

Budget Brief – Education Contracts

NUMBER PEDBB-05-10

SUMMARY

The Education Contracts program provides funding for the education of students in state custody. The Utah State Board of Education contracts with various local school districts to provide educational services to these students. Educational services are provided through two programs, the Youth Center and Corrections Institutions. The Youth Center is located in Provo at the State Hospital. Corrections Institutions provides services throughout the state, but primarily at the state prisons in Draper and Gunnison. Further information on the Education Contracts program may be found in chapter 11 of the Compendium of Budget Information (COBI).

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Appropriations Committee has not allocated additional revenue to the subcommittee. The budget detail table on page 2 only includes the ongoing base budget for Education Contracts.

FY 2006 Base Budget

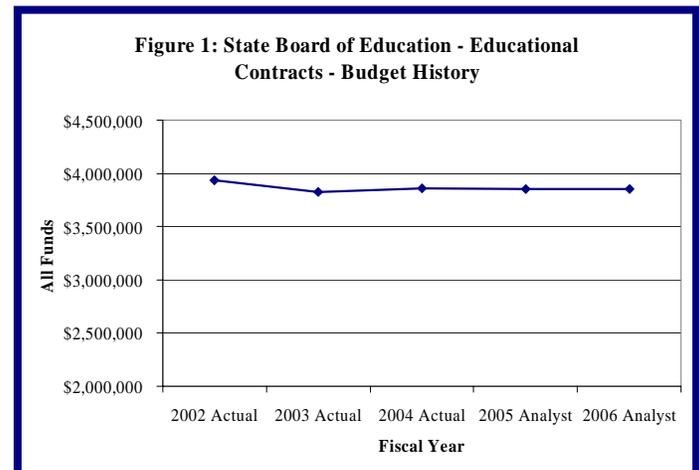
The subcommittee may wish to evaluate the ongoing budget for Education Contracts; make any needed adjustments; and adopt a base budget for FY 2006. The total ongoing budget recommended for this program is \$3,854,800 in FY 2006. Revenue distributed to the FY 2006 base budget for the Youth Center is \$1,153,200 and \$2,701,600 for the Corrections Education program.

Corrections Growth

The inmate population in the state's prisons has increased steadily over the past several years. Since the 2004 General Session, the inmate population has hovered near maximum capacity for the prison system. This has prompted the Utah Department of Corrections to seek ways to increase inmate capacity. As the above table indicates, the budget to provide educational services to Utah's incarcerated population has remained around \$3.8 to \$3.9 million for the past 5 years. Should the Department of Corrections increase the overall capacity of the state prison system, a portion of those inmates will require educational services. Impact on Corrections Education will likely occur the year following any inmate capacity expansions by the Department of Corrections.

ACCOUNTABILITY DETAIL

During the past year, 23 school districts and 7 higher education institutions provided educational service in the state prisons or county jails. In addition to the detail provided in the table "Corrections Education", roughly 1,567 inmates received National Institute of Corrections Cognitive Restructuring services, namely, thinking and problem solving skills. An additional 2,746 inmates received life skills training such as anger management, communication, parenting, job readiness, and job retention.



Corrections Education				
Service	2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails
High School				
Total Enrollment	6,026	3,025	4,742	4,028
Contact Hours	615,561	181,009	644,772	166,957
Credits Earned	6,749	6,091	6,500	5,353
Academic Level Gains	2,251	834	814	648
High School Diplomas	318	435	338	466
GED Certificates	102	329	141	332
Occupational Training				
Total Enrollment	961	96	982	286
Vocational Certificates	74	10	58	67
Associate Degrees	40		33	
Baccalaureate Degrees	4		7	1
Masters Degrees			2	

BUDGET DETAIL

Revenue to support the Education Contracts program comes entirely from the Uniform School Fund. All revenue supports the education of individuals in the custody of the state and is passed through to the school districts providing those services.

Budget Recommendation

The Analyst recommends a total FY 2006 budget appropriation from the Uniform School Fund of \$3,854,800 for Education Contracts. The table below provides further detail on revenue sources, programs, and expenditures.

BUDGET DETAIL TABLE

State Board of Education - Educational Contracts						
Sources of Finance	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Appropriated	Changes	FY 2005 Revised	Changes	FY 2006 Analyst*
Uniform School Fund	3,854,800	3,854,800	0	3,854,800	0	3,854,800
Beginning Nonlapsing	59,000	59,000	(59,000)	0	0	0
Closing Nonlapsing	0	(59,000)	59,000	0	0	0
Lapsing Balance	(52,000)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$3,861,800	\$3,854,800	\$0	\$3,854,800	\$0	\$3,854,800
Programs						
Youth Center	1,153,200	1,153,200	0	1,153,200	0	1,153,200
Corrections Institutions	2,708,600	2,701,600	0	2,701,600	0	2,701,600
Total	\$3,861,800	\$3,854,800	\$0	\$3,854,800	\$0	\$3,854,800
Categories of Expenditure						
Current Expense	15,200	11,400	3,800	15,200	0	15,200
Other Charges/Pass Thru	3,846,600	3,843,400	(3,800)	3,839,600	0	3,839,600
Total	\$3,861,800	\$3,854,800	\$0	\$3,854,800	\$0	\$3,854,800

*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

This section summarizes what actions might be taken if the Legislature wishes to adopt the recommendations presented in this brief. The Analyst recommends that the Legislature consider adopting:

1. A FY 2006 appropriation of \$3,854,800 to provide for educational contracts for students in state custody.