

## Form - Application/Cover Sheet

# UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Waiver of Administrative Rule

*UAC R277-121 allows an LEA to request a waiver from a Board rule. This cover sheet should be used as a checklist in preparation of necessary materials and supporting documents.*

LEA: Academy for Math, Engineering, & Science (AMES)

SCHOOL(S): Academy for Math, Engineering, & Science (AMES)

RULE REQUESTING TO BE WAIVED: UAC R277-700-6 (13) & (14)

REASONING/JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUESTED WAIVER:

Due to the school focus on math, science and engineering, a waiver for UAC R277-700-6 (13) & (14) will allow AMES students, the option to choose additional rigorous academic coursework will flexibility in their schedules and the ability to remain on course for graduation.

THIS IS A NEW WAIVER

THIS IS A REQUEST TO RENEW AN EXISTING WAIVER

DATE WAIVER WAS FIRST GRANTED 09/05/2021

ATTACH DATA TO SUPPORT THE REQUEST WHICH MAY INCLUDE:

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA

COMMUNITY, STAFF, OR STUDENT SURVEY DATA

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

FOR RENEWALS: DOCUMENTATION THAT OUTLINES HOW THE WAIVER WAS UTILIZED

ATTACH VERIFICATION OF THE FOLLOWING (AS APPLICABLE TO THE TYPE OF LEA)

LEA GOVERNING BOARD VOTE APPROVING REQUEST FOR WAIVER IN OPEN MEETING

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE BOARD OF THE SCHOOL'S AUTHORIZER (IF APPLICABLE)

ATTACH THE FOLLOWING

WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO BE PROPOSED TO THE BOARD INCLUDING:

✓ EFFECTIVE DATE OF WAIVER (*or of the renewal*)

- ✓ HOW LEA OR SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND ACCOUNTABILITY (*such as parent/student/staff survey*)
- ✓ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO REQUIRE ANNUAL UPDATES
- ✓ A SUNSET DATE FOR THE WAIVER (*three years or less*)

As you already identified, you must receive approval of your Charter Authorizer as well as your school's governing board. The approvals must take place by a vote of each board in an open meeting. You can attach a copy of the meeting minutes or a letter from the governing board leadership/chair. When the request is presented to USBE, the Board members will be especially interested in why you want the waiver, how it impacts students, and your school's overall student achievement. I will provide the required Agreement once you have provided all of the other required information.

When you have collected the required information, please email it to me. I will then request that the matter be placed on the USBE Law and Licensing Committee Agenda. This meeting is held once a month on the day following the USBE monthly meeting. The Committee will review the request, and if approved, it will be placed on the following month's USBE Meeting Agenda for consideration by the full Board.

(b) Except for a request for a waiver due to snow, inclement weather, or other emergency school closure described in Section R277-121-5, a written request under Subsection (1)(a) shall include:

(i) verification that the LEA board voted to request the waiver in an open meeting;

(ii) data that support the requested waiver, which may include:

(A) student achievement data;

(B) community, staff, or student survey data;

(C) student enrollment data; or

(D) data demonstrating the cost effectiveness of the waiver request;

(iii) a proposed agreement with the Board that includes:

(A) a proposed effective date;

(B) provisions for public review and accountability;

(C) data gathering and reporting timelines; and

(D) a sunset date; and

(iv) in the case of a charter school, a recommendation from the board of the school's authorizer.



# Waiver from USBE Board Rule Request

---

The vision of the Utah State Charter School Board (SCSB) is that “every student has access to an excellent education that meets their unique learning needs.”

## Introduction

The purpose of the Waiver Request is to provide a process for a charter school governing board to request a waiver, as permitted, from USBE rule. The Waiver Request is based on [R277-121](#) and the premise that a waiver also entails a contractual amendment to the charter.

## Submission

Application must be uploaded into the Applications Folder of the documents section in the Utah Charter Access Point ([UCAP](#)) system no later than **5:00pm MST on the third Friday of the month prior** to the SCSB meeting.

## Staff Eligibility Review

After receipt, SCSB staff reviews request to include associated academic, financial, and operational performance and compliance. Once the applicant is deemed Administratively Complete, the applicant (if appropriate) will be invited to the next SCSB meeting.

## State Charter School Board Consideration

At the scheduled SCSB meeting, members will consider the request. Schools have opportunity to answer questions. Normally scheduled meeting is **typically the second Thursday**. If approved, staff will provide the school with a letter from the board chair recommending approval from the SCSB. **The school must submit the written request to the Superintendent, following the steps outlined in rule.**

## Applicant Assurances

*Print this sheet, complete and sign the spaces at the bottom, scan, and attach to the electronic application.*

*The Board Chair must sign the following agreement prior to submitting the application package.*

*Should the agreement be signed by someone other than the current Board Chair, the application package will be deemed Administratively Incomplete.*

School Name: Academy for Math, Engineering, & Science (AMES)

The Applicant certifies all information contained in this application is complete and accurate, realizing that any misrepresentation could result in disqualification from the Waiver Request process or revocation after award.

The Applicant understands that applications must be uploaded into the UCAP system no later than the third Friday of the month preceding the month of the requested SCSB meeting and that incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Applicant acknowledges that all information presented in the application package, if approved, may become part of the charter to be used for accountability purposes throughout the term of the charter.

The Applicant acknowledges that the charter school governing board is subject to all Utah statutes regarding charter schools as well as all relevant federal, state and local laws, and requirements, and should comply with such.

The Applicant acknowledges that the most current academic and compliance data will be provided to the SCSB for its consideration of the application.

The applicant acknowledges that prior to inclusion on the agenda, the SCSB recommends charter school governing boards read the associated rule and information documents, as well as schedule an appointment with SCSB staff to discuss the request and provide clarification to any questions.

Shwan Javdan

Name of Board Chair

*Shwan Javdan 12/08/23*

Signature of Board Chair /Date

## School Entity Information

Name of School: Academy for Math, Engineering, & Science

Name of School Administrator: Brett Wilson

Contact Information for School: 801-278-9460

*Below, list the names and positions of all current Board Members (officers, members, directors, partners), and their positions. Also list any other current charters in which they act as a corporate principal or charter representative. Add rows as necessary.*

Name	Position	All Charter Affiliations
Shwan Javdan	Board Chair	AMES
Nicole Butler	Board Member	AMES
Richard Anthony	Board Member	AMES
Michael Davidson	Board Member	AMES
Lilian Diaz	Board Member	AMES
Donald Saxon	Board Member	AMES
Alison Young	Board Member	AMES

## Contractual Charter Agreement Goals

List the school's contractual goals.

1. Provide options for students and parents seeking high quality programs.
2. Introduce underrepresented populations of students into the fields of science, mathematics and engineering.
3. Create greater interest in science, mathematics, engineering and all of the emerging applications of these fields in the Utah and national economy.
4. Accelerate the progress of students through their educational programs based on their interests, motivation, ability and performance.
5. Create a challenging educational program and intellectual climate for students who intend to complete a higher education degree in math, science, engineering or a related applied field.
6. Better meet the needs of Utah's high technology companies which require more scientists, engineers and particularly those individuals who can communicate effectively both orally and in writing, who have the ability to be productive in work teams, and who can solve problems and meet deadlines.

### Required Attachments:

- If the school is *not* meeting all its charter contractual agreement goals, then include the governing board's corrective action plan. (Corrective action plan limited to two pages.)

## **Waiver Requests Require both State Charter School Board (SCSB) and Utah State Board of Education (USBE) Approval**

*The following request may take 2-3 months to complete.*

Waivers from a Board rule are not granted if the requirement is required by or adopts criteria from a federal statute, federal regulation, or state law, would negatively affect the health, safety, or welfare of public education students, could reasonably result in discrimination or harassment of public school students or employees, would benefit one element of the public education system to the detriment of another; or when the concerns giving rise to a request could be addressed through means other than waiver of Board rules.

### **Waiver from Board Rule**

Rule Number and Title: UAC R277-700-6 (13) & (14) High School Requirements

Describe why the waiver is necessary to meet the mission and/or purposes(s) of the school and help the governing board meet the terms and conditions of its contractual agreement.

The Academy for Math, Engineering, & Science (AMES) is an Early College High School with a goal of preparing a diverse student body for success in College and Post-Secondary Education. To achieve this goal, AMES requires 27.5 credits for graduation that includes an additional 1.0 credit above the state requirement for both Math (4.0 credits) and Science (4.0 credits). AMES also requires additional credit above the state requirements for Social Studies and Computer Studies with a 2-year Foreign Language requirement. These additional credit requirements are met through University of Utah concurrent enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP) and Cottonwood High School options. AMES also provides CTE options in Robotics, Computer Programming, and Engineering.

Due to the school focus on math, science and engineering, a waiver for UAC R277-700-6 (13) & (14) will allow AMES students, the option to choose additional rigorous academic coursework will flexibility in their schedules and the ability to remain on course for graduation.

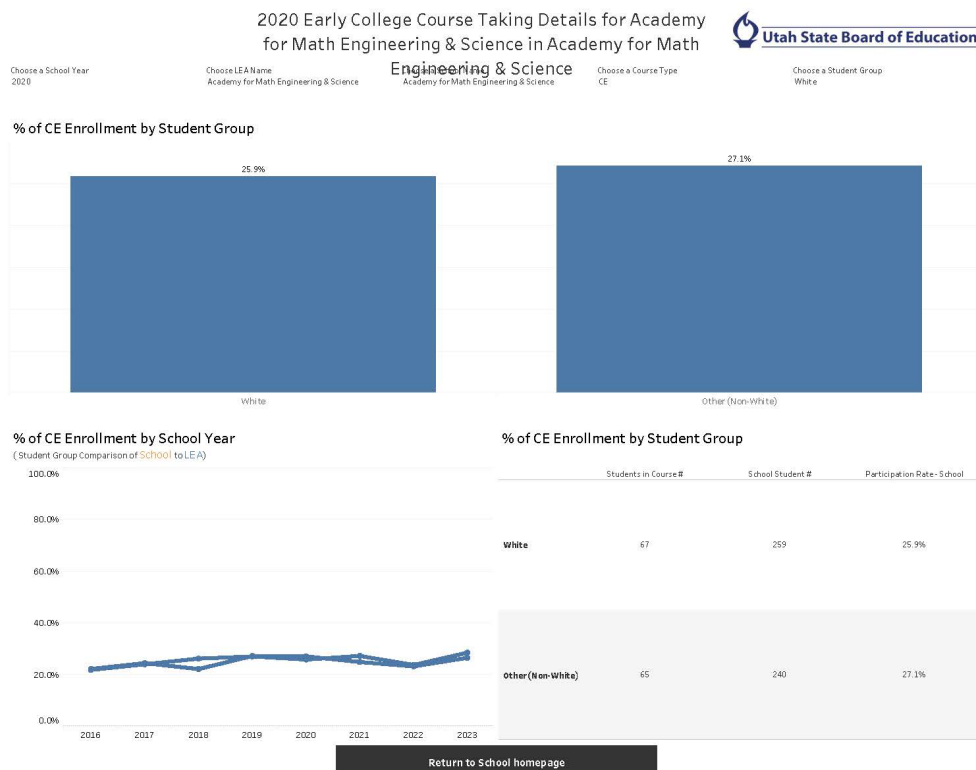
## Academy for Math, Engineering, & Science (AMES) Achievement Data Related to Waiver of R277-700-6 (13) and (14)

The existing waiver of the fine art and PE requirements in R277-700-6 and substitution of credits with CTE/STEM or Early College requirements AMES has been able to:

- Add AP Computer Science Principles and AP Environmental Science, and continue AP Calculus AB and AP Psychology.



- Continue offering a diverse concurrent enrollment program through the University of Utah including: Physics 2210 & 2220, Chemistry 1210 & 1220, Math 1030 & 1070, and Calculus 1210 & 1220.



- Maintain graduation rates significantly above the state average.

LEA Name	School Name	2020 Graduation Rate	2021 Graduation Rate	2022 Graduation Rate	2022 Dropout Rate
Academy for Math Engineering & Science	Academy for Math Engineering & Science	91.6%	98.25%	96.55%	3.45%

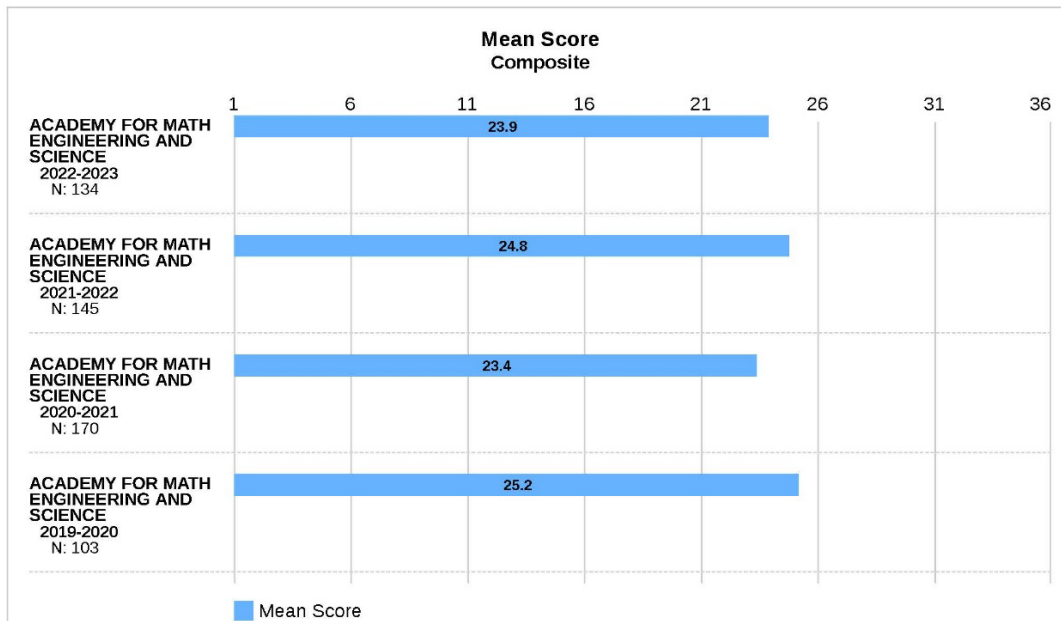
- Maintain ACT and other high stakes tests scores that are higher than the state average.

**Summary View:** The ACT (All Data), ACADEMY FOR MATH ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Showing students who are [College Reportable](#)

Sort By:

None



### AMES PE & ART (STEM Credit) Exception ~ Stake Holder Survey

AMES requires 4 years of both Math and Science credit for graduation. AMES currently has a waiver that allows it to accept STEM course credit for (up to .50 credit) P.E. and/or Art credit, towards fulfillment of state graduation requirements.

Considering the AMES graduation requirements, should the school continue the STEM waiver?

