

Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Rex P. Shipp

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill addresses firearm safety instruction in public schools.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▸ requires the state board to establish standards for firearm safety instruction in public schools; and

▸ requires an LEA to provide firearm safety instruction to students.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53E-4-207, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53E-4-207** is enacted to read:

53E-4-207 . Firearm safety standards and instruction.

(1) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the state board shall make rules that establish standards for firearm safety instruction as described in Subsection (3).

(2) An LEA shall, in accordance with the standards established under Subsection (1), provide an instructional session on firearm safety to all students in the grade levels described in Subsection (3).

(3) An LEA shall present firearm safety instruction:

(a) to every student, once per school year, from kindergarten through grade 6;

(b) to every student, at least once, while the student is attending middle school and at least once while the student is attending high school;

32 (c) in a manner that is developmentally appropriate to the grade level receiving the
33 instruction; and

34 (d) emphasizing the best practices and guidelines for the safe handling and storage of
35 firearms to prevent accidents and ensure personal safety.

36 (4) An LEA may provide the firearm safety instruction described in Subsection (3) with:

37 (a) an existing hunter safety course;

38 (b) physical education curriculum; or

39 (c) suicide prevention instruction.

40 (5) A school resource officer may teach the firearm safety instruction described in this
41 section.

42 (6)(a) A school shall, before providing firearm safety instruction, notify a student's
43 parent or legal guardian of the instruction and provide details on how to opt out.

44 (b) A school shall provide an alternative educational activity to a student whose parent
45 or legal guardian opts the student out of firearm safety instruction.

46 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

47 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2025.