

SPECIAL EDUCATION RECODIFICATION

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Val L. Peterson

Senate Sponsor: Lyle W. Hillyard

LONG TITLE

Committee Note:

The Education Interim Committee recommended this bill.

General Description:

This bill recodifies Title 53E, Chapter 7, Special Education.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ repeals outdated provisions related to special education;
- ▶ reorganizes, redrafts, and updates existing provisions related to special education;

and

- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53E-3-503, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 75 and renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

53E-7-201, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1



28 **53G-8-305**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 3

29 **62A-2-108.1**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 415

30 **62A-5a-102**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 415

31 **62A-5a-105**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 415

32 REPEALS AND REENACTS:

33 **53E-7-202**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 75 and renumbered and
34 amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

35 **53E-7-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 75 and renumbered and
36 amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

37 **53E-7-206**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

38 **53E-7-207**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

39 **53E-7-208**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

40 RENUMBERS AND AMENDS:

41 **53G-6-709**, (Renumbered from 53E-7-205, as renumbered and amended by Laws of
42 Utah 2018, Chapter 1)

43 REPEALS:

44 **53E-7-301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 75 and renumbered and
45 amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

46 **53E-7-302**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

47 **53E-7-303**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1

48 **53E-7-304**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 1



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

51 Section 1. Section **53E-3-503** is amended to read:

52 **53E-3-503. Education of individuals in custody of or receiving services from**
53 **certain state agencies -- Establishment of coordinating council -- Advisory councils.**

54 (1) For purposes of this section, "board" means the State Board of Education.

55 (2) (a) The board is directly responsible for the education of all individuals who are:

56 (i) (A) younger than 21 years old; or

57 [~~(B) students with disabilities entitled to a free, appropriate public education as~~
58 ~~described in Section **53E-7-202**; and]~~

59 (B) eligible for special education services as described in Chapter 7, Part 2, Special
60 Education Program; and

61 (ii) (A) receiving services from the Department of Human Services;

62 (B) in the custody of an equivalent agency of a Native American tribe recognized by
63 the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs and whose custodial parent or legal guardian resides
64 within the state; or

65 (C) being held in a juvenile detention facility.

66 (b) The board shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
67 Administrative Rulemaking Act, to provide for the distribution of funds for the education of
68 individuals described in Subsection (2)(a).

69 (3) Subsection (2)(a)(ii)(B) does not apply to an individual taken into custody for the
70 primary purpose of obtaining access to education programs provided for youth in custody.

71 (4) The board shall, where feasible, contract with school districts or other appropriate
72 agencies to provide educational, administrative, and supportive services, but the board shall
73 retain responsibility for the programs.

74 (5) The Legislature shall establish and maintain separate education budget categories
75 for youth in custody or who are under the jurisdiction of the following state agencies:

76 (a) detention centers and the Divisions of Juvenile Justice Services and Child and
77 Family Services;

78 (b) the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health; and

79 (c) the Division of Services for People with Disabilities.

80 (6) (a) The Department of Human Services and the board shall appoint a coordinating
81 council to plan, coordinate, and recommend budget, policy, and program guidelines for the
82 education and treatment of persons in the custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice Services
83 and the Division of Child and Family Services.

84 (b) The Department of Human Services and the board may appoint similar councils for
85 those in the custody of the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health or the Division of
86 Services for People with Disabilities.

87 (7) A school district contracting to provide services under Subsection (4) shall
88 establish an advisory council to plan, coordinate, and review education and treatment programs
89 for individuals held in custody in the district.

90 Section 2. Section 53E-7-201 is amended to read:

91 **53E-7-201. Definitions.**

92 [Reserved]

93 As used in this part:

94 (1) "Child with a disability" means the same as that term is defined in 34 C.F.R. Sec.
95 300.308.

96 (2) "Due process hearing" means an administrative due process hearing authorized by
97 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1415.

98 (3) "Individualized education program" or "IEP" means a written statement for an
99 eligible student that is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance with the Individuals
100 with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.

101 (4) "LEA special education program" means the implementation of an eligible student's
102 IEP by the eligible student's LEA.

103 (5) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means:

104 (a) a school district;

105 (b) a charter school; or

106 (c) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

107 (6) "Special education services" means the specialized instruction and related services,
108 described in an eligible student's IEP, that are necessary to provide a free appropriate public
109 education to the eligible student.

110 (7) "State board" means the State Board of Education.

111 (8) "Student who is eligible for special education services" or "eligible student" means
112 a child with a disability who is:

113 (a) at least 3 years old but younger than 22 years old; or

114 (b) 22 years old, if the school year in which the child with a disability turned 22 years
115 old has not yet ended.

116 Section 3. Section 53E-7-202 is repealed and reenacted to read:

117 **53E-7-202. Free appropriate public education for eligible students.**

118 An eligible student who has not received a regular high school diploma is entitled to a
119 free appropriate public education.

120 Section 4. Section 53E-7-204 is repealed and reenacted to read:

121 **53E-7-204. State Board of Education special education authority and duties --**
122 **Rulemaking.**

123 (1) The State Board of Education shall have general control and supervision over all
124 public educational programs in the state for students who are eligible for special education
125 services.

126 (2) A program described in Subsection (1) shall comply with state board rule.

127 (3) In accordance with federal law, state law, and Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
128 Administrative Rulemaking Act, the state board shall make rules to implement this part,
129 including provisions that ensure:

130 (a) appropriate and timely identification of a potential eligible student;

131 (b) the evaluation and classification of an eligible student by qualified personnel;

132 (c) standards for special education services and supports;

133 (d) availability of LEA special education programs;

134 (e) delivery of special education service responsibilities;

135 (f) certification and qualification for the instructional staff of eligible students; and

136 (g) special education services for eligible students who are dual enrollment students

137 attending public school on a part-time basis as described in Section [53G-6-702](#).

138 (4) In accordance with federal law, state law, and Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
139 Administrative Rulemaking Act, the state board may make rules to otherwise administer the
140 state board's authority described in Subsection (1).

141 Section 5. Section [53E-7-206](#) is repealed and reenacted to read:

142 **53E-7-206. Special education funding.**

143 In accordance with Title 53F, Chapter 2, State Funding -- Minimum School Program,
144 state board rule, and other applicable law, the state board shall administer the payment of
145 restricted state and federal funds to an LEA to provide special education services to an eligible
146 student.

147 Section 6. Section [53E-7-207](#) is repealed and reenacted to read:

148 **53E-7-207. Local education agency special education duty and authority.**

149 (1) An LEA shall, at no cost to the eligible student, provide a full continuum of special
150 education services and placements to an eligible student enrolled at the LEA.

151 (2) (a) Upon request of the Division of Child and Family Services, an LEA shall

152 provide an initial special education evaluation to an individual who enters the custody of the
153 Division of Child and Family Services, if the Division of Child and Family Services suspects
154 the individual may be an eligible student.

155 (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b)(ii), the LEA shall conduct an evaluation
156 described in Subsection (2)(a) within 30 days after the day on which the Division of Child and
157 Family Services makes the request.

158 (ii) An LEA may refuse to conduct an evaluation described in Subsection (2)(a) if the
159 LEA reviews the relevant data regarding the individual and, within 10 days after the day on
160 which the LEA received the request described in Subsection (2)(a), gives the Division of Child
161 and Family Services written prior notice of refusal to evaluate.

162 (3) (a) In accordance with Subsection (3)(b), an LEA may provide education or training
163 for an individual with a disability who is:

164 (i) younger than 3 years old; or

165 (ii) at least 22 years old and not an eligible student.

166 (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b)(ii), an LEA may not use funding
167 described in Title 53F, Chapter 2, State Funding -- Minimum School Program, to pay for the
168 cost of education or training described in Subsection (3)(a).

169 (ii) An LEA may use adult education program funding described in Section [53F-2-401](#),
170 in accordance with the requirements described in Section [53F-2-401](#), to pay for the cost of the
171 education or training described in Subsection (3)(a).

172 (c) To pay for the cost of education or training described in Subsection (3)(a), an LEA
173 may use fees, contributions, or other funds received by the LEA if the purpose of the fees,
174 contributions, or other funds is to provide the education or training.

175 Section 7. Section [53E-7-208](#) is repealed and reenacted to read:

176 **53E-7-208. Special education dispute resolution -- Rulemaking -- Due process**
177 **hearing -- Right to appeal.**

178 (1) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, and
179 this section, the state board shall make rules that:

180 (a) allow for a prompt, fair, and final resolution of a dispute that arises over the
181 provision of special education services to an eligible student;

182 (b) establish and maintain procedural safeguards that meet the requirements of 20

183 U.S.C. Sec. 1415; and

184 (c) establish timelines that provide adequate time to address and resolve a dispute
 185 described in Subsection (1)(a) without unnecessarily disrupting or delaying an eligible student's
 186 free appropriate public education.

187 (2) A party to a dispute described in Subsection (1)(a), including an LEA, shall make a
 188 diligent and good faith effort to resolve the dispute informally at the LEA level before seeking
 189 a due process hearing under state board rule.

190 (3) (a) If a dispute is not resolved informally as described in Subsection (2), a party to
 191 the dispute may request a due process hearing in accordance with state board rule.

192 (b) Upon request of a party to a dispute described in Subsection (2), the state board
 193 shall, in accordance with state board rule and 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1415:

194 (i) conduct a due process hearing; and

195 (ii) issue a decision on the due process hearing.

196 (4) (a) A party to a due process hearing may appeal the decision resulting from the due
 197 process hearing by filing a civil action with a court described in 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1415(i), if the
 198 party files the action within 30 days after the day on which the due process hearing decision
 199 was issued.

200 (b) If parties to a due process hearing fail to reach agreement on the payment of
 201 attorney fees for the due process hearing, a party may seek to recover attorney fees in
 202 accordance with 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1415(i) by filing a court action within 30 days after the day on
 203 which the due process hearing decision was issued.

204 Section 8. Section **53G-6-709**, which is renumbered from Section 53E-7-205 is
 205 renumbered and amended to read:

206 ~~[53E-7-205].~~ **53G-6-709. Participation of students with a disability in**
 207 **extracurricular activities.**

208 (1) A student with a disability may not be denied the opportunity of participating in a
 209 public school ~~[programs]~~ program or extracurricular ~~[activities]~~ activity solely because of the
 210 student's age or disability, unless the participation threatens the health or safety of the student.

211 (2) The school district or charter school, in cooperation with the Utah Department of
 212 Health shall establish criteria used to determine the health and safety factor.

213 (3) Subsection (1) applies to a student who:

- 214 (a) has not graduated from high school with a regular diploma; and
- 215 (b) is under the age of [20] 22, if participation is recommended by the student's
- 216 individualized education program team.

217 Section 9. Section 53G-8-305 is amended to read:

218 **53G-8-305. Exception.**

219 Behavior reduction intervention which is in compliance with Section 76-2-401 and with
220 state and local rules adopted under Section [53E-7-202] 53E-7-204 is excepted from this part.

221 Section 10. Section 62A-2-108.1 is amended to read:

222 **62A-2-108.1. Coordination of human services and educational services --**
223 **Licensing of programs -- Procedures.**

224 (1) For purposes of this section:

225 (a) "accredited private school" means a private school that is accredited by an
226 accrediting entity recognized by the Utah State Board of Education; and

227 (b) "education entitled children" means children:

228 (i) subject to compulsory education under Section 53G-6-202;

229 (ii) subject to the school attendance requirements of Section 53G-6-203; or

230 [~~(iii) entitled to educational services under Section 53E-7-202.~~]

231 (iii) who are eligible for special education services as described in Title 53E, Chapter
232 7, Part 2, Special Education Program.

233 (2) Subject to Subsection (8) or (9), a human services program may not be licensed to
234 serve education entitled children unless the human services program presents an educational
235 service plan that includes evidence:

236 (a) satisfactory to:

237 (i) the office; and

238 (ii) (A) the local school board of the school district in which the human services
239 program will be operated; or

240 (B) the school district superintendent of the school district in which the human services
241 program will be operated; and

242 (b) that children served by the human services program shall receive appropriate
243 educational services satisfying the requirements of applicable law.

244 (3) Subject to Subsection (8) or (9), if a human services program serves any education

245 entitled children whose custodial parents or legal guardians reside outside the state, then the
246 program shall also provide an educational funding plan that includes evidence:

247 (a) satisfactory to:

248 (i) the office; and

249 (ii) (A) the local school board of the school district in which the human services
250 program will be operated; or

251 (B) the school district superintendent of the school district in which the human services
252 program will be operated; and

253 (b) that all costs for educational services to be provided to the education entitled
254 children, including tuition, and school fees approved by the local school board, shall be borne
255 by the human services program.

256 (4) Subject to Subsection (8) or (9), and in accordance with Subsection (2), the human
257 services program shall obtain and provide the office with a letter:

258 (a) from the entity referred to in Subsection (2)(a)(ii):

259 (i) approving the educational service plan referred to in Subsection (2); or

260 (ii) (A) disapproving the educational service plan referred to in Subsection (2); and

261 (B) listing the specific requirements the human services program must meet before
262 approval is granted; and

263 (b) from the entity referred to in Subsection (3)(a)(ii):

264 (i) approving the educational funding plan, referred to in Subsection (3); or

265 (ii) (A) disapproving the educational funding plan, referred to in Subsection (3); and

266 (B) listing the specific requirements the human services program must meet before
267 approval is granted.

268 (5) Subject to Subsection (8), failure of a local school board or school district
269 superintendent to respond to a proposed plan within 45 days of receipt of the plan is equivalent
270 to approval of the plan by the local school board or school district superintendent if the human
271 services program provides to the office:

272 (a) proof that:

273 (i) the human services program submitted the proposed plan to the local school board
274 or school district superintendent; and

275 (ii) more than 45 days have passed from the day on which the plan was submitted; and

276 (b) an affidavit, on a form produced by the office, stating:
277 (i) the date that the human services program submitted the proposed plan to the local
278 school board or school district superintendent;
279 (ii) that more than 45 days have passed from the day on which the plan was submitted;
280 and
281 (iii) that the local school board or school district superintendent described in
282 Subsection (5)(b)(i) failed to respond to the proposed plan within 45 days from the day on
283 which the plan was submitted.
284 (6) If a licensee that is licensed to serve an education entitled child fails to comply with
285 its approved educational service plan or educational funding plan, then:
286 (a) the office shall give the licensee notice of intent to revoke the licensee's license; and
287 (b) if the licensee continues its noncompliance for more than 30 days after receipt of
288 the notice described in Subsection (6)(a), the office shall revoke the licensee's license.
289 (7) If an education entitled child whose custodial parent or legal guardian resides
290 within the state is provided with educational services by a school district other than the school
291 district in which the custodial parent or legal guardian resides, then the funding provisions of
292 Section [53G-6-405](#) apply.
293 (8) A human services program that is an accredited private school:
294 (a) for purposes of Subsection (2):
295 (i) is only required to submit proof to the office that the accreditation of the private
296 school is current; and
297 (ii) is not required to submit an educational service plan for approval by an entity
298 described in Subsection (2)(a)(ii);
299 (b) for purposes of Subsection (3):
300 (i) is only required to submit proof to the office that all costs for educational services
301 provided to education entitled children will be borne by the human services program; and
302 (ii) is not required to submit an educational funding plan for approval by an entity
303 described in Subsection (3)(a)(ii); and
304 (c) is not required to comply with Subsections (4) and (5).
305 (9) Except for Subsection (7), the provisions of this section do not apply to a human
306 services program that is:

307 (a) a foster home; and
308 (b) required to be licensed by the office.
309 Section 11. Section **62A-5a-102** is amended to read:
310 **62A-5a-102. Definitions.**
311 As used in this chapter:
312 (1) "Council" means the Coordinating Council for Persons with Disabilities.
313 (2) "State agencies" means:
314 (a) the Division of Services for People with Disabilities and the Division of Substance
315 Abuse and Mental Health, within the Department of Human Services;
316 (b) the Division of Health Care Financing within the Department of Health;
317 (c) family health services programs established under Title 26, Chapter 10, Family
318 Health Services, operated by the Department of Health;
319 (d) the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation created in Section [35A-1-202](#); and
320 (e) special education programs operated by the State Board of Education [~~and local~~
321 ~~school districts~~] or an LEA under Title 53E, Chapter 7, Part 2, Special Education Program.
322 Section 12. Section **62A-5a-105** is amended to read:
323 **62A-5a-105. Coordination of services for school-age children.**
324 (1) Within appropriations authorized by the Legislature, the state director of special
325 education, the director of the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation created in Section [35A-1-202](#),
326 the executive director of the Department of Human Services, and the family health services
327 director within the Department of Health, or their designees, and the affected [~~local school~~
328 ~~district~~] LEA, as defined in Section [53E-7-201](#), shall cooperatively develop a single
329 coordinated education program, treatment services, and individual and family supports for
330 students entitled to a free appropriate education under Title 53E, Chapter 7, Part 2, Special
331 Education Program, who also require services from the Department of Human Services, the
332 Department of Health, or the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation.
333 (2) Distribution of costs for services and supports described in Subsection (1) shall be
334 determined through a process established by the State Board of Education, the Department of
335 Human Services, and the Department of Health.
336 Section 13. **Repealer.**
337 This bill repeals:

- 338 Section **53E-7-301**, **Definitions.**
- 339 Section **53E-7-302**, **Braille skills assessment -- Development of individualized**
- 340 **education program.**
- 341 Section **53E-7-303**, **Instruction in reading and writing of Braille.**
- 342 Section **53E-7-304**, **Braille versions of textbooks.**