

**EDUCATION AMENDMENTS**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Kathleen Riebe**

House Sponsor: Andrew Stoddard

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions regarding requirements on the Utah State Board of Education and programs that the Utah State Board of Education administers.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ removes language requiring a teacher to submit an annual application for a salary supplement;
- ▶ removes a requirement in the Educational Improvement Opportunities Outside of the Regular School Day Grant Program that matching funds be private;
- ▶ amends a definition regarding a waiver of immunity related to sexual battery and sexual assault against a student under certain conditions; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53E-4-401**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

**53F-2-504**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 134, 186, and 283

29 **53F-5-210**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 186

30 **63G-7-301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 229 and 248

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

33 Section 1. Section **53E-4-401** is amended to read:

34 **53E-4-401. Definitions.**

35 As used in this part, "instructional materials" means textbooks or materials used as, or  
36 in place of, textbooks and which may be used within the state curriculum framework for  
37 courses of study by students in public schools [~~to include~~], including:

- 38 (1) textbooks;
- 39 (2) workbooks;
- 40 (3) computer software;
- 41 (4) [~~laser discs or videodiscs~~] online or Internet courses; and
- 42 (5) [~~multiple forms of communications~~] audio and video media.

43 Section 2. Section **53F-2-504** is amended to read:

44 **53F-2-504. Teacher Salary Supplement Program.**

- 45 (1) As used in this section:
  - 46 (a) "Eligible teacher" means a teacher who:
    - 47 (i) has a qualifying educational background or qualifying teaching background;
    - 48 (ii) has a supplement-approved assignment that corresponds to the teacher's qualifying  
49 educational background or qualifying teaching background;
    - 50 (iii) qualifies for the teacher's supplement-approved assignment in accordance with  
51 state board rule; and
    - 52 (iv) is a new employee or received at least a satisfactory rating on the teacher's most  
53 recent evaluation.
  - 54 (b) "Field of computer science" means:
    - 55 (i) computer science; or

- 56 (ii) computer information technology.
- 57 (c) "Field of science" means:
- 58 (i) integrated science;
- 59 (ii) chemistry;
- 60 (iii) physics;
- 61 (iv) physical science; or
- 62 (v) general science.
- 63 (d) "License" means the same as that term is defined in Section [53E-6-102](#).
- 64 (e) "Qualifying educational background" means:
- 65 (i) for a teacher who is assigned a secondary school level mathematics course:
- 66 (A) a bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree in mathematics; or
- 67 (B) a bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree that has course
- 68 requirements that are substantially equivalent to the course requirements for a bachelor's degree
- 69 major, master's degree, or doctoral degree in mathematics;
- 70 (ii) for a teacher who is assigned a grade 7 or 8 integrated science course, chemistry
- 71 course, or physics course:
- 72 (A) a bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree in a field of science;
- 73 or
- 74 (B) a bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree that has course
- 75 requirements that are substantially equivalent to the course requirements of those required for a
- 76 bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree in a field of science;
- 77 (iii) for a teacher who is assigned a computer science course:
- 78 (A) a bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree in a field of
- 79 computer science; or
- 80 (B) a bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree that has course
- 81 requirements that are substantially equivalent to the course requirements of those required for a
- 82 bachelor's degree major, master's degree, or doctoral degree in a field of computer science; or

83 (iv) for a teacher who is assigned to teach special education, a bachelor's degree major,  
84 master's degree, or doctoral degree in special education.

85 (f) "Qualifying teaching background" means the teacher has been teaching the same  
86 supplement-approved assignment in Utah public schools for at least 10 years.

87 (g) "Supplement-approved assignment" means an assignment to teach:

88 (i) a secondary school level mathematics course;

89 (ii) integrated science in grade 7 or 8;

90 (iii) chemistry;

91 (iv) physics;

92 (v) computer science; or

93 (vi) special education.

94 (2) (a) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall:

95 (i) annually appropriate money to the Teacher Salary Supplement Program to maintain  
96 annual salary supplements for eligible teachers provided in previous years; and

97 (ii) provide salary supplements to new recipients.

98 (b) Money appropriated for the Teacher Salary Supplement Program shall include  
99 money for the following employer-paid benefits:

100 (i) retirement;

101 (ii) workers' compensation;

102 (iii) Social Security; and

103 (iv) Medicare.

104 (3) (a) The annual salary supplement for an eligible teacher who is assigned full-time  
105 to a supplement-approved assignment is \$4,100 and funded through an appropriation described  
106 in Subsection (2).

107 (b) An eligible teacher who is assigned part-time to a supplement-approved assignment  
108 shall receive a partial salary supplement based on the number of hours worked in the  
109 supplement-approved assignment.

- 110 (4) The state board shall:
- 111 (a) create an online application system for a teacher to apply to receive a salary  
112 supplement through the Teacher Salary Supplement Program;
- 113 (b) determine if a teacher is an eligible teacher;
- 114 (c) verify, as needed, the determinations made under Subsection (4)(b) with school  
115 district and school administrators; and
- 116 (d) certify a list of eligible teachers.
- 117 (5) (a) An eligible teacher shall apply to the state board [~~before the conclusion of a~~  
118 ~~school year~~], as provided by the board, to receive the salary supplement authorized in this  
119 section.
- 120 (b) An eligible teacher may [~~apply to the state board~~], after verification that the  
121 requirements under this section have been satisfied, [~~to~~] receive a salary supplement after the  
122 completion of:
- 123 (i) the school year as an annual award; or
- 124 (ii) a semester or trimester as a partial award based on the portion of the school year  
125 that has been completed.
- 126 (6) (a) The state board shall establish and administer an appeal process for a teacher to  
127 follow if the teacher applies for a salary supplement and does not receive a salary supplement  
128 under Subsection (8).
- 129 (b) (i) The appeal process established in Subsection (6)(a) shall allow a teacher to  
130 appeal eligibility as an eligible teacher with a qualifying educational background on the basis  
131 that the teacher has a degree or degree major with course requirements that are substantially  
132 equivalent to the qualifying educational background associated with the teacher's  
133 supplement-approved assignment.
- 134 (ii) A teacher shall provide transcripts and other documentation to the state board in  
135 order for the state board to determine if the teacher has a degree or degree major with course  
136 requirements that are substantially equivalent to the qualifying educational background

137 associated with the teacher's supplement-approved assignment.

138 (c) (i) The appeal process established under Subsection (6)(a) shall allow a teacher to  
139 appeal eligibility as an eligible teacher with a qualifying teaching background on the basis that  
140 the teacher has a qualifying teaching background.

141 (ii) The teacher shall provide to the state board evidence to verify that the teacher has a  
142 qualifying teaching background.

143 (7) (a) The state board shall distribute money appropriated to the Teacher Salary  
144 Supplement Program to school districts and charter schools for the Teacher Salary Supplement  
145 Program in accordance with the provisions of this section.

146 (b) The state board shall include the employer-paid benefits described under  
147 Subsection (2)(b) in the amount of each salary supplement.

148 (c) The employer-paid benefits described under Subsection (2)(b) are an addition to the  
149 salary supplement limits described under Subsection (3).

150 (8) (a) Money received from the Teacher Salary Supplement Program shall be used by  
151 a school district or charter school to provide a salary supplement equal to the amount specified  
152 in Subsection (3) for each eligible teacher.

153 (b) The salary supplement is part of an eligible teacher's base pay, subject to eligible  
154 teacher's qualification as an eligible teacher every year, semester, or trimester.

155 (9) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if the appropriation for the program  
156 is insufficient to cover the costs associated with salary supplements, the state board shall  
157 distribute the funds in the Teacher Salary Supplement Program on a pro rata basis.

158 Section 3. Section **53F-5-210** is amended to read:

159 **53F-5-210. Educational Improvement Opportunities Outside of the Regular**  
160 **School Day Grant Program.**

161 (1) As used in this section:

162 (a) "Applicant" means an LEA, private provider, nonprofit provider, or municipality  
163 that provides an existing program and applies for a grant under the provisions of this section.

164 (b) "Existing program" means a currently funded and operating program, as described  
165 in Subsections 53E-3-508(1)(a) and (b).

166 (c) "Grant program" means the Educational Improvement Opportunities Outside of the  
167 Regular School Day Grant Program created in Subsection (2).

168 (d) "Grantor" means:

169 (i) for an LEA that receives a grant under this section, the state board; or

170 (ii) for a private provider, nonprofit provider, or municipality that receives a grant  
171 under this section, the Department of Workforce Services.

172 (e) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means a school district or charter school.

173 (2) There is created the Educational Improvement Opportunities Outside of the Regular  
174 School Day Grant Program to provide grant funds for an existing program to improve and  
175 develop the existing program in accordance with the high quality standards described in  
176 Section 53E-3-508.

177 (3) Subject to legislative appropriation and in accordance with Subsection (7):

178 (a) the state board shall:

179 (i) solicit LEA applications to receive a grant under this section; and

180 (ii) award a grant based on the criteria described in Subsection (5); and

181 (b) the Department of Workforce Services shall:

182 (i) solicit private provider, nonprofit provider, or municipality applications to receive a  
183 grant under this section; and

184 (ii) award a grant based on the criteria described in Subsection (5).

185 (4) To receive a grant under this section, an applicant shall submit a proposal to the  
186 grantor describing:

187 (a) how the applicant proposes to develop and improve the existing program to meet  
188 the standards described in Section 53E-3-508;

189 (b) information necessary for the state board to determine the impact of the applicant's  
190 program on the academic performance of participating students;

- 191 (c) the total number of students the applicant proposes to serve through the existing  
192 program;
- 193 (d) the estimated percentage of the students described in Subsection (4)(c) who qualify  
194 for free or reduced lunch; and
- 195 (e) the estimated cost of the applicant's existing program, per student.
- 196 (5) In awarding a grant under Subsection (3), the grantor shall consider:
- 197 (a) how an applicant's existing program proposes to meet the standards described in  
198 Section 53E-3-508; and
- 199 (b) the percentage of students in that program who qualify for free and reduced lunch.
- 200 (6) An applicant that receives a grant under this section shall:
- 201 (a) use the grant to improve an existing program in accordance with the standards  
202 described in Section 53E-3-508; and
- 203 (b) annually report to the grantor:
- 204 (i) the number of students served by the existing program;
- 205 (ii) the academic outcomes that the program is expected to have on participating  
206 students;
- 207 (iii) program attendance rates of participating students; and
- 208 (iv) other information required by the grantor.
- 209 (7) (a) To receive a distribution of grant money under this section, an applicant shall  
210 identify and certify the availability of [private] matching funds in the amount of the grant to be  
211 distributed to the applicant.
- 212 (b) Neither the state board nor the Department of Workforce Services shall be expected  
213 to seek [private] matching funds for this grant program.
- 214 (8) The state board shall make rules to administer this section that include:
- 215 (a) specific criteria to determine academic performance;
- 216 (b) application and reporting procedures; and
- 217 (c) criteria for an existing program to qualify for a grant under this section.



218 (9) The Department of Workforce Services shall make rules to administer the grant  
219 program as described in Subsection (3)(b).

220 (10) In accordance with 34 C.F.R. Sec. 99.35, the state board shall designate the  
221 Department of Workforce Services as an authorized representative for the purpose of sharing  
222 student data and evaluating and reporting the impact and effectiveness of the grant program.

223 (11) The state board and the Department of Workforce Services may utilize up to 10%  
224 of the funds appropriated for administrative costs associated with the grant program and the  
225 report described in Subsection (12).

226 (12) The state board shall report to the Education Interim Committee before November  
227 30, 2019, regarding:

228 (a) the grant program's effect on the quality of existing programs that participate in the  
229 grant program; and

230 (b) the impact of the existing programs on the academic performance of participating  
231 students.

232 Section 4. Section **63G-7-301** is amended to read:

233 **63G-7-301. Waivers of immunity.**

234 (1) (a) Immunity from suit of each governmental entity is waived as to any contractual  
235 obligation.

236 (b) Actions arising out of contractual rights or obligations are not subject to the  
237 requirements of Sections [63G-7-401](#), [63G-7-402](#), [63G-7-403](#), or [63G-7-601](#).

238 (c) The Division of Water Resources is not liable for failure to deliver water from a  
239 reservoir or associated facility authorized by Title 73, Chapter 26, Bear River Development  
240 Act, if the failure to deliver the contractual amount of water is due to drought, other natural  
241 condition, or safety condition that causes a deficiency in the amount of available water.

242 (2) Immunity from suit of each governmental entity is waived:

243 (a) as to any action brought to recover, obtain possession of, or quiet title to real or  
244 personal property;

245 (b) as to any action brought to foreclose mortgages or other liens on real or personal  
246 property, to determine any adverse claim on real or personal property, or to obtain an  
247 adjudication about any mortgage or other lien that the governmental entity may have or claim  
248 on real or personal property;

249 (c) as to any action based on the negligent destruction, damage, or loss of goods,  
250 merchandise, or other property while it is in the possession of any governmental entity or  
251 employee, if the property was seized for the purpose of forfeiture under any provision of state  
252 law;

253 (d) subject to Subsection 63G-7-302(1), as to any action brought under the authority of  
254 Utah Constitution, Article I, Section 22, for the recovery of compensation from the  
255 governmental entity when the governmental entity has taken or damaged private property for  
256 public uses without just compensation;

257 (e) subject to Subsection 63G-7-302(2), as to any action brought to recover attorney  
258 fees under Sections 63G-2-405 and 63G-2-802;

259 (f) for actual damages under Title 67, Chapter 21, Utah Protection of Public Employees  
260 Act;

261 (g) as to any action brought to obtain relief from a land use regulation that imposes a  
262 substantial burden on the free exercise of religion under Title 63L, Chapter 5, Utah Religious  
263 Land Use Act;

264 (h) except as provided in Subsection 63G-7-201(3), as to any injury caused by:

265 (i) a defective, unsafe, or dangerous condition of any highway, road, street, alley,  
266 crosswalk, sidewalk, culvert, tunnel, bridge, viaduct, or other structure located on them; or

267 (ii) any defective or dangerous condition of a public building, structure, dam, reservoir,  
268 or other public improvement;

269 (i) subject to Subsections 63G-7-101(4) and 63G-7-201(4), as to any injury  
270 proximately caused by a negligent act or omission of an employee committed within the scope  
271 of employment;

272 (j) as to any action or suit brought under Section 20A-19-301 and as to any  
273 compensation or expenses awarded under Section 20A-19-301(5); and  
274 (k) notwithstanding Subsection 63G-7-101(4), as to a claim for an injury resulting from  
275 a sexual battery, as provided in Section 76-9-702.1, committed:  
276 (i) against a student of a public elementary or secondary school, including a charter  
277 school; and  
278 (ii) by an employee of a public elementary or secondary school or charter school who:  
279 (A) at the time of the sexual battery, held a position of special trust, as defined in  
280 Section 76-5-404.1, with respect to the student;  
281 (B) is criminally charged in connection with the sexual battery; and  
282 (C) the public elementary or secondary school or charter school knew or in the exercise  
283 of reasonable care should have known, at the time of the employee's hiring, to be a sex  
284 offender, as defined in Section 77-41-102, required to register under Title 77, Chapter 41, Sex  
285 and Kidnap Offender Registry, whose status as a sex offender would have been revealed in a  
286 background check under Section 53G-11-402.  
287 (3) (a) As used in this Subsection (3):  
288 (i) "~~Appropriate behavior policy~~ Code of conduct" means a [~~policy~~] code of conduct  
289 that:  
290 (A) is not less stringent than a model [~~policy~~] code of conduct, created by the State  
291 Board of Education, establishing a professional standard of care for preventing the conduct  
292 described in Subsection (3)(a)(i)(D);  
293 (B) is adopted by the applicable local education governing body;  
294 (C) regulates behavior of a school employee toward a student; and  
295 (D) includes a prohibition against any sexual conduct between an employee and a  
296 student and against the employee and student sharing any sexually explicit or lewd  
297 communication, image, or photograph.  
298 (ii) "Local education agency" means:

- 299 (A) a school district;
- 300 (B) a charter school; or
- 301 (C) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
- 302 (iii) "Local education governing board" means:
- 303 (A) for a school district, the local school board;
- 304 (B) for a charter school, the charter school governing board; or
- 305 (C) for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, the state board.
- 306 (iv) "Public school" means a public elementary or secondary school.
- 307 (v) "Sexual abuse" means the offense described in Subsection 76-5-404.1(2).
- 308 (vi) "Sexual battery" means the offense described in Section 76-9-702.1, considering
- 309 the term "child" in that section to include an individual under age 18.
- 310 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection 63G-7-101(4), immunity from suit is waived as to a
- 311 claim against a local education agency for an injury resulting from a sexual battery or sexual
- 312 abuse committed against a student of a public school by a paid employee of the public school
- 313 who is criminally charged in connection with the sexual battery or sexual abuse, unless:
- 314 (i) at the time of the sexual battery or sexual abuse, the public school was subject to ~~[an~~
- 315 ~~appropriate behavior policy]~~ a code of conduct; and
- 316 (ii) before the sexual battery or sexual abuse occurred, the public school had:
- 317 (A) provided training on the ~~[policy]~~ code of conduct to the employee; and
- 318 (B) required the employee to sign a statement acknowledging that the employee has
- 319 read and understands the ~~[policy]~~ code of conduct.
- 320 (4) (a) As used in this Subsection (4):
- 321 (i) "Higher education institution" means an institution included within the state system
- 322 of higher education under Section 53B-1-102.
- 323 (ii) "Policy governing behavior" means a policy adopted by a higher education
- 324 institution or the State Board of Regents that:
- 325 (A) establishes a professional standard of care for preventing the conduct described in

326 Subsections (4)(a)(ii)(C) and (D);

327 (B) regulates behavior of a special trust employee toward a subordinate student;

328 (C) includes a prohibition against any sexual conduct between a special trust employee  
329 and a subordinate student; and

330 (D) includes a prohibition against a special trust employee and subordinate student  
331 sharing any sexually explicit or lewd communication, image, or photograph.

332 (iii) "Sexual battery" means the offense described in Section 76-9-702.1.

333 (iv) "Special trust employee" means an employee of a higher education institution who  
334 is in a position of special trust, as defined in Section 76-5-404.1, with a higher education  
335 student.

336 (v) "Subordinate student" means a student:

337 (A) of a higher education institution; and

338 (B) whose educational opportunities could be adversely impacted by a special trust  
339 employee.

340 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection 63G-7-101(4), immunity from suit is waived as to a  
341 claim for an injury resulting from a sexual battery committed against a subordinate student by a  
342 special trust employee, unless:

343 (i) the institution proves that the special trust employee's behavior that otherwise would  
344 constitute a sexual battery was:

345 (A) with a subordinate student who was at least 18 years old at the time of the  
346 behavior; and

347 (B) with the student's consent; or

348 (ii) (A) at the time of the sexual battery, the higher education institution was subject to  
349 a policy governing behavior; and

350 (B) before the sexual battery occurred, the higher education institution had taken steps  
351 to implement and enforce the policy governing behavior.