

GRANTS FOR ONLINE TESTING

2012 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Aaron Osmond

House Sponsor: Bill Wright

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill provides for grants to school districts and charter schools to implement online testing systems.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ provides for grants to school districts and charter schools to implement a uniform online summative test system, an online adaptive test system, or both; and
- ▶ requires a grant recipient to:
 - implement, by the 2014-15 school year, an online adaptive test system that meets technology standards established by the State Board of Education and is aligned with the common core; and
 - provide matching funds to implement a uniform online summative test system, an online adaptive test system, or both in an amount that is greater than or equal to the grant received.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates:

- ▶ to the State Board of Education - Utah State Office of Education - Initiative Programs, as an ongoing appropriation for fiscal year 2012-13:
 - \$5,000,000 from the Education Fund; and
- ▶ to the State Board of Education - Utah State Office of Education - Initiative



28 Programs, as a one-time appropriation for fiscal year 2012-13:

- 29 • \$15,000,000 from the Education Fund.

30 **Other Special Clauses:**

31 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2012.

32 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

33 AMENDS:

34 **53A-1-708**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapters 342 and 359

36 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

37 Section 1. Section **53A-1-708** is amended to read:

38 **53A-1-708. Grants for online delivery of U-PASS tests.**

39 (1) As used in this section:

40 (a) "Adaptive tests" means tests administered during the school year using an online
41 adaptive test system.

42 (b) "Common core" means a core set of English language arts and mathematics
43 standards developed by states and adopted by the State Board of Education that define the
44 knowledge and skills students should have in kindergarten through grade 12 to enable them to
45 be prepared for college or workforce training.

46 [~~(a)~~] (c) "Summative tests" means tests administered near the end of a course to assess
47 overall achievement of course goals.

48 [~~(b)~~] (d) "Uniform online summative test system" means a single system for the online
49 delivery of summative tests required under U-PASS that:

- 50 (i) is coordinated by the Utah State Office of Education;
- 51 (ii) ensures the reliability and security of U-PASS tests; and
- 52 (iii) is selected through collaboration between Utah State Office of Education and
- 53 school district representatives with expertise in technology, assessment, and administration.

54 [~~(c)~~] (e) "U-PASS" means the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students.

55 (2) The State Board of Education may award grants to school districts and charter
56 schools to implement one or both of the following:

57 (a) a uniform online summative test system to enable parents of students and school
58 staff to review U-PASS test scores by the end of the school year[-]; or

59 (b) an online adaptive test system to enable parents of students and school staff to
 60 measure and monitor a student's academic progress during a school year.

61 (3) (a) Grant money may be used to pay for any of the following, provided it is directly
 62 related to implementing a uniform online summative test system, an online adaptive test
 63 system, or both:

64 (i) computer equipment and peripherals, including electronic data capture devices
 65 designed for electronic test administration and scoring;

66 (ii) software;

67 (iii) networking equipment;

68 (iv) upgrades of existing equipment or software;

69 (v) upgrades of existing physical plant facilities;

70 (vi) personnel to provide technical support or coordination and management; and

71 (vii) teacher professional development.

72 (b) Equipment purchased in compliance with Subsection (3)(a), when not in use for the
 73 online delivery of summative tests or adaptive tests required under U-PASS may be used for
 74 other purposes.

75 ~~[(4) The State Board of Education may award grants only to school districts and charter~~
 76 ~~schools that intend to implement a uniform online summative test system.]~~

77 ~~[(5)]~~ (4) The State Board of Education shall make rules:

78 (a) establishing procedures for applying for and awarding grants;

79 (b) specifying how grant money shall be allocated among school districts and charter
 80 schools ~~[that qualify to receive grants under Subsection (4); and];~~

81 (c) requiring reporting of grant money expenditures and evidence showing that the
 82 grant money has been used to implement a uniform online summative test system~~[-]~~, an online
 83 adaptive test system, or both;

84 (d) establishing technology standards for an online adaptive testing system;

85 (e) requiring a school district or charter school that receives a grant under this section
 86 to implement an online adaptive test system by the 2014-15 school year that:

87 (i) meets the technology standards established under Subsection (4)(d); and

88 (ii) is aligned with the common core; and

89 (f) requiring a school district or charter school to provide matching funds to implement

90 a uniform online summative test system, an online adaptive test system, or both in an amount
91 that is greater than or equal to the amount of a grant received under this section.

92 [~~6~~] (5) If a school district or charter school uses grant money for purposes other than
93 those stated in Subsection (3), the school district or charter school is liable for reimbursing the
94 State Board of Education in the amount of the grant money improperly used.

95 Section 2. **Appropriation.**

96 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the
97 following sums of money are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated out of the
98 funds or accounts indicated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending June 30,
99 2013. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2012-13.

100 To the State Board of Education - Utah State Office of Education - Initiative Programs

101 From Education Fund \$5,000,000

102 From Education Fund, One-time \$15,000,000

103 Schedule of Programs:

104 Contracts and Grants \$20,000,000

105 The Legislature intends that the State Board of Education allocate the \$20,000,000
106 appropriated for Contracts and Grants to award grants to school districts and charter schools to
107 implement a uniform online summative test system, an online adaptive test system, or both
108 pursuant to Section 53A-1-708.

109 Section 3. **Effective date.**

110 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2012.

Legislative Review Note
as of 12-7-11 10:04 AM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel