

# HB0150S01 compared with HB0150

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0150 but was omitted in HB0150S01

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0150 but was inserted into HB0150S01

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## School-based Speech-language Pathologist Funding Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jill Koford

Senate Sponsor: Ann Millner

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### LONG TITLE

#### General Description:

This bill amends definitions related to ~~{funding}~~ teaching supplies and a certain salary supplement.

#### Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▸ amends certain definitions and provisions to expand eligibility related to appropriations for

~~{teaching supplies; and}~~ :

- teaching supplies; and
- salary supplements; and

▸ makes technical and conforming changes.

#### Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

#### Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

#### Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

HB0150

# HB0150 compared with HB0150S01

**53F-2-504 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 394**

**53F-2-527 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 6

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

Section 1. Section 53F-2-504 is amended to read:

## **53F-2-504. Salary Supplement for Highly Needed Educators.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Eligible teacher" means a teacher or licensed education professional, including a speech-language pathologist or speech-language technician, who:

(i) has a qualifying assignment;

(ii) qualifies for the [teacher's] individual's assignment in accordance with an LEA's policy described in Subsection (2); and

(iii)

(A) is a new employee; or

(B) has not received an unsatisfactory rating on the [teacher's] individual's three most recent evaluations.

(b) "High-needs area" means at least two and up to five [~~teaching-~~]assignments that an LEA designates in a policy as challenging to fill or retain.

(c) "Program" means the Salary Supplement for Highly Needed Educators program.

(d) "Qualifying assignment" means [~~a teacher who is assigned to a high-needs area~~] an assignment to a high-needs area.

(2)

(a) An LEA shall create a policy describing the administration of the Salary Supplement for Highly Needed Educators program within the LEA, including:

(i) identifying the LEA's high-needs areas;

(ii) the amount of the salary supplement;

(iii) establishing an appeals process for [a-teacher] an individual to follow if the [teacher] individual does not receive a salary supplement, including:

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- (A) allowing ~~[a teacher]~~ an individual to appeal eligibility as an eligible teacher with a qualifying assignment on the basis that the ~~[teacher]~~ individual has ~~[a teaching assignment]~~ an assignment that is substantially equivalent to a high-needs area; and
- 51 (B) requiring ~~[a teacher]~~ an individual to provide transcripts and other documentation to the LEA governing board in order for the LEA governing board to determine if the ~~[teacher]~~ individual is an eligible teacher with a qualifying ~~[teaching-]~~background;
- 55 (iv) a process for determining if ~~[a teacher]~~ an individual is an eligible teacher, including a verification process; and
- 57 (v) a process for certifying a list of eligible teachers ~~[to be awarded]~~ whom the LEA awards a salary supplement under this section.
- 59 (b) An LEA shall update the policy described in Subsection (2)(a) annually and provide notice of any changes to ~~[teachers]~~ potential eligible teachers within the LEA.
- 61 (3) Subject to legislative appropriations and an LEA having the policy described in Subsection (2), the state board shall allocate funding appropriated for the Salary ~~[Supplements]~~ Supplement for Highly Needed Educators program in accordance with this section by:
- 65 (a) for charter schools:
- 66 (i) distributing an amount that is equal to the product of:
- 67 (A) charter school enrollment on October 1 in the prior year, or, for a new charter school, projected enrollment for a charter school in the charter school's first year of operations, divided by enrollment on October 1 in public schools statewide in the prior year; and
- 71 (B) the total amount available for distribution; and
- 72 (ii) allocating to each charter school:
- 73 (A) an equally divided portion of 20% of the amount described in Subsection (3)(a)(i); and
- 75 (B) 80% of the amount described in Subsection (3)(a)(i) on a per-student basis; and
- 76 (b) for school districts and the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind<sup>[?]</sup> ,
- 77 ~~[(i)]~~ distributing the remainder of funds available for distribution after the distribution to charter schools under Subsection (3)(a)(i) by allocating to each school district:
- 79 ~~[(A)]~~ (i) an equally divided portion of 20% of the amount described in Subsection (3)(b)(i); and
- 81 ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) 80% of the amount described in Subsection (3)(b)(i) on a per-student basis.
- 82 ~~[(e)]~~ (4) An LEA shall use funds described in Subsections (3)(a) and (3)(b) to pay the LEA's proportional part of an eligible teacher's salary supplement if:

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84 [(i)] (a) the eligible teacher is an employee of a regional education service agency, as defined in Section  
53G-4-410; and

86 [(ii)] (b) the LEA is a member of the regional education service agency that employs the eligible  
teacher.

88 [(4)] (5)

(a) An LEA shall include employer-paid benefits in the amount of each salary supplement.

90 (b) Employer-paid benefits are an addition to the salary supplement amount [established by an LEA] an  
LEA establishes under Subsection (2).

92 [(5)] (6) The salary supplement is part of an eligible teacher's base pay, subject to eligible teacher's  
qualification as an eligible teacher every year, semester, or quarter.

94 [(6)] (7) The state board shall annually report to the Education Interim Committee:

95 (a) which [teaching-]assignments LEAs have designated as high-needs; and

96 (b) the number of eligible teachers.

97 [(7)] (8) An LEA may increase the amount of funds the LEA provides to the LEA's eligible teachers  
under the program if the LEA:

99 (a) first ensures proper distribution of funds the LEA receives under the program to the the LEA's  
eligible teachers; and

101 (b) experiences a carry forward or leftover balance.

102 Section 2. Section **53F-2-527** is amended to read:

103 **53F-2-527. (Effective 07/01/26) Appropriations for teaching supplies and materials.**

21 (1) As used in this section:

22 (a) "Classroom teacher" means a teacher [who] or licensed education professional, including a speech-  
language pathologist or speech-language technician, that:

24 (i) [is assigned by an LEA in] an LEA assigns to a permanent [teacher] instructional or related service  
position filled by one teacher, speech-language pathologist, speech-language technician, or two or  
more job-sharing teachers [employed by an LEA] an LEA employs;

28 (ii) is licensed and paid on an LEA's salary schedule;

29 (iii) is employed for an entire contract period; and

30 (iv) is primarily responsible to provide instruction, therapy, or a combination of instructional,  
therapeutic, and counseling services to [students in public schools] a student in a public school.

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(b) "Teaching supplies and materials" means consumable and non-consumable items that are used for educational or therapeutic purposes by ~~[teachers]~~ a classroom teacher in a classroom ~~[activities]~~ activity that ~~[are approved by the LEA]~~ an LEA approves.

36 (2) ~~[For the fiscal year that begins on or after July 1, 2024, and except]~~ Except as provided in Subsection (3), the state board shall distribute money appropriated for teaching supplies and materials as follows:

39 (a) \$500 to each classroom teacher position for pre-kindergarten special education and kindergarten through grade 6; and

41 (b) \$250 to each classroom teacher position for grades 7 through 12.

42 (3) If funding is insufficient to provide the per-teacher amounts described in Subsection (2), the state board may proportionally adjust the per-teacher amount based on the amount of available funding.

129 Section 3. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.

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