

UTAH COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR YOUTH IN CARE

For more than 30 years, the Utah Coordinating Council for Youth in Care has ensured that high-quality education is provided for all youth in state care. Under the direction of the Department of Human Services and the Utah State Board of Education, the council meets every other month and its role is to plan, coordinate, and recommend budget, policy and program guidelines for the education and supportive services of these students.

The council ensures that students receive evidence-based:

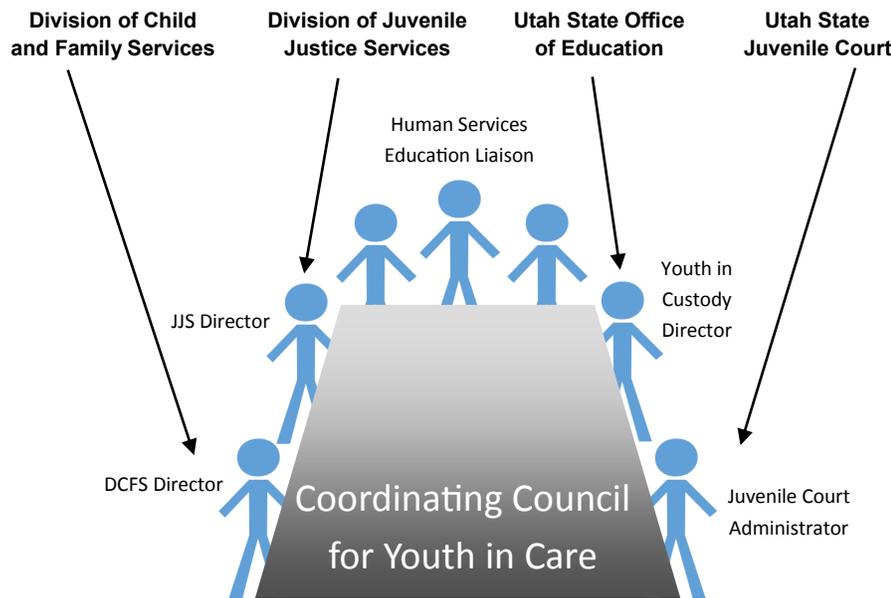
- Compulsory education
- Initiatives benefiting youth in care
- College and career readiness

The Utah State Board of Education contracts with school districts or other appropriate agencies to provide educational, administrative, and supportive services.

Utah Code 53A-1-403

Structure of Utah Coordinating Council for Youth in Care

The Coordinating Council consists of directors from the agencies below.



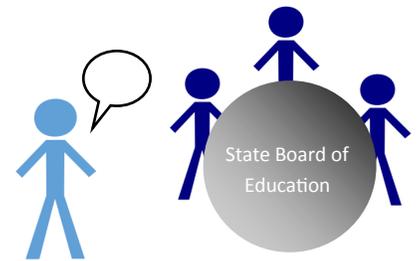
Additional members may include: the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Utah State Hospital, school districts, and community partners. Each participant of the council reports to and receives input from their respective divisions and workgroups that focus on education.

- Division of Child and Family Services, Region Education Specialists
- Division of Juvenile Justice Services, Education Oversight Committee
- State Office of Education, District Youth in Custody Directors
- Juvenile Court, Court Improvement Program and Board of Juvenile Court Judges

The Utah Coordinating Council abides by Utah's Open and Public Meetings Act 54-4-202. Notice, minutes, and recordings of meetings are posted at <http://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html>. For more information, visit Hs.utah.gov/education.

Coordinating Council and Accountability for Educating Youth in State Care

The **State Board of Education** is directly responsible for the education of youth in state care. The Coordinating Council reports to the Board of Education.



Each school district that receives funding is bound by statute to establish and hold quarterly **local interagency council** meetings. The make-up of the interagency councils should reflect the structure of the state coordinating council. Each local council should inform the state coordinating council as they make decisions affecting youth in care.



EDUCATION FUNDING FOR YOUTH IN CARE

Funding Breakdown

98%

98% of Youth in Custody funding is awarded directly to school districts or other appropriate agencies to provide education programs for children in state care.

2%

2% of Youth in Custody funding is used to provide administrative support through the State Office of Education.



It pays the salaries of three program administrators (1 full-time and 2 part-time) and one administrative assistant. The program administrators oversee administration and policy for the Youth in Custody line item, provide technical assistance to school districts, and work with other appropriate agencies.

One administrator works directly with the Division of Juvenile Justice Services, another with the Division of Child and Family Services, and another oversees the statewide Check & Connect mentoring program.



That 2% of the funding also pays for 1/4 of the salary for the State Education Liaison, in partnership with the Division of Child and Family Services, the Division of Juvenile Justice Services, and the Juvenile Court.

Funding Appropriated

100% of funding

Funding is appropriated by the state legislature to provide free and appropriate education for children in the care of the state of Utah. The funds are funneled through the state board of education (with recommendations from the Coordinating Council) to school districts and other appropriate agencies to provide education services.



Utah Coordinating Council

Board of Education



Continuum of Services

98% of funding

School districts and other appropriate agencies use the bulk of the funding to provide a continuum of services for youth in care. Districts provide teachers in secure and residential treatment settings, teachers to youth in care in a mainstream school setting, or mentors who promote educational success for students in state care.



School districts that have juvenile justice facilities or residential treatment centers in their boundaries provide school for the students in those settings.



Self-contained classrooms are for students who may need credit recovery, skills remediation, behavioral supports, or transition services.

Students in foster care or others who attend mainstream schools can participate in Check & Connect, a nationally recognized mentoring program.



UTAH COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR YOUTH IN CARE

Mission

The mission of the coordinating council is to ensure exceptional educational services for youth in state care, and to collaborate successfully with other child-serving agencies.

Vision

The coordinating council expects every student in state care to have access to the same educational services that any other public education student would have. Access to those services means students will excel socially and academically while in school, and be ready to succeed in a career or in post-secondary education.

The council:

- Plans, coordinates, and recommends policy, budget, and program guidelines
- Includes members from the State Office of Education, the Department of Human Services, Juvenile Justice Services, the Division of Child and Family Services, the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Administrative Office of the Courts, School District Superintendents, and a Tribal Representative
- Expects school district and other appropriate agency accountability for the funding they receive, ensuring they provide required educational services

School districts or other appropriate agencies that receive funding should:

- Provide educational services and supports that allow students to meet the same challenging state academic content standards and academic achievement standards that all children in public education are expected to meet
- Provide relevant, engaging, and standards-aligned curriculum
- Foster an environment in which high expectations for staff and students are supported by successful implementation of sound policies and practices
- Build positive relationships and support networks with students and their families
- Design educational services that are fiscally responsible and a good tax-payer investment

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Areas of Focus

Literacy

Numeracy

College & Career Readiness



Technology



Transition

Career & Technical

Education



Health & Wellness

Extracurricular Participation

