

Core and Supplemental Standards

Core Standards

Board Rule R277-700 defines “Core Standard” as “a statement of what a student enrolled in a public school is expected to know and be able to do at a specific grade level or following completion of an identified course.”

Core standards are the academic standards described in the Utah State Legislature Title [53E-4-202](#): Core Standards for Utah Public Schools. According to code, the Utah State Board of Education shall establish the core standards for Utah public schools that:

- (2)(a) Identify the basic knowledge, skills, and competencies each student is expected to acquire or master as the student advances through the public education system; and
- (3)(a) increase in depth and complexity from year to year and focus on consistent and continual progress within and between grade levels and courses

[53E-4-203](#) requires a review by a standards review committee of the core standards for Utah public schools for:

- English language arts;
- mathematics;
- science;
- social studies;
- fine arts;
- physical education and health; and
- early childhood education

Supplemental Standards

Supplemental standards are created for courses that meet Applied or Advanced credit for graduation. Applied, Advanced, or Alternative courses must be taught by a teacher with a state license and have met endorsement requirements qualifying them to teach the approved subject area.

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Individual Lifetime Activities Supplemental Standards

Physical education requires 1.5 credits from the following areas:

- 0.5 Participation, Skills, and Techniques
- 0.5 Fitness for Life
- 0.5 Individual Lifetime Activities

Courses that meet the depth of required standards for Individual Lifetime Activities are included as Supplemental Standards for Individual Lifetime Activities. These currently include:

- Dance
- Recreation
- Strength and Conditioning
- Yoga

Elective Courses

In the Core Standards areas, the Board has not set standards for elective courses. Elective courses have been at the discretion of the LEAs.

Board Rule [R277-700](#) states (2)(a) The Superintendent shall develop, in cooperation with LEAs, course descriptions for required and elective courses and that courses should (3)(a)(ii) stress mastery of the course material, Core Standards, and life skills consistent with the General Core.

(6) At the discretion of the LEA board, an LEA board may:

- (a) offer additional elective courses;
- (b) require a student to complete additional courses; or
- (c) set minimum credit requirements.

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