

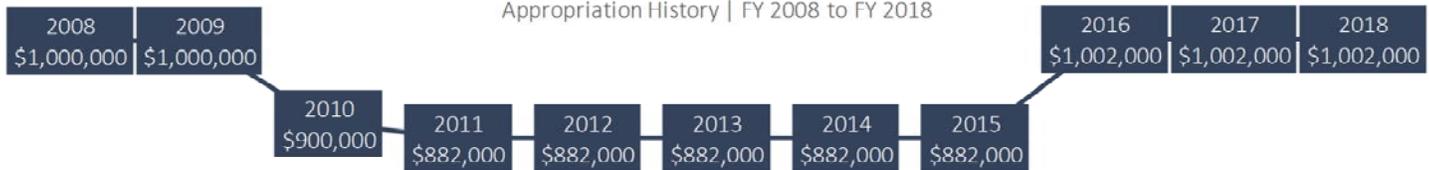
# Matching Fund for School Nurses Budget Review

## What is it? Why is the State involved?

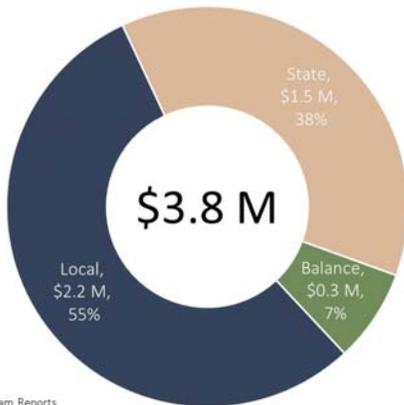
The Legislature created the Matching Fund for School Nurses during the 2007 General Session. The fund assists local education agencies (LEAs) in providing school nurses in the public schools. Program participation is optional and schools must apply to the State Board of Education for funding. As the name suggests, schools that receive a grant must provide an equal amount of matching funds and agree not to supplant other funding currently used for school nurses.

Statute, 53A-11-204, provides that students in public schools “may be better protected against risks to health and safety if schools were to have registered nurses readily available to assist in providing educational and nursing services in the public schools.” The statute does not include a formal state program, but, directs school districts, local health departments, private medical providers, and parents to “work together in determining needs and risks to student health . . . and in developing and implementing plans to meet those needs and minimize risks.”

Matching Fund for School Nurses  
Appropriation History | FY 2008 to FY 2018

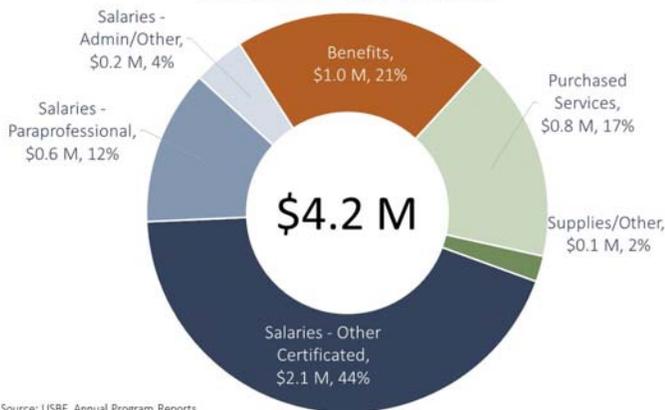


School Nurses  
FY 2016 Revenue Detail (All Sources)



Source: USBE, Annual Program Reports

School Nurses  
FY 2016 Expenditure Detail (All Sources)



Source: USBE, Annual Program Reports

## Discussion Items

Legislators may wish to consider the following:

- The state program does not represent all funding LEAs expend for school nurses. These expenditures are not independently reported by LEAs, but the Utah Department of Health estimates that schools expend approximately \$10.0 million to employ or contract for 150 nurses statewide. (See Report: Medicaid Funding for School Nurses, Division of Medicaid and Health Financing, Utah Department of Health, August 31, 2017.)
- Financial reports submitted to the state by school districts and charter schools show that a total of \$3.7 million in revenues and \$4.2 million in expenditures for FY 2016. See the pie charts on this page.
- The Utah Department of Health estimates that schools may be able use approximately \$2.7 million in Medicaid funding to pay some school nursing costs for Medicaid eligible students. However, schools must provide approximately \$0.8 million in funds to draw down the Medicaid funding. More information can be found in the “[Medicaid Funding for School Nurses](#)” report posted to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee meeting on September 19, 2017 (Afternoon Session).
- Statute provides for a collaborative role between public schools, local health departments, and parents in determining school nursing services. The direct role of the state is not provided in statute. This program, along with other general unrestricted state funding local school may provide, supports the provision of local nursing services.

# Matching Fund for School Nurses Budget Review - Continued

## Funding Distribution

School districts must apply to the State Board of Education (Board) to receive grant funding. Grant applications must include the following:

- An equal amount of matching funds.
- Agreement to not supplant funding currently supporting school nurses.

Grant Recipients:

- 36 School Districts & 12 Charter Schools.

### Matching Fund for School Nurses - Distributions to Local Education Agencies in FY 2017

LEA	Amount	LEA	Amount	LEA	Amount	LEA	Amount
Alpine	\$107,264	Granite	\$93,653	Piute	\$4,087	Wayne	\$4,314
Beaver	5,746	Iron	15,861	Rich	0	Weber	45,813
Box Elder	19,205	Jordan	74,012	San Juan	7,648	Salt Lake	34,569
Cache	27,190	Juab	7,076	Sevier	9,754	Ogden	20,035
Carbon	8,194	Kane	5,393	South Sanpete	8,024	Provo	27,597
Daggett	0	Millard	7,514	South Summit	5,819	Logan	11,369
Davis	98,800	Morgan	7,720	Tintic	0	Murray	12,406
Duchesne	0	Nebo	47,141	Tooele	22,901	Canyons	49,256
Emery	6,623	North Sanpete	6,872	Uintah	13,129	Charter Schools	62,531
Garfield	4,922	North Summit	5,107	Wasatch	12,555	Unallocated	48,624
Grand	0	Park City	10,260	Washington	43,014	Total	\$1,001,998

## Recommended Legislative Action

The Legislature may wish to consider the following:

- Determine the state role in the provision of school nurses and if the Matching Fund for School Nurses should continue as a categorical program, a block-grant program, or funding moved into the WPU Value. The Public Education Appropriations Funding Decision Tree may be useful in this process.
- If the program remains a categorical program, the Legislature may wish to direct the State Board of Education to work with the Utah Department of Health to investigate the potential of using Medicaid funding to pay certain school nursing costs. The Legislature may wish to have the State Board of Education report on coordination efforts, the impact on local school districts and charter schools in using Medicaid funding, and the possibility of using current matching program funds to draw down Medicaid funding and pay statewide administration costs.