

**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.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- amends certain definitions related to appropriations for teaching supplies; 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:

**53F-2-527**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 6

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

Section 1. Section **53F-2-527** is amended to read:

**53F-2-527 . Appropriations for teaching supplies and materials.**

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Classroom teacher" means a teacher ~~[who]~~ or licensed education professional, including a speech-language pathologist or speech-language technician, that:
  - (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;
  - (ii) is licensed and paid on an LEA's salary schedule;
  - (iii) is employed for an entire contract period; and
  - (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.

(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.

(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:

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

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

(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.

Section 2. **Effective Date.**

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.