

Office of the
Legislative Fiscal Analyst

FY 2004 Budget Recommendations

Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for
Public Education

Education Contracts

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1.0 Education Contracts

Summary

The two programs in Education Contracts provide educational services to students in the custody of the state. The Youth Center provides services to students at the State Hospital in Provo, and Corrections Institutions provide services to inmates in the state’s correctional facilities.

The Utah State Board of Education takes responsibility for the education of these students and acts as the “school board” governing their education. The board contracts with various school districts to provide educational services at the Youth Center and to the State Prisons. School districts receiving contract funds include: Provo (State Hospital), Jordan, South Sanpete and Iron (State Prisons.)

The Analyst recommends \$3,831,800 for Education Contracts.

	Analyst FY 2004 Base	Analyst FY 2004 Changes	Analyst FY 2004 Total
Financing			
Uniform School Fund	3,831,800		3,831,800
Total	<u>\$3,831,800</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$3,831,800</u>
Programs			
Youth Center	1,146,300		1,146,300
Corrections Institutions	2,685,500		2,685,500
Total	<u>\$3,831,800</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$3,831,800</u>

2.0 Public Education Contracts

2.1 Intent Language

During the 2002 General Session the Legislature approved the following intent language for the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

It is the intent of the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee to study the funding, program delivery and administration issues relating to the education of individuals in state custody during the interim.

Analyst Response

The subcommittee adopted the above intent language to direct a study of how corrections education is delivered in Utah. The subcommittee wished to study services offered to inmates, the cost and delivery methods of those services, the relationship between Youth in Custody and adult corrections education, and what other cost effective and efficient methods exist in providing services to the states inmate population.

The subcommittee held one interim meeting in November of 2002. With the unique nature of the 2002 interim, pressing issues in education, and only one subcommittee meeting, the subcommittee was unable to meet its' intent to study corrections education. The subcommittee may wish to reevaluate the above intent language and confirm its' desire to study corrections education during the 2003 interim or rescind the intent language.

2.2 Sixth Special Session

Action taken by the Legislature during the Sixth Special Session, resulted in a decrease of \$46,500 in Uniform School Funds for Education Contracts. The Legislature provided for a one-time restoration in FY 2003. This reduction results in a decrease of \$13,900 for the Youth Center and \$32,600 for Corrections Institutions. Sixth Special Session reductions are included in the Analyst's base budget recommendation.

Program reductions may result in a reduction of student services and contract funding received by school districts to provide educational services to state correctional inmates and students at the Youth Center.

2.3 Reorganization of Reductions

To offset the reduction detailed above, the State Office of Education recommends transferring \$23,000 in ongoing Uniform School Funds from the Child Nutrition line item to the Education Contracts line item. With this transfer the total ongoing reduction in FY 2004 to Education Contracts would be \$23,500.

Uniform School Fund\$23,000

3.0 Public Education Contracts

3.1 Youth Center

Recommendation

The Analyst recommends the base budget funding of \$1,146,300 for the Youth Center.

	2002	2003	2004	Est/Analyst
Financing	Actual	Estimated	Analyst	Difference
Uniform School Fund	1,160,200	1,146,300	1,146,300	
Uniform School Fund, One-time		13,900		(13,900)
Total	<u>\$1,160,200</u>	<u>\$1,160,200</u>	<u>\$1,146,300</u>	<u>(\$13,900)</u>
Expenditures				
Other Charges/Pass Thru	1,160,200	1,160,200	1,146,300	(13,900)
Total	<u>\$1,160,200</u>	<u>\$1,160,200</u>	<u>\$1,146,300</u>	<u>(\$13,900)</u>

*General and school funds as revised by Supplemental Bills I-V, 2002 General and Special Sessions. Other funds as estimated by agency.

Purpose

The State Hospital provides specialized mental health services that are difficult to obtain in many communities. The Legislature assigned the Utah State Board of Education the responsibility of providing an educational program to all school age children at the State Hospital Youth Center in Provo. The State Board of Education contracts with the Provo School District to provide the educational services for students at the Youth Center.

Mountain Brook Elementary and East Wood High School are self-contained schools providing specialized educational services to the students at the State Hospital. The schools have complete responsibility for the children during the school day. The children have needs requiring frequent intervention and specialized personnel. In addition to general education services, the Youth Center employs additional personnel to provide specialized services the students may require, such as, interveners, speech/language pathologists, counselors, psychologists, as well as specialized instructors. Due to the nature of mental illness, a high adult to student ratio is required.

Performance Measures

There are two primary units at the youth center, the Children’s Unit and the Adolescent Unit. Together, these two programs serve approximately 75 school age students who are residents of the state hospital.

The Children’s Unit serves approximately 22 students ranging from age 6 to age 13. The Adolescent Unit serves roughly 50 youth ages 13 to 18 years. Both units are usually at or near capacity. The Youth Center uses an individualized treatment approach with a wide range of therapies to meet the needs of the students.

3.2 Corrections Institutions

Recommendation The Analyst recommends the base budget funding of \$2,685,500 for Corrections Institutions.

	2002	2003	2004	Est/Analyst
	Actual	Estimated	Analyst	Difference
Financing				
Uniform School Fund	2,768,100	2,685,500	2,685,500	
Uniform School Fund, One-time		32,600		(32,600)
Beginning Nonlapsing	9,000	5,200	5,200	
Closing Nonlapsing	(5,200)	(5,200)	(5,200)	
Total	<u>\$2,771,900</u>	<u>\$2,718,100</u>	<u>\$2,685,500</u>	<u>(\$32,600)</u>
Expenditures				
Current Expense	19,000	19,000	19,000	
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2,752,900	2,699,100	2,666,500	(32,600)
Total	<u>\$2,771,900</u>	<u>\$2,718,100</u>	<u>\$2,685,500</u>	<u>(\$32,600)</u>

*General and school funds as revised by Supplemental Bills I-V, 2002 General and Special Sessions. Other funds as estimated by agency.

Purpose The recidivism reduction program used by the state is a nine-component program designed to enhance the education and job skills of inmates so they will be more likely be a positive addition to society when they are released from prison. The nine components of the program include: Inmate Assessment, Cognitive Problem Solving Skills, Basic Literacy Skills, Career Skills, Job Placement, Post Release Support, Research and Evaluation, Family Involvement, and Multi-agency Collaboration.

Programs are administered through local school districts, applied technology centers, colleges, and universities that have correctional facilities within their boundaries. In addition to traditional education strategies, e.g., testing/assessment, basic literacy, ESL, high school completion/GED, occupational training, etc., further emphasis is placed on cognitive restructuring and transition assistance.

Performance Measures During the past year, 7,457 offenders received educational services at three state prison sites and eighteen county jails. Offenders earned approximately 10,000 high school credits and 3,200 academic level gains, resulting in about 900,000 contact hours provided by the program.

In total 605 GED Certificates were awarded, 796 High School Diplomas were received, 104 Vocational Certificates, 43 Associates Degrees, 1 Bachelors Degree and 1 Masters Degree were earned through the program.

Statutory Provisions The current statutes governing corrections education are as follows:

53A-1-403.5 (Repealed 07/01/07). Education of persons in custody of Department of Corrections -- Contracting for services -- Recidivism reduction plan -- Collaboration among state agencies -- Annual report.

(1) The State Board of Education and the State Board of Regents, subject to legislative appropriation, are responsible for the education of persons in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

(2) In order to fulfill this responsibility, the boards shall, where feasible, contract with appropriate private or public agencies to provide educational and related administrative services.

(3) (a) As its corrections education program, the boards shall develop and implement a recidivism reduction plan, including the following components:

- (i) inmate assessment;
- (ii) cognitive problem-solving skills;
- (iii) basic literacy skills;
- (iv) career skills;
- (v) job placement;
- (vi) postrelease tracking and support;
- (vii) research and evaluation;
- (viii) family involvement and support; and
- (ix) multiagency collaboration.

(b) The plan shall be developed and implemented through the State Office of Education and the Board of Regents office in collaboration with the following entities:

- (i) local boards of education;
- (ii) Department of Corrections;
- (iii) Department of Workforce Services;
- (iv) Department of Human Services;
- (v) Board of Pardons and Parole;
- (vi) State Office of Rehabilitation; and
- (vii) the governor's office.

(c) The Legislature may provide appropriations for implementation of the plan through a line item appropriation to any one or a combination of the entities listed in Subsection (3)(b).

(4) The boards shall make annual reports to the Legislature through the Education Interim Committee on the effectiveness of the recidivism reduction plan.

Amended by Chapter 375, 1997 General Session

Amended by Chapter 26, 1997 General Session

4.0 Additional Information: Public Education Contracts

4.1 Funding History

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Financing	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimated*	Analyst
Uniform School Fund	4,654,800	4,333,800	3,928,300	3,831,800	3,831,800
Uniform School Fund, One-time				46,500	
Beginning Nonlapsing		4,300	9,000	5,200	5,200
Closing Nonlapsing	(4,300)	(9,000)	(5,200)	(5,200)	(5,200)
Total	\$4,650,500	\$4,329,100	\$3,932,100	\$3,878,300	\$3,831,800
Programs					
State Developmental Center	1,022,800	556,600			
Youth Center	1,072,800	1,115,600	1,160,200	1,160,200	1,146,300
Corrections Institutions	2,554,900	2,656,900	2,771,900	2,718,100	2,685,500
Total	\$4,650,500	\$4,329,100	\$3,932,100	\$3,878,300	\$3,831,800
Expenditures					
Current Expense	12,700	12,300	19,000	19,000	19,000
Other Charges/Pass Thru	4,637,800	4,316,800	3,913,100	3,859,300	3,812,800
Total	\$4,650,500	\$4,329,100	\$3,932,100	\$3,878,300	\$3,831,800

*General and school funds as revised by Supplemental Bills I-V, 2002 General and Special Sessions. Other funds as estimated by agency.