

Office of the
Legislative Fiscal Analyst

FY 2003 Budget Recommendations

Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for
Public Education

Utah State Office of Education
Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

Contents:

- 1.0 Summary
- 2.0 Issues
- 3.0 Programs
- 4.0 Additional Information

1.0 Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

Summary

The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) help children with hearing and/or visual impairments to become competent, caring and contributing citizens. The schools provide educational services to hearing and/or visually impaired children from birth to age twenty-one. They operate an educational resource center that supplies educational materials to other agencies who serve these sensory impaired children. The schools also have a short-term, five day per week, residential program for autistic children.

The Analyst recommends \$21,292,600 for the Schools for the Deaf and Blind. Of this amount, \$17,420,500 is from the Uniform School Fund.

	Analyst FY 2003 Base	Analyst FY 2003 Changes	Analyst FY 2003 Total
Financing			
Uniform School Fund	17,437,300	(16,800)	17,420,500
Dedicated Credits Revenue	1,195,200		1,195,200
Transfers - Interagency	3,081,500		3,081,500
Beginning Nonlapsing	1,078,300		1,078,300
Closing Nonlapsing	(1,482,900)		(1,482,900)
Total	<u>\$21,309,400</u>	<u>(\$16,800)</u>	<u>\$21,292,600</u>
Programs			
Instruction	12,429,900	(10,600)	12,419,300
Support Services	8,879,500	(6,200)	8,873,300
Total	<u>\$21,309,400</u>	<u>(\$16,800)</u>	<u>\$21,292,600</u>
FTE/Other			
Total FTE	368		368

2.0 Issues: Schools for the Deaf and Blind

2.1 FY 2002 Recurring Reductions

Through supplemental budget action, the Legislature rescinded \$108,200 in ongoing Uniform School Funds from the Schools for the Deaf and Blind. The Schools were allowed discretion in determining how these cuts would be implemented. The Analyst's FY 2003 base reflects these reductions as if they have been implemented as originally recommended by the Analyst.

2.2 FY 2003 Administrative Savings

The Legislature approved a 10% reduction in certain administrative cost categories as part of FY 2002 Supplemental action. That amount for FY 2002 was pro-rated for time that had already passed. For FY 2003, the full 10% is recommended by the analyst. This is an incremental impact of -\$16,800 in the Schools for the Deaf and Blind.

2.3 Internal Service Fund Rate Impacts

Department of Administrative Services Internal Service Funds (ISF) provide services to the State Office of Education on a reimbursable basis. Each year, the ISFs review rates and adjust them for changing costs. For FY 2003, rate impacts will increase the Schools for the Deaf and Blind's ISF costs by \$9,600. The Analyst's base includes \$9,600 in new funding, \$6,000 from the Uniform School Fund, to cover these costs..

2.4 Compensation for One More Work Day in FY 2003

The number of work-hours in fiscal year 2003 will be 2088, compared with the 2080 hours budgeted for fiscal year 2002. The cost of that additional day in the Schools for the Deaf and Blind is \$54,300. The Analyst's base includes money from the Uniform School Fund for this extra day.

2.5 Allocation of Prior-Year Market Comparability and Retirement Adjustments

The Legislature provided \$4.6 million in FY 2002 for statewide market comparability adjustments and improved retirement benefits. The appropriation for FY 2002 was centralized, but has been distributed to agencies for FY 2003. The Schools for the Deaf and Blind receive an additional \$40,200 from the Uniform School fund in the Analyst's base under this transfer.

2.6 Compensation Increases for USDB Instructors

Utah Code Annotated 53A-25-111 directs the State Board of Education to adjust salaries for USDB instructors by an amount equal to the average salary adjustment negotiated in school districts. The cost of this adjustment would be \$463,600 from the Uniform School Fund, should the Legislature choose to fund it.

3.0 Programs: Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind

3.1 Instruction

Recommendation

The Analyst recommends \$12,419,300 for Instruction at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind (USDB). This amount includes \$11,693,700 from the Uniform School Fund, and reflects an overall increase in state funds of \$159,400 offset by adjustments in transfers and nonlapsing balances.

	2001	2002	2003	Est/Analyst
Financing	Actual	Estimated	Analyst	Difference
Uniform School Fund	10,892,700	11,595,700	11,693,700	98,000
Uniform School Fund, One-time		(61,400)		61,400
Dedicated Credits Revenue	174,200	131,100	158,700	27,600
Transfers - Interagency	943,800	669,600	566,900	(102,700)
Beginning Nonlapsing	1,900	165,600		(165,600)
Closing Nonlapsing	(544,100)			
Total	\$11,468,500	\$12,500,600	\$12,419,300	(\$81,300)
Expenditures				
Personal Services	10,966,400	11,937,200	12,010,500	73,300
In-State Travel	194,700	175,900	137,500	(38,400)
Out of State Travel	3,800	4,900	4,900	
Current Expense	277,300	357,400	262,800	(94,600)
DP Current Expense	20,400	25,200	3,600	(21,600)
Capital Outlay	5,900			
Total	\$11,468,500	\$12,500,600	\$12,419,300	(\$81,300)
FTE/Other				
Total FTE	229	254	254	

Purpose

The Instruction Program at USDB provides educational programs for the deaf, blind, and deaf-blind children of Utah. It provides residential, daytime, and extension programs in a number of locations throughout the state. It includes a Teacher Consultant Program which provides regular classroom teachers' assistance on how to best meet the educational needs of hearing or visually impaired students. It also includes an Educational Resource Center which provides materials and equipment to every instructional program that has a hearing or visually impaired student. Further, USDB Instruction has a Parent Infant Program which provides home based services to families with children who are sensory impaired from birth through two years of age.

Instructional Salary Increases

Utah Code Annotated 53A-25-111 directs the State Board of Education to adjust salaries for USDB instructors by an amount equal to the average salary adjustment negotiated in school districts:

53A-25-111. Annual salary adjustments for school employees – Benefits

- (1) (a) The board shall adjust the salary schedule applicable to nonadministrative certificated staff at the school each school year.

- (b) The board shall make the adjustment equal to a weighted average adjustment for nonadministrative certificated staff adopted by the public school districts of the state as determined by the State Office of Education. This average will be weighted by the number of teachers in each district.
 - (c) The board will increase this weighted average by 10% in any year in which the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind teachers are not ranked in the top ten in 20 year earnings when compared to the 40 school districts of the state.
- (2) (a) The adjustment shall be computed using adjustments made by the school districts by December 1 of each year.
 - (b) The board shall apply the adjustment to the salary schedule effective July 1 of the following year.
 - (3) The board shall make salary adjustments for administrative and noncertificated staff at the school on the basis of adjustments approved for state government employees in similar positions.
 - (4) Administrative, certificated, and noncertificated staff at the school shall receive the same benefits as those provided to state government employees.

The teachers' association representing USDB instructors has calculated the average district increase for FY 2002 at 6.08%. They estimate that a commensurate increase in USDB teacher salaries for FY 2003 (lagged one-year per paragraph (2)(b) above) would cost \$463,600.

Should additional funding become available, the subcommittee may wish to recommend \$463,600 from the Uniform School Fund to USDB for teacher compensation.

3.2 Support Services

Recommendation

The Analyst recommends \$8,873,300 for Support Services at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind (USDB). This amount includes \$5,726,800 from the Uniform School Fund, and reflects an overall increase in state funds of \$125,800 offset by adjustments in dedicated credits, transfers, and nonlapsing balances.

	2001	2002	2003	Est/Analyst
	Actual	Estimated	Analyst	Difference
Financing				
Uniform School Fund	5,880,100	5,854,300	5,726,800	(127,500)
Uniform School Fund, One-time		(253,300)		253,300
Dedicated Credits Revenue	855,600	944,000	1,036,500	92,500
Transfers - Interagency	1,498,000	2,861,400	2,514,600	(346,800)
Beginning Nonlapsing	1,133,300	1,271,300	1,078,300	(193,000)
Closing Nonlapsing	(892,800)	(1,078,300)	(1,482,900)	(404,600)
Total	\$8,474,200	\$9,599,400	\$8,873,300	(\$726,100)
Expenditures				
Personal Services	4,570,200	4,821,900	4,829,300	7,400
In-State Travel	110,300	96,400	94,400	(2,000)
Out of State Travel	24,200	21,200	21,100	(100)
Current Expense	3,614,500	4,399,500	3,782,100	(617,400)
DP Current Expense	155,000	200,400	146,400	(54,000)
Capital Outlay		60,000		(60,000)
Total	\$8,474,200	\$9,599,400	\$8,873,300	(\$726,100)
FTE/Other				
Total FTE	113	114	114	

Purpose

USDB's Support Services division includes activities related to Administration, Educational Support, Residential Care, Transportation and Support Services. Administration executes the schools' business management, personnel services and data processing functions. Educational Support includes specialized staff such as audiologists, orientation and mobility specialists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and psychologists. Residential Care provides the schools' 30 or so residential students with a safe and healthy environment and teaches good living skills. Transportation is responsible for bringing students to and from their homes on a daily basis. Support Services supplies food services to the students and performs building and grounds maintenance.

4.0 Additional Information: Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

4.1 Funding History

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Financing	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimated	Analyst
Uniform School Fund	13,569,400	14,929,000	16,772,800	17,450,000	17,420,500
Uniform School Fund, One-time				(314,700)	
Dedicated Credits Revenue	674,600	976,000	1,029,800	1,075,100	1,195,200
Transfers - Interagency	2,838,000	3,191,800	2,441,800	3,531,000	3,081,500
Beginning Nonlapsing	995,600	1,059,800	1,135,200	1,436,900	1,078,300
Closing Nonlapsing	(1,059,800)	(1,135,900)	(1,436,900)	(1,078,300)	(1,482,900)
Total	\$17,017,800	\$19,020,700	\$19,942,700	\$22,100,000	\$21,292,600
Programs					
Instruction	9,311,500	10,192,700	11,468,500	12,500,600	12,419,300
Support Services	7,706,300	8,828,000	8,474,200	9,599,400	8,873,300
Total	\$17,017,800	\$19,020,700	\$19,942,700	\$22,100,000	\$21,292,600
Expenditures					
Personal Services	12,322,200	13,823,700	15,536,600	16,759,100	16,839,800
In-State Travel	264,300	263,600	305,000	272,300	231,900
Out of State Travel	22,100	50,400	28,000	26,100	26,000
Current Expense	3,953,500	4,336,100	3,891,800	4,756,900	4,044,900
DP Current Expense	387,400	518,100	175,400	225,600	150,000
DP Capital Outlay	9,700	5,700			
Capital Outlay	58,600	23,100	5,900	60,000	
Total	\$17,017,800	\$19,020,700	\$19,942,700	\$22,100,000	\$21,292,600
FTE/Other					
Total FTE	333	336	341	368	368