

SB0077S02 compared with SB0077S01

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in SB0077S01 but was omitted in SB0077S02

inserted text shows text that was not in SB0077S01 but was inserted into SB0077S02

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1

Dual Language Immersion Amendments
2026 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Daniel McCay
House Sponsor:



2

3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill amends provisions related to concurrent enrollment courses for accelerated foreign
6 language students.

7 **Highlighted Provisions:**

8 This bill:

- 9 ▶ defines terms;
- 10 ▶ requires universities to teach certain upper-level concurrent enrollment courses;
- 11 ▶ requires a qualified teacher to teach certain courses;
- 12 ▶ ~~{ extends a current proficiency assessment related to dual language immersion students; }~~
- 13 ▶ allows a local education agency to partner with certain institutions; ~~{ and }~~
- 13 ▶ requires the State Board of Education to prepare and submit a certain report; and
- 14 ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

15 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

16 None

17 **Other Special Clauses:**

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18 This bill provides a special effective date.

19 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

20 AMENDS:

21 **53E-1-202 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 7**

22 **53E-10-307** , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 129

22 ~~**{53F-2-502 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 9}**~~

23

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

25 **Section 1. Section 53E-1-202 is amended to read:**

26 **53E-1-202. Reports to and action required of the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee.**

28 (1) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following recurring reports are due to the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee:

30 (a) the State Superintendent's Annual Report by the state board described in Section 53E-1-203;

32 (b) the state board's report described in Section 53E-10-307 regarding the cost of expanding the dual language immersion proficiency assessment;

34 ~~(b)~~ (c) the report described in Section 53E-10-703 by the Utah Leading through Effective, Actionable, and Dynamic Education director on research and other activities; and

37 ~~(e)~~ (d) the report by the STEM Action Center Board described in Section 9-22-109, including the information described in Section 9-22-113 on the status of the computer science initiative.

40 (2) In accordance with applicable provisions, the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee shall complete, if required, the study described in Section 53F-4-304 of scholarship payments.

43 Section 2. Section **53E-10-307** is amended to read:

44 **53E-10-307. Concurrent enrollment courses for accelerated foreign language students.**

28 (1) As used in this section:

29 (a) "Accelerated foreign language student" means an eligible student who has passed a world language Advanced Placement exam.

31 (b) "Blended learning delivery model" means an education delivery model in which a student learns, at least in part:

33 (i) through ~~[online learning with an element of student control over time, place, path, and pae]~~ synchronous online learning; and

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- 35 (ii) in the physical presence of an instructor.
- 36 (c) "Partner language" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53F-2-502.
- 37 (d) "Program" means the Utah Language Bridge Program, the foreign language concurrent enrollment
program described in this section.
- 39 (e)
- (i) "Qualified instructor" means:
- 40 (A) a university instructor of record:
- 41 (I) who holds a master's degree or higher or has at least 18 completed credit hours of graduate course
work in an academic field related to the program;
- 43 (II) who demonstrates language proficiency of advanced-high or higher on a verbal and written exam
using a nationally recognized assessment that assesses an instructor's language proficiency or holds
a bachelor's degree from a relevant country of origin of the target language; and
- 47 (III) whom an institution hires according to the standards of the institution;
- 48 (B) an LEA employee teaching the course individually who:
- 49 (I) holds a master's degree or higher, has at least 18 completed credit hours of graduate work in an
academic field related to the program, or acquires exception for approval without a master's degree
from the partnering institution and the LEA; and
- 53 (II) demonstrates language proficiency of advanced-high or higher on a verbal and written exam from a
nationally recognized assessment used that measures an instructor's language proficiency or holds a
bachelor's degree from a relevant country of origin of the target language; or
- 57 (C) an LEA employee co-teaching with a Utah System of Higher Education faculty member who:
- 59 (I) has qualifying experience, including demonstrated language proficiency of advanced-mid or
higher on a verbal and written exam using nationally recognized standards to assess an instructor's
language proficiency; or
- 62 (II) holds a bachelor's degree from a relevant country of origin in the target language.
- 64 (ii) "Qualified instructor" does not include an instructor with qualifications based on years of
experience alone.
- 66 (f) "Service area" means the geographic area, as board policy determines, where a state university has
primary responsibility for providing educational programs and services.
- 68 [(e)] (g) "State university" means an institution of higher education that offers courses leading to a
bachelor's degree.

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- 70 (2) The University of Utah shall partner with all state universities to develop and maintain, as part of the
concurrent enrollment program described in this part, concurrent enrollment courses that:
- 73 (a) are age-appropriate foreign language courses for accelerated foreign language students participating
in the program;
- 75 (b) count toward a foreign language degree offered by an institution of higher education; and
- 77 (c) ~~[are delivered]~~ the university delivers:
- 78 (i) using ~~[a]~~ an in-person or blended learning delivery model; and
- 79 (ii) ~~[by an eligible]~~ through a qualified instructor~~[-described in Subsection 53E-10-302(6)(a)]~~.
- 81 (3) Subject to budget constraints, in addition to the base increases described in Section 53F-2-208, the
Legislature shall annually increase the money appropriated for concurrent enrollment courses for
accelerated foreign language students participating in the program in proportion to the percentage
increase over the previous school year in the value of the weighted pupil unit.
- 86 (4)
- (a) A state university that offers an upper-division course under the program shall ensure that a
qualified instructor teaches or co-teaches the upper-division course.
- 88 (b) If a state university cannot provide a qualified instructor to an LEA in the state university's service
area before April 1 of each year, in accordance with Subsection (4)(a), an LEA shall:
- 91 (i) partner with a state institution from outside the service area that contains the LEA to provide an
upper-division course under this program; and
- 93 (ii) enter into a contract with a state institution from outside the service area that contains the LEA, in
accordance with Section 53E-10-303, to provide the program at the LEA.
- 96 (5) A state university that offers an upper-division course under this section shall ensure the course
counts toward a foreign language degree an institution of higher education offers.
- 98 (6) ~~{In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the }~~ The state
board shall ~~{make rules to extend the current proficiency assessment for dual immersion students to
grades 3 through 12 for each partner language, in accordance with Section 53F-2-502.}~~ :
- 117 (a) identify the estimated cost to extend the dual language immersion proficiency assessments described
in Section 53F-2-502 from grades 3 through 8 to grades 3 through 12 in the following four skills:
- 120 (i) speaking;
- 121 (ii) listening;
- 122 (iii) reading; and

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- 123 (iv) writing; and
124 (b) submit a report to the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee detailing the estimated costs
described in Subsection (6)(a) before the subcommittee's October 2026 interim meeting.

102 {Section 2. Section 53F-2-502 is amended to read: }

103 **53F-2-502. Dual language immersion.**

104 (1) As used in this section:

105 (a) "Dual language immersion" means an instructional setting in which a student receives a portion of
instruction in English and a portion of instruction exclusively in a partner language.

108 (b) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means a school district or a charter school.

109 (c) "Participating LEA" means an LEA selected by the state board to receive a grant described in this
section.

111 (d) "Partner language" means a language other than English in which instruction is provided in dual
language immersion.

113 (e) "Restricted foreign entity" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53H-8-501.

115 (2) The state board shall:

116 (a) establish a dual language immersion program;

117 (b) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, make rules that
establish:

119 (i) a grant program for an LEA to receive funding for dual language immersion;

120 (ii) the required qualifications for an LEA to be a participating LEA;

121 (iii) subject to this section, requirements of a participating LEA;

122 (iv) a proficiency assessment for each partner language; and

123 (v) a progression of how a school in a participating LEA adds grade levels in which the school offers
dual language immersion; and

125 (c) subject to legislative appropriations:

126 (i) select participating LEAs; and

127 (ii) award to a participating LEA a grant to support dual language immersion in the LEA.

129 (3) A participating LEA shall:

130 (a) establish in a school a full-day dual language immersion instructional model that provides at least
50% of instruction exclusively in a partner language;

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- (b) in accordance with the state board rules described in Subsection (2)(b), add grades in which dual language immersion is provided in a school; and
- 134 (c) annually administer to each student in grades 3 through [8] 12 who participates in dual language immersion an assessment described in Subsection (2)(b)(iv).
- 136 (4) The state board shall:
- 137 (a) provide support to a participating LEA, including by:
- 138 (i) offering professional learning for dual language immersion educators;
- 139 (ii) developing curriculum related to dual language immersion; or
- 140 (iii) providing instructional support for a partner language;
- 141 (b) conduct a program evaluation of the dual language immersion program established under Subsection (2)(a); and
- 143 (c) on or before November 1, 2019, report to the Education Interim Committee and the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee on the results of the program evaluation described in Subsection (4)(b).
- 146 (5) The state board may, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, contract with a third party to conduct the program evaluation described in Subsection (4)(b).
- 149 (6) Regardless of whether an LEA is a participating LEA or provides language instruction through another method, beginning July 1, 2024, an LEA may not seek or accept funding support from a restricted foreign entity or an entity that passes on funding support from a restricted foreign entity.
- 153 (7) Subject to budget constraints, in addition to the base increases described in Section 53F-2-208, the Legislature shall annually increase the money appropriated for dual language immersion in proportion to the percentage increase over the previous school year in the value of the weighted pupil unit.

127 Section 3. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.

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