

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR PILOT PROGRAM

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason

Senate Sponsor: Howard A. Stephenson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the Elementary School Counselor Pilot Program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ creates the Elementary School Counselor Pilot Program;
- ▶ authorizes the State Board of Education to award grants to qualified local education agencies to employ licensed school counselors;
- ▶ requires a local education agency that receives a grant to make an annual report to the State Board of Education; and
- ▶ provides a repeal date.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates:

- ▶ to the State Board of Education -- Minimum School Program -- Related to Basic School Program, as a one-time appropriation:
 - from the Education Fund, \$1,500,000.

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:



28 [63I-1-253](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapters 41, 63, and 169

29 ENACTS:

30 [53A-1-415](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

31

32 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

33 Section 1. Section **53A-1-415** is enacted to read:

34 **53A-1-415. Elementary School Counselor Pilot Program.**

35 (1) As used in this section:

36 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

37 (b) "College and career counseling" means the same as that term is defined in Section
38 [53A-15-1601](#).

39 (c) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means a school district or charter school.

40 (d) "Program" means the Elementary School Counselor Pilot Program created in this
41 section.

42 (e) "Qualified LEA" means an LEA that:

43 (i) serves students in any one or all of grades kindergarten through grade 6; and

44 (ii) (A) does not employ a licensed school counselor at the school for which the LEA
45 plans to employ the licensed school counselor at the time of application for a grant to the
46 board; or

47 (B) already employs at the time of grant application a licensed school counselor at the
48 school for which the LEA plans to employ an additional licensed counselor through grant
49 funds, the already employed licensed counselor serves two or more schools within the LEA,
50 and the LEA intends through grant funds to hire an additional licensed counselor to reduce
51 workload.

52 (2) There is created the Elementary School Counselor Pilot Program, a grant program
53 for LEAs to improve student emotional and social support through access to licensed school
54 counselors.

55 (3) The board shall:

56 (a) subject to legislative appropriations and Subsection (4), award a grant to a qualified
57 LEA to employ a licensed school counselor; and

58 (b) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,

59 make rules specifying:

60 (i) procedures for applying for and awarding grants under this section;

61 (ii) qualifying professional licenses for a school counselor employed in whole or in part
62 by a grant; and

63 (iii) annual reporting requirements for grantees in accordance with Subsection (7).

64 (4) The board shall award grants to each qualified LEA that applies under this section
65 to qualified LEAs by first awarding one grant each and, with any remaining money, awarding a
66 second grant to a qualified LEA based on the size of the student population served by the
67 qualified LEA, giving priority to a qualified LEA with a larger student population served.

68 (5) A qualified LEA may provide local funds in addition to grant funds received under
69 this section to supplement a licensed school counselor's salary.

70 (6) A licensed school counselor employed in whole or in part through a grant described
71 in this section:

72 (a) shall provide emotional and social support to students;

73 (b) may provide college and career readiness counseling; and

74 (c) may not at any one time serve more than two schools in a school district.

75 (7) A qualified LEA that receives a grant under this section shall include in an annual
76 report to the board:

77 (a) (i) measurable goals on improving student emotional and social support;

78 (ii) how the qualified LEA, through employment of a licensed school counselor and
79 other means, intends to meet those goals; and

80 (iii) whether the qualified LEA, after employing a licensed school counselor, has met
81 those goals; and

82 (b) if the qualified LEA decides to discontinue the licensed school counselor position,
83 the qualified LEA's reason for discontinuing the position.

84 Section 2. Section **63I-1-253** is amended to read:

85 **63I-1-253. Repeal dates, Titles 53, 53A, and 53B.**

86 The following provisions are repealed on the following dates:

87 (1) Subsection [53-10-202\(18\)](#) is repealed July 1, 2018.

88 (2) Section [53-10-202.1](#) is repealed July 1, 2018.

89 (3) Section [53A-1-415](#) is repealed July 1, 2019.

90 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) Title 53A, Chapter 1a, Part 6, Public Education Job Enhancement Program is
91 repealed July 1, 2020.

92 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Section 53A-13-106.5 is repealed July 1, 2019.

93 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Section 53A-15-106 is repealed July 1, 2019.

94 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) Subsections 53A-16-113(3) and (4) are repealed December 31, 2016.

95 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) Section 53A-16-114 is repealed December 31, 2016.

96 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) Section 53A-17a-163, Performance-based Compensation Pilot Program, is
97 repealed July 1, 2016.

98 ~~[(9)]~~ (10) Title 53A, Chapter 31, Part 4, American Indian and Alaskan Native
99 Education State Plan Pilot Program, is repealed July 1, 2022.

100 ~~[(10)]~~ (11) Section 53B-24-402, Rural residency training program, is repealed July 1,
101 2020.

102 ~~[(11)]~~ (12) Subsection 53C-3-203(4)(b)(vii), which provides for the distribution of
103 money from the Land Exchange Distribution Account to the Geological Survey for test wells,
104 other hydrologic studies, and air quality monitoring in the West Desert, is repealed July 1,
105 2020.

106 Section 3. **Appropriation.**

107 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
108 2017, and ending June 30, 2018. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
109 fiscal year 2018. Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures
110 Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts
111 indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

112 To State Board of Education -- Minimum School Program -- Related to Basic Program
113 From Education Fund, One-time \$1,500,000

114 Schedule of Programs:

115 Elementary School Counselor Pilot Program \$1,500,000

116 The Legislature intends that the State Board of Education:

117 (1) use the appropriation to the State Board of Education under this section to award at
118 least 25 grants to qualified LEAs as part of the grant program described in Section 53A-1-415;
119 and

120 (2) may award the money in this appropriation to LEAs in fiscal years 2017-18 and

121 2018-19.

122 Section 4. **Effective date.**

123 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2017.

Legislative Review Note
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel