

# Grant for Professional Learning

53F-5-214 Sunset Recommendations

August 2024

# 53F-5-214 Grant for Professional Learning

(1) Subject to legislative appropriations, **the state board shall award grants to LEAs to provide teachers in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 through 3 with:**

- (a) professional learning opportunities in early literacy and mathematics; and**
- (b) the required early literacy professional learning opportunity described in Subsection (6).**

(2) The state board shall award a grant described in Subsection (1)(a) to an LEA that submits [an] application . . . that includes a description of the evidence-based, based on assessment data, professional learning opportunities the LEA will provide that are:

- (a) aligned with the professional learning standards described in Section 53G-11-303; and
- (b) targeted to attaining the local and state early learning goals described in Section 53G-7-218.

# Background

Section [53F-5-214](#), is scheduled to be repealed and was included in the bill that created the elementary teacher preparation grant program pilot.

Unless action is taken by the Legislature, the program will be repealed on July 1, 2025.

# If 53F-5-214 is repealed:

It will negatively impact LEAs:

- LEAs rely on these funds to provide stipends, professional learning, and jobs for coaches in their buildings.
- The majority of LEAs use these funds for the LETRS stipends for their teachers.
- LEAs that have a majority of teachers who have completed the LETRS training will transition these funds to providing math professional learning.

# Data on how LEAs are currently using the Grant funding

115/125 LEAs that have P-3 classrooms participate in the Professional Learning Grant. Of the 115:

- 101 use funds for literacy professional learning
- 7 use funds for professional learning in math
- 7 use funds for both literacy and math

Data from the post-survey regarding the Professional Learning Grant (literacy professional learning):

- 97% of educators said the professional learning deepened their understanding of literacy.
- 96% of educators said they directly applied the skills, knowledge, and strategies they learned
- 95% of educators said the professional learning directly applied to their role as educators

Data from the post-survey regarding the Professional Learning Grant (mathematics professional learning):

- 76% of educators said the professional learning deepened their understanding of literacy.
- 81% of educators said they directly applied the skills, knowledge, and strategies they learned
- 81% of educators said the professional learning directly applied to their role as educators

# Recommendation

The Utah State Board of Education recommends that the Legislature not allow Utah Code [53F-5-214](#), Grant for Professional Learning, to sunset.

# Thank you

- Jennie Earl, Vice Chair Utah State Board of Education
- Angie Stallings, Deputy Superintendent of Policy
- Julie Clark, P-12 Literacy / Early Learning Coordinator