

1 **Dual Language Immersion Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Daniel McCay

House Sponsor:

2 **LONG TITLE**3 **General Description:**4 This bill amends provisions related to concurrent enrollment courses for accelerated foreign
5 language students.6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8

- 9 ▶ defines terms;
- 10 ▶ makes technical and conforming changes;
- 11 ▶ requires universities to teach certain upper-level concurrent enrollment courses;
- 12 ▶ requires a qualified teacher to teach certain courses;
- 13 ▶ establishes a proficiency assessment; and
- 14 ▶ allows a local education agency to partner with certain institutions.

15 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

16 None

17 **Other Special Clauses:**

18 This bill provides a special effective date.

19 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**20 **AMENDS:**21 **53E-10-307**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 129

22 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*23 Section 1. Section **53E-10-307** is amended to read:24 **53E-10-307 . Concurrent enrollment courses for accelerated foreign language**
25 **students.**

26 (1) As used in this section:

27 (a) "Accelerated foreign language student" means an eligible student who has passed a
28 world language Advanced Placement exam.
29 (b) "Blended learning delivery model" means an education delivery model in which a

31 student learns, at least in part:

32 (i) through [online learning with an element of student control over time, place, path,
33 and pace] synchronous online learning; and
34 (ii) in the physical presence of an instructor.

35 (c) "Partner language" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53F-2-502.

36 (d) "Program" means the Utah Language Bridge Program, the foreign language
37 concurrent enrollment program described in this section.

38 (e)(i) "Qualified instructor" means:

39 (A) a university instructor of record, which may include a high school teacher
40 accepted to teach under a one-teacher model:

41 (I) who holds a master's degree or higher or has at least 18 completed credit
42 hours of graduate work in an academic field related to the program;
43 (II) who demonstrates language proficiency of advanced-high or higher on a
44 verbal and written exam using a nationally recognized assessment that
45 assesses an instructor's language proficiency or holds a bachelor's degree
46 from a relevant country or origin of the target language; and
47 (III) whom an institution hires according to the standards of the institution; or

48 (B) a high school instructor of record who:

49 (I) holds a master's degree or higher or has at least 18 completed credit hours of
50 graduate course work in an academic field related to the program; and
51 (II) demonstrates language proficiency of advanced-high or higher on a verbal
52 and written exam from a nationally recognized assessment used that
53 measures an instructor's language proficiency or holds a bachelor's degree
54 from a relevant country or origin of the target language.

55 (ii) "Qualified instructor" does not include an instructor with qualifications based on
56 years of experience alone.

57 (f) "Service area" means the geographic area, as board policy determines, where a state
58 university has primary responsibility for providing educational programs and services.

59 [(e)] (g) "State university" means an institution of higher education that offers courses
60 leading to a bachelor's degree.

61 (2) The University of Utah shall partner with all state universities to develop and maintain,
62 as part of the concurrent enrollment program described in this part, concurrent
63 enrollment courses that:

64 (a) are age-appropriate foreign language courses for accelerated foreign language

65 students participating in the program;

66 (b) count toward a foreign language degree offered by an institution of higher education;

67 and

68 (c) [are delivered] the university delivers:

69 (i) using [a] an in-person or blended learning delivery model; and

70 (ii) [by an eligible] through a qualified instructor~~[described in Subsection~~

71 53E-10-302(6)(a)].

72 (3) Subject to budget constraints, in addition to the base increases described in Section

73 53F-2-208, the Legislature shall annually increase the money appropriated for

74 concurrent enrollment courses for accelerated foreign language students participating in

75 the program in proportion to the percentage increase over the previous school year in the

76 value of the weighted pupil unit.

77 (4)(a) A state university that offers an upper-division course under the program shall

78 ensure that a qualified instructor teaches or co-teaches the upper-division course.

79 (b) If a state university cannot provide a qualified instructor to an LEA in the state

80 university's service area before April 1 of each year, in accordance with Subsection

81 (4)(a), an LEA shall:

82 (i) partner with a state institution from outside the service area that contains the LEA

83 to provide an upper-division course under this program; and

84 (ii) enter into a contract with a state institution from outside the service area that

85 contains the LEA, in accordance with Section 53E-10-303, to provide the program

86 at the LEA.

87 (5) A state university that offers an upper-division course under this section shall ensure the

88 course counts toward a foreign language degree an institution of higher education offers.

89 (6) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the

90 state board shall make rules to:

91 (a) establish a proficiency assessment for each partner language in grades 10 through 12;

92 and

93 (b) distribute funds to the board to administer the assessment described in Subsection

94 (6)(a).

95 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

96 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.