

## **Agency: UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Request Title:** *Removing KEEP from Preschool Code*

### **Purpose Statement:**

Amend Section [53E-4-314\(2\)](#) to remove the part of code that requires the USBE to develop an assessment that aligns with the KEEP which the USBE no longer requires of LEAs.

### **What is the nature of your request?**

Select one:

- POLICY REQUEST** – You are seeking changes to Utah State Code to improve your program/services.
- FUNDING REQUEST** – You are seeking new or additional financial resources to support a program/service for education.
- BOTH POLICY and FUNDING** – You are proposing a new program or expansion of an existing program that will require new/amended state code and financial resources.

Questions? Please contact:

Greg Connell (Greg.Connell@schools.utah.gov)

### **Projected Results:**

- Utah code will be aligned with kindergarten assessment requirements.

### **Rationale:**

To align with changes to kindergarten assessment requirements for the 24-25 school year.

### **If not funded/approved:**

Code will not be aligned to practice.

### **USBE Lead Point of Contact:**

**Name:** Jared Lisonbee

**Email Address:** [jared.lisonbee@schools.utah.gov](mailto:jared.lisonbee@schools.utah.gov)

**Phone Number:** 801-538-7976

**USBE Section:** Teaching and Learning

**Additional Contact if needed:**

**Name:** Sara Wiebke

**Email Address:** [sara.wiebke@schools.utah.gov](mailto:sara.wiebke@schools.utah.gov)

**Phone Number:** 801-538-7893

**USBE Section:** Teaching and Learning

**Deputy Superintendent Name:** *Patty Norman*

**Email Address:** [patty.norman@schools.utah.gov](mailto:patty.norman@schools.utah.gov)

**Phone Number:** 801-538-7760

**USBE Section:** Student Achievement

## **POLICY REQUEST**

**1. Section(s) of State Code to be addressed (if none, insert “N/A”):**

[53E-4-314\(2\)](#). School readiness assessment.

**2. Summarize the request, the specific problem it will solve, and how it will solve the problem.  
(Describe the issues or concerns the legislation will address:)**

This proposed change will remove the kindergarten assessment (KEEP) language from code since that assessment will no longer be required beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

**3. Describe the history of the issues or concerns including relevant context and timelines:**

In the September 2023 Utah State Board of Education meeting, the Board voted to no longer require kindergarten programs to administer the Kindergarten Entry and Exit Profile (KEEP) to incoming students beginning in SY24-25. Section [53E-4-314\(2\)](#) of code stipulates that the state board will develop an assessment that aligns with the KEEP. Because the KEEP will no longer be required, this line in code should be removed to align with these changes.

**4. What are the suggested legislative solutions? Include code references and suggested language where possible:**

Amend [53E-4-314](#) by striking part (2) - The state board shall develop a school readiness assessment that aligns with the kindergarten entry and exit assessment.

EX.

[53E-4-314](#). School readiness assessment.

- (1) As used in this section:
  - (a) "School readiness assessment" means a preschool entry and exit profile that measures literacy, numeracy, and lifelong learning practices developed in a student.
  - (b) "School readiness program" means a preschool program:
    - (i) in which a student participates in the year before the student is expected to enroll in kindergarten; and
    - (ii) that receives funding under Title 35A, Chapter 15, Preschool Programs.
  - (2) ~~The state board shall develop a school readiness assessment that aligns with the kindergarten entry and exit assessment described in Section 53G-7-203.~~
  - (3) A school readiness program shall:
    - (a) except as provided in Subsection (4), administer to each student who participates in the school readiness program the school readiness assessment at the beginning and end of the student's participation in the school readiness program; and
    - (b) report the results of the assessments described in Subsection (3)(a) or (4) to the School Readiness Board created in Section 35A-15-201.
  - (4) In place of the assessments described in Subsection (3)(a), a school readiness program that is offered through home-based technology may administer to each student who participates in the school readiness program:
    - (a) a validated computer adaptive pre-assessment at the beginning of the student's participation in the school readiness program; and
    - (b) a validated computer adaptive post-assessment at the end of the student's participation in the school readiness program.
  - (5) The following may submit school readiness assessment data to the School Readiness Board created in Section 35A-15-201:
    - (i) a private child care provider; or
    - (ii) an LEA on behalf of a school that is not participating in the High Quality School Readiness Grant Program described in Section 35A-15-301.
  - (6) If a private child care provider or LEA submits school readiness assessment data to the School Readiness Board under Subsection (5)(a), the state board shall include the school readiness assessment data in the report described in Subsection 35A-15-303(5).

5. **Provide details, sources, research, and analysis to which forms evidence-basis for this request or the associated program (e.g, cost benefit analysis, program evaluation, results from pilot program, etc). Include whether this data is currently collected and available or whether new data will be collected:**

N/A

If you are making a **Policy Request, STOP here** and email Greg Connell ([Greg.Connell@schools.utah.gov](mailto:Greg.Connell@schools.utah.gov)) to inform him the request is complete and has been reviewed by your Deputy Superintendent.