



# USDB VEHICLE EXPANSION REQUEST

PUBLIC EDUCATION  
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ISSUE BRIEF

## **SUMMARY**

Agencies are required to receive legislative approval for the expansion of their motor pools. Code states that Fleet Operations should "coordinate the purchase of all state vehicles" (see [R27-4-5](#) and [63A-9-401](#)).

The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind are requesting to use funds from their Land Grant Trust Fund to purchase two additional vehicles: an audiology van and a small bus.

### *Audiology Van*

USDB provides audiological services to students throughout the State of Utah from birth to age 22. For students in rural areas of the State where there are no other practicing audiologists, USDB is the only entity that provides these hearing services. This service is accomplished using an audiology van that brings the audiology booth, specialized equipment, and our audiologists to the students. The current audiology van is no longer safe for travelling the necessary long distances required to meet rural students' needs.

These vans are very specialized and require that they be custom built. The expense includes the purchase and installation of an audiology booth in the van. The total estimated cost is \$200,000 one-time.

### *Small Bus*

USDB often transports small groups of students that do not require a full-sized bus. The smaller bus will allow for fuel savings and more maneuverability. Additionally, USDB struggles with hiring and maintaining personnel that can operate the larger buses. The smaller bus would not require this same level of licensure.

The total estimated cost is \$80,000 one-time.