Extreme Behaviors Intervention Trial Program

Higher Education

Requester Information

Legislator Name: Thompson, Jason E.

Created Date: January 17th 2026 **Submitted Date:** January 17th 2026

Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

This funding will be used to develop a comprehensive support system for educators and administrators who are increasingly faced with extreme student behaviors in classrooms and school settings. In recent years, these behaviors have become one of the most significant challenges affecting school safety, instructional time, and educator well-being. The proposed investment will provide schools with evidence-based interventions that improve student outcomes and reduce behavioral escalation, while also offering coordinated support to parents and families. By strengthening school capacity to respond proactively rather than reactively, this program will help stabilize learning environments and improve long-term success for students and staff.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Tami Curtis

Organization: USU College of Arts and Sciences- Social Work

Position: Assistant Clinical Professor of Social Work

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Personnel Services	2026: 2027:	$348,000.00 $348,000.00	$0.00
In-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Out-of-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2026: 2027:	$52,000.00 $52,000.00	$0.00
Technology Purchases	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$400,000.00	**$400,000.00**	**$0.00**

Funding Sources:

Stabilization Account

Amount Requested:

2026 (One-time)	$400,000.00
2027 (One-time)	$400,000.00
2027 (Ongoing)	$0.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$400,000.00	**$400,000.00**	**$0.00**

Is this a multi-year project?

Yes

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

We could reduce the number of schools receiving services, effectively decreasing the scope of the trial.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Education and Research

01533

Agency:

514 / Utah State University

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

State Government

Grant recipient

No

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

The Legislature will know the project is successful through clear, year-over-year improvements in behavioral incident data, student regulation, crisis-service utilization, educator capacity, and family engagement. These outcomes—combined with measurable cost avoidance—will provide a comprehensive picture of program effectiveness at the end of the two-year pilot.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

This program aims to reduce extreme student behaviors by building a stronger, more proactive support system within schools. It introduces structured, evidence-based approaches that help students regulate emotions and prevent crises before they escalate. The initiative also increases the capacity of educators and administrators by providing targeted tools, training, and family-focused supports. Together, these efforts are intended to create safer classrooms, improve learning conditions, and better support student and staff well-being.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

The Legislature will know the program is successful by tracking measurable improvements in student behavior and school climate over the two-year pilot. Early indicators we have already documented—such as reduced office referrals, fewer absences, decreased time out of class, and the complete elimination of physical restraints and seclusion—will serve as baseline comparison points. Over the next 1–2 years, we expect to see continued declines in extreme behavioral incidents and increases in student regulation and classroom engagement. We also anticipate further improvements in culturally responsive practices, connection, and safety within classrooms. Together, these outcomes will provide clear, data-driven evidence of program effectiveness.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

Full Time Employees

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