

2026 Submitted Study Items List

The following study items were approved by the Legislative Management Committee during the committee's April 16, 2026, meeting.

Higher Education

1. **Advanced Placement (AP) Credit vs. Concurrent Enrollment Alignment:** USHE institutions accept high school concurrent enrollment credit more freely than AP credit, despite AP courses generally being more rigorous. The committee should examine how to better align credit recognition policies across institutions.
2. **K-12 and USHE Education and Workforce Partnerships:** A joint presentation from UBHE and USBE on education and workforce readiness partnerships between the two systems, including technical education concurrent enrollment, APEX, First Credential and youth apprenticeships, and more.
3. **USHE Campus Safety Task Force Updates:** A presentation on the work the [USHE Campus Safety Task Force](#) has engaged in since its development, and anticipated outcomes and work products from the task force.
4. **System Redesign:** A presentation on the restructuring of USHE into regions (stemming from [HB 352](#) in the 2026 General Session) and how this new system architecture will help enhance collaboration and help Utah capitalize on greater efficiencies in how higher education is delivered across the state.
5. **Teacher Licensing:** Review credit hour requirements for degrees or licenses (like teacher licenses) that require more than 120 credit hours.

Study current teacher licensing practices and whether a subject-matter bachelor's degree (math, history, engineering, etc.) plus a master's in education should qualify for a full Professional Educator License in Utah.

Public Education

1. **Successful Arts Implementation:** Review successful arts education programs in Utah. How are they successful with limited funding?
2. **Business Manager Reporting Structure in Public Education:** In public education, business managers (deputy superintendents) do not report to the superintendent in an LEA or in the State Board of Education. The committee should consider whether this organizational structure is appropriate for public education administration. See [HB 524](#) (2026).
3. **Special Education Funding:** Study special education funding, including provisions in [HB 463](#) (2026).
4. **Organizing and Coordinating Civics Education Code:** Civics education is spread throughout the education code and needs to be organized and coordinated. The issue was highlighted by the number of places that required edits in [HB 312](#) (2026).
5. **Roles in Curriculum and Class Creation:** Ensure legislators understand the distinct roles in creating a class and curriculum: USBE sets standards; LEAs select curriculum; parents



and stakeholders provide input; and legislation shapes the overall process. This is not a bill but a topic that requires discussion and clarification.

6. **Educator Licensing and Disciplinary Action:** Currently, the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission (UPPAC) manages complaints about teacher conduct. Review options for (1) improving the UPPAC process and (2) improving the due process for teachers during an investigation.
7. **Institutional Neutrality and Student Clubs:** Examine recent legislation related to institutional neutrality in public education ([HB 261](#), 2024, and [SB 295](#), 2026) and the landscape related to curricular and non-curricular clubs. Is there any clean-up needed?
8. **Legislatively Mandated Education Programs:** How many and what programs does the state board oversee as mandated by the Legislature? Should they be prioritized to match the mission and vision of the public education system as established in code?
9. **Legislatively Mandated Education Programs and Outcome-based Investment Grant Program:** [SB 324](#) (2026) established an Outcome-based Investment Grant Pilot Program. Which legislatively mandated public education programs could benefit from going through the process established by SB 324?
10. **Strategic Reinvestment Plan for Public Education:** Study options for a strategic reinvestment plan for public education ([HB 265](#), 2025).

Audits

The following audits have been or are anticipated to be assigned to the Education Interim Committee.

Audit	Anticipated Release	Notes
A Performance Audit of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind	November 2025	Some findings addressed in HB 448 (2026)
A Performance Audit of Utah State University’s Governance, Leadership, and Culture	January 2026	Some findings addressed in SB 240 (2026)
Limited Review of School District’s Impact	June 2026	May not need a hearing
Public Education Reading Programs	June 2026	
Higher Education High Risk – Admission	June 2026	
Higher Education High Risk – Tenure	August 2026	



Audit	Anticipated Release	Notes
Higher Education High Risk – High Impact Programs	August 2026	
South Summit School District	September 2026	
Graduate School Admissions	TBD	
Salt Lake City School District & Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission	TBD	
Box Elder School District	TBD	

Sunset Items

See Utah Code Section [63I-1-253](#)

Program	Sunset Date	Statutes
Higher Education and Corrections Council	July 1, 2027	53H-1-604 53H-1-402(1)(k) 53E-1-201(1)(r)
Food Security Council	July 1, 2027	53H-4-313
Coordinating councils for youth in custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services and the Division of Child and Family Services	July 1, 2027	53E-3-503(5) and (6)
Five-year performance goals	July 1, 2027	53H-8-305
Private right of action or a waiver of immunity for the requirement that all school districts provide an educational environment for all students, staff, and educators that is free from repeated verbal or physical harassment and does not pose a threat of serious bodily injury	July 1, 2027	53E-2-304(6) 53E-7-207(7)
Capital Project Evaluation Panel	July 1, 2027	Title 53F, Chapter 10, Part 2
Standards Review Committees	January 1, 2028	53E-4-203 53E-4-202(8)(b)