

Program: Competency-Based Education Grants

Problem Statement: Utah's schools face a critical challenge: creating learning environments that equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world. The current system struggles to meet the demands of modernization, hindering student preparation for future careers and success. Personalized, Competency Based Learning (PCBL) is designed to empower students for future careers and success through fostering growth in the durable skills the workforce sector is demanding, while ensuring each student has what they need to succeed.

Resources:

- \$2,091,800 for FY 2025
- 0.65 FTE specific to the program
- There are 3 existing grant phases: planning, implementation, expansion
- Competency-based learning transcript tool and coaching support for planning grantees

Core Strategies (Outputs):

- LEAs create plans to shift their existing systems to PCBL including:
 - Professional learning
 - FTEs and/or compensation for educator time
 - Competency Tools and Resources
- USBE hosts a review committee to score applications and make recommendations for funding to the Board
- Monthly PCBL collaborative meetings and site visits to support implementation

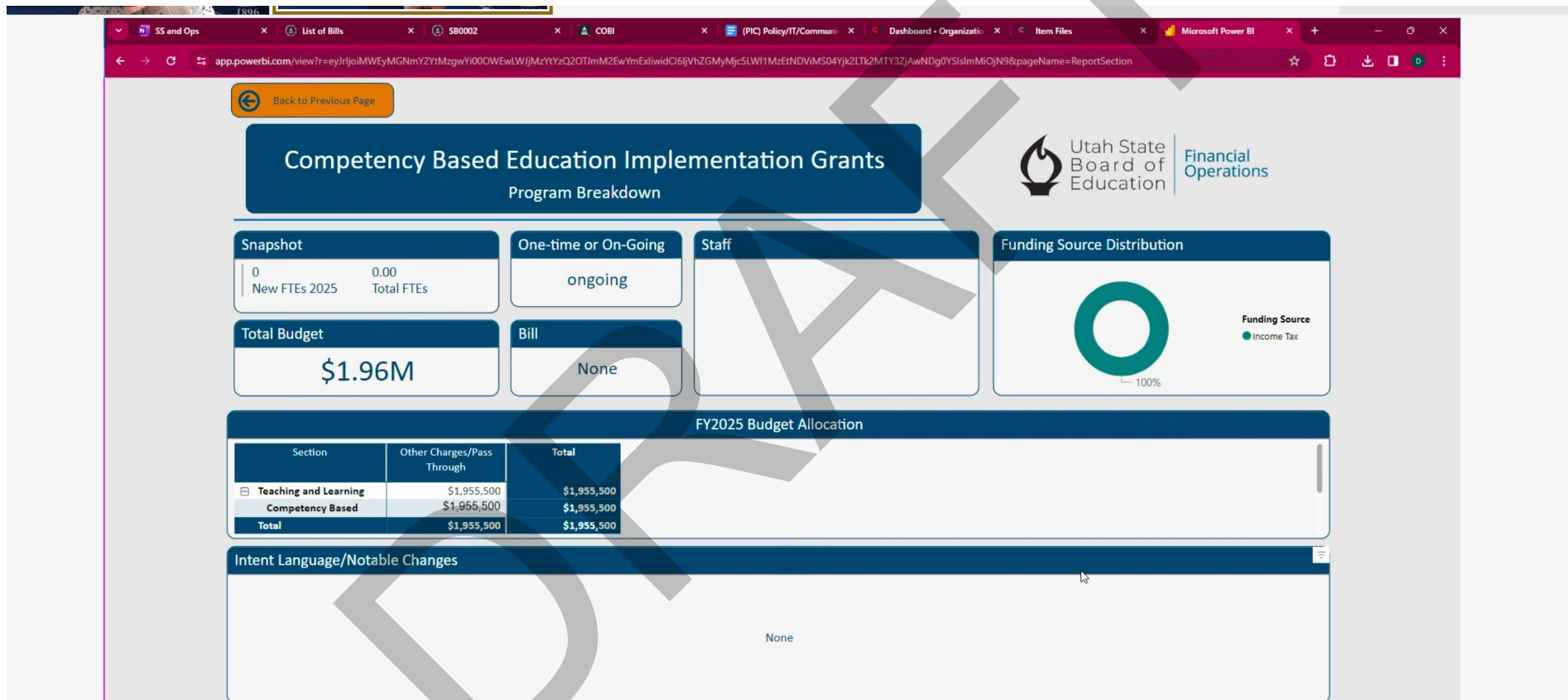
Short Term Outcomes:

- Student engagement/absenteeism rate
- *Pending:* LEA PCBL Needs Assessment for current and future grantees
- LEA selected performance indicators from the PCBL framework

Performance Measure(s) Alignment:

- % of students in grades 1-12 in public schools that are chronically absent
- Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate for state of Utah (Target = 92.1%);
- Percentage of districts participating in Personalized, Competency-Based Learning (Target = 33%; Actual 68%)
- Percentage of charter schools participating in Personalized, Competency-Based Learning (Target = 28%; Actual 42%)

Financial Data



USBE Program Support and Administration

USBE Personnel (Roles and Responsibilities)

PCBL Specialist

- Provides monthly networking opportunities through facilitating PCBL Collaboratives
- Designs and implements the PCBL Summit yearly
- Cocreates statewide resources w/ stakeholders
- Facilitates yearly Review Committee Meetings to assess new grant applications
- Designs and disburses monthly PCBL Newsletter

Fiscal Administration Requirements

- Distributes applicable funding to LEAs through the PCBL Grant
- Administers reimbursement process with LEAs through Utah Grants

Monitoring/Evaluation Requirements

- Ensures grant applications align with allowed fund usage according to statute/Board Rule
- Assess reimbursement requests for alignment to approved budget and allowable use cases
- Provide updates to Legislature yearly in the Legislative Report

Board Rule 277-114

Category: XX

Rationale: XX

Policy Questions for the Board

- *Would the Board support the removal of application requirements for Implementation and Expansion phases of the PCBL Grant (Years 2 and 4)?*
- *The field has demonstrated more applications than the current budget allows the agency to fund. Does the Board have interest in funding additional LEAs to engage in the work of PCBL through the PCBL Grant?*