

School Fees

2021 November Newsletter



Reminder - Fee Schedules:

Many LEAs are beginning to compile their fee schedules for the 2022-2023 school year. In preparation, the following requirements come into effect for next school year:

- ▶ Any fee charged must be equal to or less than the expense incurred by the LEA. (Utah Code Annotated (UCA) 53G-7-503(3)(a))
- ▶ An LEA may not impose an additional fee or increase a fee to supplant or subsidize another fee. (UCA 53G-7-503(3)(b))
- ▶ No fees can be charged for textbooks. (UCA 53G-7-602(3), Utah Administrative Code (UAC) R277-407-12)

In addition, consider the following current requirements:

- If a student is responsible for multiple fees related to one activity, class, or program, the fee schedule shall include a clear and easy to understand delineation of each fee and the fee total. Parents should be able to match their invoice receipts to the amounts charged on the fee schedule. (UCA 53G-7-505(3)(a))
- If an LEA has an LEA wide fee schedule and separate fee schedules for each school, all fee schedules must be included and approved by the LEA governing board each year. (UCA 53G-7-505(1))
- Two public meetings must be held prior to the LEA governing board approval of the fee schedule by April 1st. In addition to providing public notice as per the Open and Public Meetings Act, the LEA shall notify parents of the two public meetings through normal communication channels including notice by email, text, flyer, or phone call. (UAC R277-407-6(2))
- Annual student maximums must include fundraising. (UAC R277-407-6(4))
- The fee schedule and fee waiver policies must be available on each of the LEA's schools' publicly available websites. (UCA 53G-7-505(3)(b), UAC R277-407-6(7)(a))

Website Updates:

Updated Documents:

- ▶ **USBE School Fees Model Policy**

New Documents:

- ▶ **Fee Waiver Eligibility: Sharing Eligibility Information** - provides guidance when sharing eligibility information between the Child and Nutrition Program and Fee Waivers.
- ▶ **Fundraisers** - provides guidance on fundraising practices, policies, and requirements.

Trainings:

- ▶ **2021 Fall Training** - Video and PDF

Upcoming:

November:

- ▶ Report SY2020-21 Statistical Data to the Legislative Education Interim Committee per UCA 53G-7-503(5)(b).

January:

- ▶ Annual School Fees reports provided to each LEA.

April:

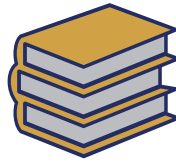
- ▶ Fee Schedule Approval deadline: April 1st.



Training Focus:

UCA 53G-7-601(5):

- (a) "**Textbook**" means instructional material necessary for participation in an activity, course, or program, regardless of the format of the material.
- (b) "Textbook" includes:
 - (i) a hardcopy book or printed pages of instructional material, including a consumable workbook; or
 - (ii) computer hardware, software, or digital content.
- (c) "Textbook" does not include instructional equipment or instructional supplies.



UCA 53G-7-601(3):

- (a) "**Instructional supply**" means a consumable or non-reusable supply that is necessary for a student to use as part of an activity, course, or program in a secondary school.
- (b) "Instructional supply" includes:
 - (i) prescriptive footwear;
 - (ii) brushes or other art supplies, including clay, paint, or art canvas;
 - (iii) wood for wood shop;
 - (iv) Legos for Lego robotics;
 - (v) film; or
 - (vi) filament used for 3D printing.

UCA 53G-7-601(2):

- (a) "**Instructional equipment**" means an activity-related, course-related, or program-related tool or instrument that:
 - (i) is required for a student to use as part of an activity, course, or program in a secondary school;
 - (ii) typically becomes the property of the student upon exiting the activity, course, or program; and
 - (iii) is subject to a fee waiver.
- (b) "Instructional equipment" includes:
 - (i) shears or styling tools;
 - (ii) a band instrument;
 - (iii) a camera;
 - (iv) a stethoscope; or
 - (v) sports equipment, including a bat, mitt, or tennis racquet.

UCA 53G-7-601(4):

- (a) "**School equipment**" means a durable school-owned machine, equipment, or tool used by a student as part of an activity, course, or program in a secondary school.
- (b) "School equipment" includes a saw or 3D printer.



School Fees Team:

Thank you to all those who submitted the Certificate of Compliance prior to the Oct. 31st deadline. We will be reviewing the data and will send out the LEA School Fees reports prior to the end of January.

The beginning of the school year brought an increase in parent complaints. We appreciate the efforts of LEAs in working with us and parents in resolving concerns.

Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns at: schoolfees@schools.utah.gov