

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:

ACTION: Special Education Add-on for New and Expanding Charter Schools

Agenda item type:

Action Item

Recommended Action:

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board waive R277-479-3(1), Charter School Special Education Add-On Funding, for FY26 for expanding charter schools whose SPED Add-On and SPED Self-Contained allocations would be reduced from their amounts in the Legislative Estimates for these programs under the rule.

Purpose of Memo:

Staff recommendation

Background:

Utah statute (53F-2-307) outlines the formula to calculate Special Education Add-On WPU's for LEAs. However, for new and expanding charter schools, USBE does not have the Average Daily Membership (ADM) data necessary to accurately calculate these WPU's. For this reason, 53F-2-307(2) allows USBE to allocate WPU's to LEAs for Special Education according to Board rule.

R277-479-3 outlines the data used to calculate Special Education WPU's for new and expanding charter schools. As USBE staff have implemented R277-479, questions and concerns have arisen related to the structure and timing of the rule.

The purpose of this item is to provide an overview of the implementation issues related to this rule and to have a discussion with the Committee on how best to proceed.

Contact:

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Attachments:

1. Special Education Funding and New and Expanding Charter Schools 10.30.2025
2. SPED Add-On WPU's to Prior-Year SPED ADM Ratios - 10.29.2025

