

**School Data Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Matt MacPherson**

Senate Sponsor: Lincoln Fillmore

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill requires the State Board of Education (state board) to study and make recommendations regarding local education agency (LEA) data collection, retention, student information systems, and reporting requirements.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms;
- creates a Data Systems and Reporting Advisory Committee;
- requires the state board to study LEA practices for collection and retention of student personally identifiable information;
- requires analysis of LEA student information system costs and capabilities;
- requires examination of LEA reporting requirements and potential sunset provisions;
- establishes requirements for stakeholder input and coordination;
- requires the state board to report findings and recommendations to the Education Interim Committee; and
- requires legislative review of recommendations.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

ENACTS:

**53E-3-526**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

---

---

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

Section 1. Section **53E-3-526** is enacted to read:

**53E-3-526 . Student data systems and reporting study.**

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Advisory committee" means the Data Systems and Reporting Advisory Committee created in Subsection (3).
- (b) "Data retention schedule" means a schedule for maintaining and disposing of student data in accordance with Section 63G-2-604.
- (c) "Legacy system" means a student information system that:
  - (i) was implemented before May 1, 2025; and
  - (ii) may require manual data transmission to the state board in varying formats.
- (d) "Manual data transmission" means a process that requires LEA staff to:
  - (i) extract data from a student information system;
  - (ii) modify the data format; or
  - (iii) manually enter data into a separate system.
- (e) "Reporting requirement" means any obligation that requires an LEA to submit data or information to the state board or another governmental entity established in:
  - (i) statute;
  - (ii) state board rule; or
  - (iii) state board policy.
- (f) "Student information system" means a computer database that:
  - (i) provides the functions described in Section 53E-3-518; and
  - (ii) maintains student records and data over time.
- (g) "Student personally identifiable information" means student data that:
  - (i) identifies a student; or
  - (ii) is used by the holder to identify a student as defined in Section 53E-9-301.
- (h) "System modification" means a change to a student information system required or caused by:
  - (i) statutory amendments;
  - (ii) administrative rule changes; or
  - (iii) state board policy updates.

(2) The state board shall:

- (a) conduct a comprehensive study of LEA data practices, systems, and reporting;
- (b) coordinate with the advisory committee throughout the study process;

- 62        (c) seek input from relevant stakeholders, including:  
63            (i) school district superintendents;  
64            (ii) charter school administrators;  
65            (iii) LEA technology directors;  
66            (iv) LEA student data managers;  
67            (v) the Utah School Boards Association;  
68            (vi) the Utah Association of Public Charter Schools;  
69            (vii) student information system vendors; and  
70            (viii) other parties the state board determines necessary; and  
71        (d) establish working groups as needed to examine specific study components.  
72        (3) The state board shall create a Data Systems and Reporting Advisory Committee that:  
73            (a) includes representatives from:  
74                (i) urban school districts;  
75                (ii) rural school districts;  
76                (iii) charter schools;  
77                (iv) the state board;  
78                (v) the Department of Administrative Services with expertise in regulations related to  
79                    government records; and  
80                (vi) other stakeholders as determined by the state board;  
81            (b) provides guidance on study scope and methodology;  
82            (c) reviews preliminary findings and recommendations;  
83            (d) meets at least quarterly during the study period; and  
84            (e) assists in preparing the final report.  
85        (4) The advisory committee shall ensure the study of student data retention examines:  
86            (a) types of student personally identifiable information collected by LEAs, including:  
87                (i) information required by federal law;  
88                (ii) information required by state law;  
89                (iii) information required by administrative rule;  
90                (iv) optional information collected by an LEA; and  
91                (v) retention requirements for each type;  
92            (b) methods used by LEAs to:  
93                (i) store student personally identifiable information;  
94                (ii) secure stored data;  
95                (iii) control access to data;

- 96            (iv) maintain data quality;  
97            (v) track data retention schedules; and  
98            (vi) dispose of outdated data;  
99        (c) compliance with:  
100           (i) retention schedules under Section 63G-2-604;  
101           (ii) privacy requirements under Chapter 9, Student Privacy and Data Protection;  
102           (iii) security standards established by the state board; and  
103           (iv) federal privacy laws;  
104        (d) potential requirements for:  
105           (i) annual data audits;  
106           (ii) regular purging of non-essential data;  
107           (iii) standardized retention schedules; and  
108           (iv) data disposal verification; and  
109        (e) fiscal and operational impacts of recommended changes.  
110        (5) The advisory committee shall ensure the study of student information systems examines:  
111           (a) current LEA expenditures for:  
112               (i) system licensing;  
113               (ii) hosting services;  
114               (iii) technical support;  
115               (iv) staff training;  
116               (v) data extraction;  
117               (vi) custom programming; and  
118               (vii) system modifications;  
119           (b) staff time required for:  
120               (i) manual data transmission;  
121               (ii) data validation;  
122               (iii) error correction;  
123               (iv) report generation; and  
124               (v) system maintenance;  
125           (c) frequency and cost of system modifications required by:  
126               (i) legislative changes;  
127               (ii) rule updates; and  
128               (iii) new data requests;  
129           (d) capabilities and limitations of:

- 130            (i) current LEA systems;
- 131            (ii) the state board system under Section 53E-3-518; and
- 132            (iii) potential alternative solutions;
- 133        (e) examples of statewide student information systems in other states;
- 134        (f) analysis of:
  - 135            (i) total statewide spending on individual LEA systems;
  - 136            (ii) projected costs of a single statewide system;
  - 137            (iii) potential savings from consolidation;
  - 138            (iv) implementation challenges; and
  - 139            (v) transition requirements; and
- 140        (g) recommendations for improving system efficiency and cost-effectiveness.
- 141        (6) The advisory committee shall ensure the study of reporting requirements examines:
  - 142            (a) existing reporting obligations, including:
    - 143                (i) statutory reports;
    - 144                (ii) administrative rule reports;
    - 145                (iii) grant-required reports;
    - 146                (iv) federal reports; and
    - 147                (v) other regular data submissions;
  - 148            (b) for each identified requirement:
    - 149                (i) legal basis;
    - 150                (ii) intended purpose;
    - 151                (iii) current uses;
    - 152                (iv) submission frequency;
    - 153                (v) required data elements;
    - 154                (vi) collection burden; and
    - 155                (vii) continued relevance;
  - 156            (c) potential criteria for:
    - 157                (i) evaluating reporting necessity;
    - 158                (ii) consolidating similar reports;
    - 159                (iii) eliminating obsolete requirements; and
    - 160                (iv) sunseting provisions;
  - 161            (d) methods to:
    - 162                (i) track reporting obligations;
    - 163                (ii) evaluate requirement impacts;

- 164            (iii) coordinate review processes; and  
165            (iv) implement sunset procedures;  
166        (e) processes for:  
167            (i) annual reporting review;  
168            (ii) sunset recommendations;  
169            (iii) requirement reauthorization; and  
170            (iv) stakeholder input; and  
171        (f) proposed structures for:  
172            (i) managing reporting requirements;  
173            (ii) implementing sunset provisions; and  
174            (iii) maintaining transparency.  
175        (7) On or before September 15, 2025, the state board shall:  
176            (a) prepare a report that includes:  
177                (i) study findings related to student information systems as described in Subsection  
178                (5);  
179                (ii) stakeholder input related to student information systems;  
180                (iii) fiscal impacts;  
181                (iv) implementation considerations; and  
182                (v) specific recommendations for:  
183                    (A) student information system improvements;  
184                    (B) statutory changes related to student information systems;  
185                    (C) rule modifications related to student information systems; and  
186                    (D) implementation timelines; and  
187            (b) present the report to the Education Interim Committee.  
188        (8) On or before September 15, 2026, the state board shall:  
189            (a) prepare a report that includes:  
190                (i) study findings related to:  
191                    (A) student data retention as described in Subsection (4); and  
192                    (B) reporting requirements as described in Subsection (6);  
193                (ii) stakeholder input related to these components;  
194                (iii) fiscal impacts;  
195                (iv) implementation considerations; and  
196                (v) specific recommendations for:  
197                    (A) data retention policies;

198                    (B) reporting requirement management;  
199                    (C) statutory changes related to these components;  
200                    (D) rule modifications related to these components; and  
201                    (E) implementation timelines; and  
202                    (b) present the report to the Education Interim Committee.  
203                    (9) The Education Interim Committee shall:  
204                    (a) review the state board reports described in Subsections (7) and (8);  
205                    (b) accept public testimony on the recommendations;  
206                    (c) evaluate implementation requirements; and  
207                    (d) consider whether to recommend legislation for:  
208                    (i) the 2026 General Session based on the report described in Subsection (7); and  
209                    (ii) the 2027 General Session based on the report described in Subsection (8).  
210                    **Section 2. Effective Date.**  
211                    This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.