 98 PARENTAL EDUCATION ON STUDENT USE OF TECHNOLOGY AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Chris Wilson and Rep. Karen Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill requires USB E to create a short video aimed at educating parents about the safety and legal issues students might face when using technology. The video will cover topics such as sharing personal data on social media and sexual images whether real or artificially produced. USB E will then distribute this video to each school district, which may make it available to parents within their district.

USB E Action: USB E shall develop a brief video presentation.

LEA Action: The school district may provide the video presentation to parents within the school district.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USB E Contact: Cassie Hays, Parent Liaison and Engagement Specialist, 801-538-7845, cassie.hays@schools.utah.gov

Melanie Valentine, Digital Teaching and Learning Specialist, 801-538-7719, melanie.valentine@schools.utah.gov

SB 99 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP SUPPLEMENT AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Karen Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill amends existing timeline and appropriation requirements to the Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement. It requires USB E to obtain and house a web-based application portal.

USB E Action: USB E is required to provide all relevant student achievement data, relevant teacher data and any other relevant data as the Center for the School of the Future at Utah State University determines. USB E is also required to obtain and house a web-based application portal.

LEA Action: Awareness that the data for participating and non-participating LEAs may be shared with the Center for the School of the Future at Utah State University. The definition of LEA is amended to include the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. Participating LEAs shall have 45 days to award program funds to eligible teachers.

Funding: \$600,000 One-time

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USB E Contact: Aaron Brough, Director of Data and Statistics, 801-538-7922, aaron.brough@schools.utah.gov

Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

Michael Iwasaki, Director of Purchasing and Contracts, 801-538-7621, michael.iwasaki@schools.utah.gov

SB 102 PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORTING AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Matt MacPherson

Bill Summary: This bill requires the Education Interim Committee to review specific educational programs every five years.

The programs to be reviewed include:

- Concurrent Enrollment beginning July 1, 2027
- Enhancement for Accelerated Students Program Concurrent Enrollment beginning July 1, 2027
- Funding Student Health and Counseling Support Teacher beginning July 1, 2027
- Student Success Program, Digital Teaching and Learning Grant Program beginning July 1, 2028
- Teacher and Student Success Account beginning July 1, 2028
- Dual Language Immersion beginning July 1, 2029

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBEL Contact: None

Krisanne Lewis, Student Services Coordinator, 801-538-7882, krisanne.lewis@schools.utah.gov

Melanie Valentine, Digital Teaching and Learning Specialist, 801-538-7719, melanie.valentine@schools.utah.gov

Rick Gaisford, Digital Teaching and Learning (DTL) Specialist, 801-538-7798, rick.gaisford@schools.utah.gov

Julie Clark, Literacy and Early Learning Coordinator, 801-538-7661, julie.clark@schools.utah.gov

Krista Hotelling, School Improvement Specialist, 801-538-7932, krista.hotelling@schools.utah.gov

Joanna Sorensen, PreK-6 Social Studies Specialist / Title IV-A Program Specialist, 801-538-7534, joanna.sorensen@schools.utah.gov

Karl Bowman, World Languages & Dual Language Immersion Specialist, 801-538-7743, karl.bowman@schools.utah.gov

SB 105 STUDENT PRIVACY AND MODESTY IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Sponsors: Sen. Jen Plumb and Rep. Ariel Defay

Bill Summary: This bill specifies that students have a reasonable expectation of privacy and modesty in the public education system. It prohibits LEAs from requiring, inviting, or encouraging students to undress or change clothing in the presence of others, including employees.

USBE Action: None

LEA Action: The bill outlines that LEAs are presumed to comply if they provide single-occupant facilities, floor-to-ceiling privacy protections, or curtains in changing facilities.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Holly Bell, Education Specialist, 801-538-7828, holly.bell@schools.utah.gov

Dean Dykstra, School Construction Specialist, 801-538-7939, dean.dykstra@schools.utah.gov

SB 137 COURSE CHOICE EMPOWERMENT

Sponsors: Sen. Kirk Cullimore and Rep. Jefferson Moss

Bill Summary: This bill establishes a private online course choice program with specific standards for educational software and hardware procurement. It creates an online course choice program specifically for private school students. It removes references to a contractor from the Statewide Online Education Program statute. Eligible students can earn credits through online courses, including blended-learning environments.

The bill provides for state oversight while maintaining program independence and includes transition provisions if program manager contracts end. The program requires separate funding from public education programs and mandates the program manager approve and oversee course providers and courses offered. It establishes a payment structure for courses and annual reports on program performance.

USBE Action: The program will be administered by an independent program manager contracted by USBE. The bill also establishes a contract administrator role to oversee program implementation and authorizes USBE to contract with multiple entities for different program functions.

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: Funding reallocated in SB 3 from the Statewide Online Education Program (SOEP) to the Contracted Initiatives and grants line item. Total appropriation \$8,895,800.

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Quinn Kellis, TSL and Educational Leadership Development Coordinator, 801-538-7785, quinn.kellis@schools.utah.gov

Michael Iwasaki, Director of Purchasing and Contracts, 801-538-7621, michael.iwasaki@schools.utah.gov

Cassie Hays, Parent Liaison and Engagement Specialist, 801-538-7845, cassie.hays@schools.utah.gov

SB 142 APP STORE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Sponsors: Sen. Todd Weiler and Rep. James Dunnigan

Bill Summary: This bill introduces regulations for app store operations, focusing on age verification and parental consent. It mandates that app store providers verify users' age categories, obtain parental consent for minor accounts, notify users and parents of significant changes, share age category and consent data with developers, and protect age verification data. The bill prohibits developers and app store providers from enforcing contracts against minors without parental consent and from misrepresenting parental content disclosures.

Developers are required to verify age categories and consent statuses through app stores and notify app stores of significant changes. The bill tasks the Division of Consumer Protection with establishing standards for age verification methods, creates a private right of action for parents of harmed minors, provides a safe harbor for compliant developers and includes a severability clause.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness as this might require parent consent for apps that are provisioned on devices.

Funding: None

Effective Date: Except as provided in Subsections (2) and (3), this bill takes effect May 7, 2025.

(2)The actions affecting the following sections take effect on May 6, 2026:

(a)Section 13-75-201 (Effective 05/06/26); and

(b)Section 13-75-202 (Effective 05/06/26).

(3)The actions affecting Section 13-75-401 (Effective 12/31/26) take effect on December 31, 2026.

USBE Contact: Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

SB 146 GLUCAGON AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Jen Plumb and Rep. Raymond Ward

Bill Summary: This bill amends provisions related to the storage and administration of glucagon kits in public and private schools. The bill allows schools to stock glucagon kits and permits qualified adults to administer them to students experiencing hypoglycemia. It establishes a standing prescription for schools to obtain glucagon kits and exempts certain parties from civil liability when administering or prescribing them. Additionally, the bill mandates training for the use and storage of glucagon kits.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: The bill mandates training for the use and storage of glucagon kits.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Kendra Muir, School Nursing / Wellness Specialist, 801-538-7904, kendra.muir@schools.utah.gov

SB 170 SCHOOL DISCIPLINE AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Luz Escamilla and Rep. Ryan Wilcox

Bill Summary: This bill outlines the appropriate use of emergency safety interventions in schools, such as seclusion and physical restraint, when a student poses an immediate danger to themselves or others. The bill mandates that school employees use the least restrictive interventions first and establishes guidelines for emergency safety interventions. The bill prohibits corporal punishment and requires reporting and investigation of any complaints related to it. It also specifies the circumstances under which physical restraint can be used, such as self-defense or protecting others from harm.

The bill also includes provisions for parental notification, data collection, and reporting on incidents involving emergency safety interventions. Violations of the standards established by USBE are considered unlawful detention and may result in referrals to local law enforcement and the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission.

USBE Action: This bill requires USBE to establish administrative rules for physical intervention in schools and create a reporting tool to gather emergency safety intervention reports.

LEA Action: The bill mandates that school employees use the least restrictive interventions first and establishes guidelines and best practices for emergency safety interventions. Schools must take prompt action upon confirming violations and provide training to staff. LEAs must file reports when emergency safety interventions are used.

Funding: \$39,800 ongoing funded in SB003

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Krisanne Lewis, Student Services Coordinator, 801-538-7882, krisanne.lewis@schools.utah.gov

Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

Aaron Brough, Director of Data and Statistics, 801-538-7922, aaron.brough@schools.utah.gov

SB 178 DEVICES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Douglas Welton

Bill Summary: This bill establishes a prohibition on the use of cellphones, smart watches, and emerging technologies by students during classroom hours. The bill requires LEAs to create policies allowing the use of these devices in specific situations, such as responding to health or safety threats, school-wide emergencies, using the SafeUT Crisis Line, for Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or Section 504 accommodation plans and addressing medical necessities. LEAs may also extend restrictions to non-classroom hours and impose additional limitations.

USBE Action: USBE is authorized to create model policies for device use during classroom hours.

LEA Action: The bill requires LEAs to create policies allowing the use of these devices in specific situations.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBE Contact: Jennifer Wadsworth, Policy Advisor, 801-538-7521, jennifer.wadsworth@schools.utah.gov

SB 188 SCHOOL DISTRICT MODIFICATIONS

Sponsors: Sen. Keith Grover and Rep. Stephanie Gricius

Bill Summary: This bill outlines the creation of new school districts and the transition process into new school districts after division. It sets dates for redistricting local school board districts after the creation of new school districts. The bill amends the duties of the Office of the Legislative Auditor General to include receiving and providing information during the transition process. It extends the rights of transferred employees regarding salary and benefits by an additional year.

This bill reduces the body of voters required to approve the creation of a new school district to voters within the proposed new district and lowers the threshold for interlocal participants to propose a new school district to a majority of municipalities in the interlocal agreement. It amends certain dates related to election cycles and deadlines for municipal legislative bodies, county legislative bodies, local school boards, and other entities after the creation of a new school district.

USBE/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect on May 7, 2025; or (2) if approved by two-thirds of all members elected to each house: (a) upon approval by the governor; (b) without the governor's signature, the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8; or (c) in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.

Section 15. Retrospective operation.

Section 53G-3-302 (Effective upon governor's approval) (Applies beginning 11/04/24) has retrospective operation to November 4, 2024.

USBE Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

SB 198 FEDERAL GUIDANCE LETTER AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Keven Stratton and Rep. Casey Snider

Bill Summary: This bill mandates that state agencies publish and report federal guidance letters. State agencies must publish federal guidance letters on their public websites and the Utah Open Data Portal. They must also transmit copies to the Legislative Management Committee and the chairs of the Legislature's Federalism Commission within 15 days of receipt. If a federal guidance letter is rescinded, the state agency must publish the rescission notice and a disclaimer on the same websites and transmit the notice to the same entities within 15

days. The bill ensures that published information is permanently available, user-friendly, and accessible from the main page of the state agency's website.

USBE Action: USBE will publish federal guidance letters on their website and rescission notice when applicable.

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Max Lang, ESSA and Related State Initiatives Coordinator, 801-538-7725 max.lang@schools.utah.gov

LauraLee Gillespie, Program Support Coordinator, 801-538-7866, lauralee.gillespie@schools.utah.gov

Ryan Bartlett, Director of Strategic Communications, 801-538-7994, ryan.bartlett@schools.utah.gov

SB 202 PROPERTY TAX REVISIONS

Sponsors: Sen. Chris Wilson and Rep. Steve Eliason

Bill Summary: This bill modifies provisions in the Property Tax Act, including repealing newspaper publication requirements for certain property tax increases.

USBE Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025; Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect for a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2026.

USBE Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

SB 223 PUBLIC EDUCATION BULLYING AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Michael McKell and Rep. Karen Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill amends the definition of "bullying" to mean student bullying or staff bullying. It then defines "staff bullying" and "student bullying".

USBE/ LEA Action: Awareness of the addition of staff to the definition of bullying and the new student bullying definitions. Policies may need to be updated to reflect the bill.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBE Contact: Becca Rae, Prevention Specialist, 801-538-7667, becca.rae@schools.utah.gov

Willie Chen, School Safety Data Analyst, 385-295-7919, willie.chen@schools.utah.gov

Katy Challis, Director of Privacy, 801-538-7894, katy.challis@schools.utah.gov

SB 242 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT AND INSURANCE PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS

Sponsors: Sen. Calvin Musselman and Rep. Stephanie Gricius

Bill Summary: This bill provides coverage under the Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program for qualified assisted reproductive technology.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBEL Contact: Dakota Cambruzzi, Human Resources Director, dakota.cambruzzi@schools.utah.gov

SB 249 STUDENT INTEGRATION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Kirk Cullimore and Rep. Calvin Roberts

Bill Summary: This bill clarifies that LEAs are not required to integrate a student who has committed or alleged to have committed a forcible felony. If the student is not integrated, LEAs must provide alternative education options.

USBEL Action: Awareness

LEA Action: LEAs may elect not to integrate a student who has committed or allegedly committed a forcible felony. If not integrated the LEA must provide alternative education options for the student.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBEL Contact: David Sollami, Youth in Custody Specialist, 801-538-7727, david.sollami@schools.utah.gov

SB 254 STATE GRANT REVISIONS

Sponsors: Sen. Luz Escamilla and Rep. Melissa Ballard

Bill Summary: This bill requires that an appropriation for a direct award grant include the grant's disbursement schedule, deliverables, reporting requirements, and performance metrics.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBEL Contact: Rebecca Nielsen, Grants Manager, 801-538-7666, rebecca.nielsen@schools.utah.gov

SB 265 UTAH CONSTITUTIONAL SOVEREIGNTY ACT AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Scott Sandall and Rep. Ken Ivory

Bill Summary: This bill expands the definition of “government officer” under the Utah Constitutional Sovereignty Act (Sovereignty Act) to include employees of public school districts and institutions of higher education. It replaces a concurrent resolution with legislation as the format for legislative action under the Sovereignty Act. It modifies the time at which notice is provided to tribal governments regarding legislative action and addresses requirements for amending or repealing legislation passed under the Sovereignty Act.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBEL Contact: Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent of Policy, 801-538-7656, elisse.newey@schools.utah.gov

SB 277 GOVERNMENT RECORDS MANAGEMENT AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Michael McKell and Rep. Jefferson Moss

Bill Summary: This bill creates the Government Records Office within the Division of Archives and Records Service, and replaces the State Records Committee with the director of the office. It also outlines the duties and responsibilities of the director.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness as this may make the GRAMA appeal process more difficult.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USBEL Contact: Ben Rasmussen, Director of Law and Professional Practices, 801-538-7835, ben.rasmussen@schools.utah.gov

SB 279 HIGH SCHOOL RODEO AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Michael McKell and Rep. John Hawkins

Bill Summary: This bill amends the definition of “valid excuse” to include a student that competes in a sanctioned rodeo.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness that students participating in sanctioned rodeo events are to be marked with a valid excuse not absent.

Funding: None

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

USBEL Contact: Teri Davis, Physical Education & Instructional Materials Specialist, 801-538-7655, teri.davis@schools.utah.gov

Garrett Russell, Attendance Specialist, 385-295-7923, garrett.russell@schools.utah.gov

SB 295 PROPERTY TAX MODIFICATIONS

Sponsors: Sen. Daniel McCay and Rep. Steve Eliason

Bill Summary: This bill allows a taxing entity that reduces the taxing entity's budget below the previous year's budgeted revenue to increase, for a period of five years, the budget up to the base year budget without complying with the truth in taxation notice and public hearing requirements.

USB E Action: Awareness

LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025. The actions affecting Section 59-2-1602 (Effective 01/01/26) take effect on January 1, 2026.

USB E Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

SB 323 ASSET AND INVESTMENT REVIEW TASK FORCE

Sponsors: Sen. Keven Stratton and Rep. Val Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill creates the Asset and Investment Review Task Force. It allows the task force to contract with a qualified person to study cash, cash equivalents, and investments held by government entities and analyze investment options for those public funds.

USB E/LEA Action: Awareness that the task force will be, at minimum, reviewing all government entities holding a total of \$1 million or more in cash and cash equivalents.

Funding: None

Effective Date: May 7, 2025

USB E Contact: Sam Urie, School Finance Director, 801-538-7545, sam.urie@schools.utah.gov

SB 327 PUBLIC SECTOR LABOR ORGANIZATION AMENDMENTS

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Karen Peterson

Bill Summary: This bill defines terms related to public sector labor organizations and provides that private employees have a right to collectively bargain with their employers.

USB E/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect on the same date as H.B. 267, Public Sector Labor Union Amendments.

If H.B. 267, Public Sector Labor Union Amendments, does not go into effect, S.B. 327, Public Sector Labor Organization Amendments, does not go into effect.

USB E Contact: Dakota Cambruzzi, Human Resources Director, dakota.cambruzzi@schools.utah.gov

SB 330 COSMETOLOGY MODIFICATIONS

Sponsors: Sen. Scott Sandall and Rep. Cory Maloy

Bill Summary: This bill creates a scope of practice for professionals regulated by the Cosmetology and Associated Professions Licensing Act. It restructures the existing Cosmetology and Associated Professions Licensing Board and restructures the license classifications and qualifications for licensure. It establishes standards for apprenticeships for professionals and addresses unprofessional conduct. It also allows a school to receive curriculum approval from the Division of Professional Licensing.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness for Career and Technical Education programs

Funding: None

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

USBEL Contact: Thalea Longhurst, Director of Career and Technical Education, 801-538-7889, thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov

SCR 2 CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING PRACTICES THAT PROMOTE CHILD INDEPENDENCE

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Fillmore and Rep. Troy Shelley

Bill Summary: This resolution highlights the importance of free play and child independence, supporting children engaging in independent activities. It encourages school districts, school administrators, and teachers to utilize the Let Grow school program to help build independence. It encourages USBEL to incorporate childhood independence throughout the core standards for Utah public schools. This resolution urges local governments and school districts to enact practices that encourage children to be able to explore, play, wander, and build independence.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: None

USBEL Contact: Todd Call, Interim Director of Teaching & Learning / Strategic Initiatives, 801-538-7715, todd.call@schools.utah.gov

Kim Fratto, Special Education Programs Director, 801-538-7716, kim.fratto@schools.utah.gov

SJR 2 PROPOSAL TO AMEND UTAH CONSTITUTION - STATEWIDE INITIATIVES

Sponsors: Sen. Lincoln Filmore and Rep. Jason Kyle

Bill Summary: This resolution amends the Utah Constitution to require 60% of voters in order to approve a statewide initiative that proposes to impose a new tax, to increase the rate of an existing tax or increase the amount of revenue collected.

USBEL/LEA Action: Awareness

Funding: None

Effective Date: None

USBEL Contact: Debbie Davis, Chief Audit Executive, 801-538-7639, debbie.davis@schools.utah.gov

2025 Bills Not Passed

House and Senate Education Bills

Bill	Title	Sponsor
HB 30	Indian Family Preservation Act Amendments	Rep. Angela Romero
HB 52	Health Insurance Modifications	Rep. Candice B. Pierucci
HB 102	Class Size Reduction Amendments	Rep. Carol S. Moss
HB 120	Time Change Amendments	Rep. Joseph Elison
HB 121	Health Education Amendments	Rep. Carol S. Moss
HB 156	Education Board Amendments	Rep. Norman K. Thurston
HB 168	AI in Education	Rep. Ariel Defay
HB 169	State Board of Education Amendments	Rep. Douglas R. Welton
HB 172	Unpaid Wage Amendments	Rep. Jefferson S. Burton
HB 178	Noncitizen Health Insurance Policies Amendments	Rep. R. Neil Walter
HB 179	Social Security Tax Modifications	Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
HB 180	Employee Compensation Amendments	Rep. Gay Lynn Bennion
HB 181	School Week Schedule Amendments	Rep. Christine. F. Watkins
HB 186	Wage Payment Amendments	Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
HB 189	Public Education Course Grade Requirements	Rep. Ariel Defay
HB 192	Public Education Scholarship Program Use Amendments	Rep. Jennifer Dailey-Provost
HB 193	Ballot Signature Amendments	Rep. Raymond P. Ward
HB 206	Chronic Absenteeism Pilot Program	Rep. Sahara Hayes
HB 215	Office of Legislative Auditor General Provisions	Rep. Jefferson S. Burton
HB 218	Charter School Funding Amendments	Rep. R. Neil Walter
HB 225	School Zone Speeding Amendments	Rep. Carol S. Moss
HB 231	Primary Election Amendments	Rep. Jordan D. Teuscher
HB 247	School Swimming and Lifeguarding Programs	Rep. Melissa G. Ballard
HB 250	Public Employee Gender-specific Language Requirements	Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck
HB 271	Meeting or Procession Disruption Amendments	Rep. Matt MacPherson
HB 280	School District Administrator Authority	Rep. Candice B. Pierucci
HB 299	Election Code Time Computation Revisions	Rep. Michael J. Petersen
HB 303	Public School Directory Sharing Amendments	Rep. Cheryl K. Acton
HB 325	Parent Access to Learning Materials Pilot Program	Rep. Tracy Miller
HB 331	Olympics Amendments	Rep. Jon Hawkins
HB 349	Organ Donation Amendments	Rep. Doug Owens
HB 359	Juvenile Justice Amendments	Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck
HB 364	Governmental Immunity Amendments	Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
HB 371	Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program	Rep. Katy Hall
HB 395	LEA Reporting Requirements	Rep. Douglas R. Welton
HB 397	School Fee Waiver Amendments	Rep. Douglas R. Welton

Bill	Title	Sponsor
HB 399	School Attendance Amendments	Rep. Andrew Stoddard
HB 408	School Board Referendum Amendments	Rep. Rex Shipp
HB 432	Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Modifications	Rep. Matt MacPherson
HB 453	State School Board Transparency Amendments	Rep. Walt Brooks
HB 473	School Digital Materials Amendments	Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck
HB 484	State Purchasing Reserve Funding	Rep. Ken Ivory
HB 486	Number of School Days Amendments	Rep. Jordan D. Teuscher
HB 487	Women Veterans Day Observance	Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck
HB 515	School Lunch Debt Funding	Rep. Jennifer Dailey-Provost
HB 526	Government Records Access and Management Amendments	Rep. Matt MacPherson
HB 527	Federal Requirements Reporting	Rep. Nelson T. Abbott
HB 529	School Health Amendments	Rep. Mark A. Strong
HB 544	Worker Protection Modifications	Rep. Tyler Clancy
HB 549	Antidiscrimination Amendments	Rep. Ken Ivory
HB 553	State Grant Process Amendments	Rep. Val L. Peterson
HB 556	Public Contracts Labor Amendments	Rep. Doug Owens
HB 560	School Safety Foundation	Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox
HB 564	Health Insurance Prosthetic Amendments	Rep. Doug Owens
HB 566	Sex Education Instruction Amendments	Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck
HB 568	Half-day Kindergarten Amendments	Rep. Candice B. Pierucci
HCR 15	Concurrent Resolution Regarding Religious Freedom	Rep. Michael J. Peterson
HJR 7	Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Property Tax	Rep. Jill Koford
HJR 8	Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Right to Work	Rep. Jordan D. Teuscher
HJR 11	Joint Resolution on the Foundation for a Strong Utah Future	Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck
SB 20	Utah Retirement Systems Amendments	Sen. Wayne A. Harper
SB 32	Class Size Reduction Modifications	Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
SB 72	Family Leave Requirements Amendments	Sen. Nate Blouin
SB 75	Family Stabilization Amendments	Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
SB 85	Income Tax Rate Amendments	Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
SB 88	School Funding for Veterans Day Commemorations	Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
SB 93	Juvenile Justice Career Training Amendments	Sen. Derrin R. Owens
SB 107	Education Scholarship Amendments	Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
SB 111	Public Education Governance Amendments	Sen. Ann Millner
SB 116	Income Tax Modifications	Sen. Daniel McCay
SB 122	Sales Tax on Food Amendments	Sen. Nate Blouin

Bill	Title	Sponsor
SB 124	Landscaping Procurement Amendments	Sen. Stephanie Pitcher
SB 135	Educational Medical Services Amendments	Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe
SB 141	Office of Student Health Affairs	Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe
SB 156	Pari-mutuel Horse Racing	Sen. David P. Hinkins
SB 163	Government Records Amendments	Sen. Wayne A. Harper
SB 168	Public Employee Negotiation Amendments	Sen. David P. Hinkins
SB 173	School Meal Amendments	Sen. Luz Escamilla
SB 205	Student Privacy Amendments	Sen. Jen Plumb
SB 214	Health Insurance Coverage Amendments	Sen. Karen Kwan
SB 224	Property Tax Relief Modifications	Sen. Wayne A. Harper
SB 225	Government Records Access and Management Act Amendments	Sen. Keith Grover
SB 232	School District Seismic Safety and Maintenance	Sen. Keith Grover
SB 244	Modifications to Income Tax	Sen. Nate Blouin
SB 258	Inmate Education Funding Amendments	Sen. Michael K. McKell
SB 267	Charter School Authorizer Amendments	Sen. John D. Johnson
SB 281	Corporal Punishment in Schools Amendments	Sen. Keith Grover
SB 288	Employment Investigation Records Amendments	Sen. Stephanie Pitcher
SB 305	Water Wise Landscaping Amendments	Sen. Keven J. Stratton
SB 307	Education Legislative Committee Amendments	Sen. Keven J. Stratton
SB 308	Dual Language Immersion Amendments	Sen. Daniel McCay
SB 321	Public Education Funding Amendments	Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
SB 337	Land Use and Development Amendments	Sen. Kirk A. Cullimore
SB 339	School Bus Modifications	Sen. Nate Blouin
SB 342	Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind Facilities Amendments	Sen. Stephanie Pitcher

A Note From our Board

Another year has passed, and another round of applause is extended to those who have supported educational progress during the 2025 legislative session. The Utah State Board of Education would like to express heartfelt gratitude to those who have made this session a success. We recognize the tireless effort, late nights, phone calls, and endless meetings that helped turn ideas into reality. It is this effort that has been critical to passing 80 new education bills and securing \$8.65 billion in K-12 education funding.

We look forward to the implementation and subsequent benefits to students and teachers throughout the state.

As always, it is USBE's goal to serve our students, teachers, and school support staff. We hope that this legislation will improve the experience of those attending and working in our schools. We appreciate the cooperation and dedication of USBE staff, LEAs, legislators, and all our education partners here in Utah.

Thank you.

