

Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

Staff: Rachel Boe | February 2, 2024

Background

Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind has several funding authorization requests for FY 2025. The Utah State Board of Education has approved both requests listed below.

Audiology Van Request

- 1. Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind's current audiology van is old, has costly maintenance issues, and high mileage. The Legislature authorized USDB to purchase a second audiology van a couple years ago, which they have not yet received it due to supply chain issues. USDB is looking into alternative vendors for the van due to the delays in production. USDB is currently seeking to purchase a third van to replace their existing van, allowing them two new vans to provide services across the state. USDB has the funds set aside in their non-lapsing balances to purchase the third van.
 - **Request:** Authorize Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind and the Blind to purchase a third audiology van up to \$300,000 in FY 2025. This includes the cost of the van and all equipment needed to provide audiology services.

Plow Truck Request

- 2. Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind's Salt Lake Campus has improved snow plowing service needs. USDB is currently using a golf cart type of vehicle to plow snow during the winter, which cannot plow as effectively as a truck. The alternative to using their golf cart vehicle is to contract for plow services at \$5,000 per month. The average cost for contracted plow services for one winter is \$25,000. USDB made an official request that Utah State Board of Education allow them to purchase a ¾ ton pick-up truck to meet their plowing needs on the USDB Salt Lake Campus. USDB has the funds set aside in their non-lapsing balances to purchase the truck.
 - **Request:** Authorize Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind to purchase a new 34 ton pick-up truck at up to \$70,000 in FY 2025.