

Agency: UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Request Title: *ADOBE Creative Cloud Funding Request 2026*

Purpose Statement:

To request \$2,250,000.00 for the continuation of the Adobe creative cloud funding. Current contracts for this program, held by UETN are expiring and UETN is not proposing to request the contract again. This request will allow USBE to continue the program for public K-12 schools across Utah.

What is the nature of your request?

Select one:

FUNDING REQUEST – You are seeking new or additional financial resources to support a program/service for education.

Questions? Please contact:

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

Current Funding for FY 2026: *(Provide current year funding differentiating one-time and ongoing funding for the program.)*

FY 2026 Ongoing Funding = \$0

FY 2026 One-Time Funding = \$0

UETN received the most recent allocation for this program. Their last allocation allowed for a 3-year agreement with Adobe. We are now at the end of that 3-year contract.

Projected Results: *(Provide 1-2 bullets on how the policy/funding request would lead to a measurable outcome in the K-12 education system (ex. performance measure).)*

- As of August 2025, all school districts and 120 charter schools have access and/or deployed Adobe accounts. We anticipate this level of participation will continue.

Rationale: *(Describe in 1-2 bullet points the “why” behind your request. Why is this action necessary for K-12 education?)*

FY26 marks the 7th year of statewide implementation of Adobe Creative Cloud resources in Utah. The current contract (through UETN) ends on June 30, 2026. This request will allow USBE to further contract with Adobe and provide a stable funding source for this contract for future years.

If not funded/approved: *(Describe in 1 sentence the impact of not funding/approving this request. This needs to be based on factual evidences.)*

LEAs will not be able to access these resources at the lowest cost possible. Many LEAs would opt out of purchasing these resources and students would not have access to industry-standard tools.

USBE Lead Point of Contact:

Name: Kristina Yamada

Email Address: kristina.yamada@schools.utah.gov

Phone Number: 801-538-7849

USBE Section: Career & Technical Education

Name: Thalea Longhurst

Email Address: thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov

Phone Number: 801-538-7889

USBE Section: Career & Technical Education

Deputy Superintendent Name: Leah Voorhies
Email Address: leah.voorhies@schools.utah.gov
Phone Number: 801-538-7898
USBE Section: Administration

FUNDING REQUEST

This section only needs to be completed if you are seeking new or additional funding.

Board Action for Request: (Date/Board Item/Committee)

1. Summarize the request, the specific problem it will solve, and how it will solve the problem.

Prior to FY20, LEAs were negotiating individual contracts with Adobe for access to their resources for use in K-12 education. Some LEA contracts included support services, while others did not. In FY20, funding was allocated to provide a statewide contract with Adobe for services, including support services, giving all LEAs access with cost-effective, per person pricing. That one-time funding provided access to all schools, some of which had never had access to these modern, industry-standard content tools. This program (funded since FY20 through annual allocation of one-time funds), provides Adobe Creative Cloud licenses to all students in grades 7-12 and the majority of PK-12 full-time educators, enabling them to use powerful tools like Photoshop, Premiere Pro, Illustrator, Adobe Express, and Adobe Sign both in school and at home. This home-use entitlement addresses critical equity and access gaps, ensuring that students from all backgrounds and geographic regions—including charter schools and small districts—can develop digital literacy and creative skills essential for success in the modern workforce.

UETN will not be requesting funds for this contract for FY27. This request will allow USBE to continue the program for public K-12 schools across Utah.

2. Amount Requested:

Funding Source	Amount (\$)
FY 2027 one-time funding	\$0
FY 2027 ongoing funding	\$2,250,000
TOTAL funding requested	\$2,250,000

3. Provide an itemized budget, including revenue and expenditure sources, for how the funding will be utilized.

Funding Source(s):

Cost Category	FY 2026 (<i>Current fiscal year</i>)	FY 2027
Personnel Services	\$	\$
Travel/In State	\$	\$
Travel/Out State	\$	\$
Current Expenses	\$	\$
Data Processing Current Expenses	\$	\$
Data Processing Capital Outlay	\$	\$
Capital Outlay	\$	\$
Other Charges/Pass Through	\$	\$2,250,000
Transfers	\$	\$

Other	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$2,250,000
NEW USBE FTEs being requested as part of the funding request	FY 2026 <i>(Current fiscal year)</i>	FY 2027
NEW USBE FTEs	0	0

4. To what extent is this request scalable? Articulate the impacts if lower funding amounts were provided for this request.

While it is possible to scale this and place the burden of purchase back on the LEAs, many are not likely to continue to purchase the wholesale license this agreement provides. It is possible to scale back, wherein local LEA funds pay a portion of the LEAs calculated amount, but it will exceed what they were spending before this agreement was made. Any scaling of this request will result in increased per student costs and a significant potential for the reduction in equitable access for students and educators across the state.

5. What has been done or considered to address this problem with existing resources, instead of requesting additional state funding?

Because this project has been funded previously using state dollars, federal funds cannot be used to continue the use. Using federal funds would violate supplement not supplant requirements of those funds. Additionally, there are no other funding sources available at this time to provide these resources.

6. Summarize the current budget for the project or program that is being funded. If this is a new project or program, summarize resources that are available for like-objectives within USBE.

This is the seventh year of this program which is available through legislatively allocated funding. The funds will be used to contract for the resources with Adobe for use by all LEAs in the state.

7. Does this request create any future funding obligations (operations and maintenance, multi-year scale up, etc)?

This initiative requires ongoing funding to maintain the level of resource accessibility for all students and educators across the state.

8. Describe how the funding case supports the goals and metrics of the [USBE Strategic Plan](#).

The Adobe Create Utah program aligns to the USBE Strategic Plan by providing resources and opportunities for students and educators thereby providing continuous personalized learning; supporting LEAs in providing a personalized learning plan for each student, and promoting teacher development and effectiveness.

9. What value will additional resources create for Utah? What performance measures for that value will be reported or are already reported?

The performance measure will be the number of LEAs deploying individual accounts. As of August 2025, all school districts and 120 charter schools have access and/or deployed Adobe accounts.

10. 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).

Statewide access to Adobe over the last few years has shown that more content areas in the schools are accessing and effectively utilizing these resources.

Adobe resources are not limited to preparing students only for IT and computer science careers. Opportunities for creativity are enhanced by this program. Adobe resources provide transferable digital skills that enhance productivity, communication, and professionalism across a wide range of roles in Utah's economy. These tools empower students to be more versatile and competitive, whether they pursue careers in tech, business, education, community service or many other industries here in Utah. Here are just a few examples to consider:

- **Office Administration & Business Operations**

- Adobe is widely used for document management, secure digital signatures, and form creation.
- Adobe is often used in small businesses for creating flyers, brochures, and internal communications.
- Administrative professionals benefit from knowing how to create visually engaging reports and presentations.

- **Communications**

- Adobe tools are essential for creating social media content, email campaigns, and promotional materials.
- Branding and visual identity, video editing for product demos and testimonials, designing infographics.

- **Education & Training**

- Teachers and instructional designers use Adobe tools to create engaging classroom materials, interactive lessons, and digital

portfolios.

- Students use adobe tools to create digital portfolios.

- **Nonprofits & Community Organizations**

- Adobe tools are used to create outreach materials, fundraising, and community engagement content.

- **Small Business & Entrepreneurship**

- Entrepreneurs use Adobe tools to design logos, build websites, and produce marketing content without needing to hire external designers.

- **Tourism and Hospitality**

- Adobe tools play a key role in marketing and customer engagement in tourism: customer journey mapping, and real-time analytics.
- Tourism organizations use Adobe tools to create digital brochures, social media content, and interactive travel guides.
- Hospitality brands use Adobe for branding, menu design, and event promotion, enhancing guest experiences and loyalty.

- **Construction and Interior Design**

- Adobe is widely used to edit, sign, and share contracts, blueprints, and compliance documents.
- Enables secure collaboration across teams and stakeholders.
- Visual Communication helps enhance site photography, create renderings, and produce scalable vector schematics.
- Create professional reports, proposals, and presentations to clients and regulatory bodies.

If LEAs were to purchase licenses individually:

- A district with **1,000 students and 100 educators** may pay as high as:
 - **\$275,880/year** for individual licenses.
 - **\$503,880/year** for enterprise licenses.

Multiply this across **41 districts and 120 charter schools**, and the cost would **far exceed** the \$2 million statewide agreement.

11. Which populations or geographic areas will benefit most from this request? What safeguards will be implemented to prevent inequities or other unintended distributional consequences as it relates to this request?

All students and educators of the state will benefit equally with the Adobe Create Utah program. Additional support will be available upon request for training to ensure effective use of the available resources. If this initiative is not funded, smaller LEAs (especially rural and charter schools) will likely not have access to these resources disproportionately, as their flexible funds would not likely be available for individual LEA contracting.

12. Which stakeholders have you engaged and coordinated with during the development of this request?

USBE has collaborated with UETN as well as LEAs across Utah in the development of this request.

Last Step: When the Legislative Request Form is complete and has been reviewed by your Deputy Superintendent, email Greg Connell, Greg.Connell@schools.utah.gov to inform him the request is ready for next steps.