

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-100. Definitions for Utah State Board of Education (Board) Rules.**

3 **R277-100-1. Authority~~[,]~~and Purpose~~[,]~~and Oversight Category~~].~~**

4 (1) This rule is authorized by:

5 (a) Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3, which vests general control and
6 supervision of public education in the Board; and

7 (b) Subsection 53E-3-401(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute
8 the Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law.

9 (2) The purpose of this rule is to provide definitions that are used in the Board
10 rules beginning with Title R277.

11 ~~[(3) This rule is categorized as exempt as described in Rule R277-111].~~

12

13 **R277-100-2. Definitions.**

14 (1) "Absence" means, for a student enrolled in an attendance validated program,
15 the failure of a school-age child assigned to a class or class period to attend the class or
16 class period for a given day or class period; or

17 (b) for a student enrolled in a learner validated program, the failure of a school-
18 age child to meet the LEA's continuing enrollment measurement requirements as
19 established in the LEA's written policy.

20 ~~[(4)](2)(a) "Accountability practice" means any evidence-based practice that~~
21 ~~increases academic outcomes, decreases behavior that disrupts the learning~~
22 ~~environment and holds students accountable for their actions by requiring them to take~~
23 ~~responsibility to repair harm and provide restitution when appropriate.~~

24 (b) Practices may include behavior plans, restorative practices, and strategies to
25 increase engagement.

26 ~~[(2)](3) "Accreditation" means the formal process for internal and external review~~
27 ~~and approval under the standards of an accrediting entity adopted by the Board.~~

28 ~~[(3)](4) "Agency" means:~~

29 (a) an entity governed by the Board;

30 (b) an LEA; or

31 (c) a grant sub-recipient.

32 (5) "Attendance Validated Program" means an educational program where:

33 (a) student participation is measured by physical or virtual attendance at
34 scheduled instructional periods; and

35 (b) a student receives direct teacher interaction and instruction for the course or
36 program.

37 ~~[(4)]~~(6) "Board" means the 15 elected members of the State Board of Education.

38 ~~[(5)]~~(7) "Charter school" means a school established as a charter school by a
39 charter school authorizer under Title 53G, Chapter 5, Charter Schools, and Board rule.

40 ~~[(6)]~~(8) "Comprehensive dropout intervention and prevention program" means a
41 program that:

42 (a) addresses needs of students who are not succeeding in a traditional school
43 environment;

44 (b) provides targeted instruction that increases student credit-earning rates
45 toward graduation; and

46 (c) partners with community entities to provide a continuum of services with the
47 focus of preparing students for life after high school.

48 ~~[(7)]~~(9)(a) "Cumulative file" or "cumulative folder" means a physical or digital
49 record maintained by an LEA for each student containing, at a minimum, the following
50 information:

51 (i) evidence of the student's legal name and date of birth;

52 (ii) student demographic data, including race, ethnicity, and gender;

53 (iii) name and contact information for the student's parents;

54 (iv) a record of the student's courses, teachers, and grades or progress;

55 (v) a record of the student's performance on statewide assessments;

56 (vi) documentation concerning a student's eligibility for IDEA or 504 services;

57 (vii) a record of suspensions and expulsions, in accordance with Subsection

58 53G-8-208(4)(a);

- 59 (viii) known allergies;
- 60 (ix) a record of vision and health screening results; and
- 61 (x) a record of required student immunizations, and medical or personal
62 exemptions; and
- 63 (xi) pertinent legal documents, including protective orders, custody orders, and
64 parenting or education plans.
- 65 (b) "Cumulative file" may include additional student information in accordance
66 with an LEA's policies.
- 67 ~~[(8)]~~(10) "District school" means a public school under the control of a local
68 school board elected under Title 20A, Chapter 14, Nomination and Election of State and
69 Local School Boards.
- 70 ~~[(9)]~~(11) "Dual enrollment student" means a student who:
- 71 (a) is enrolled simultaneously in:
- 72 (i) a private school or home school; and
- 73 (ii) a public school; and
- 74 (b) is counted by an LEA in membership for purposes of generating state or
75 federal funding for only those courses or subjects for which the LEA provides
76 instruction.
- 77 ~~[(40)]~~(12) "Educator" means an individual licensed under Section 53E-6-201 and
78 who meets the requirements of Board rule.
- 79 ~~[(41)]~~(13) "ESSA" or the "Every Student Succeeds Act" means the congressional
80 act, which reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, which is
81 found at 20 U.S.C. 6301, et seq.
- 82 ~~[(42)]~~(14)(a) "Evaluate" or "review" means to observe and assess a program or
83 set of requirements with an objective of making recommendations, if appropriate, for
84 necessary changes or improvement.
- 85 (b) An "evaluation" or "review" may include providing training and technical
86 assistance on program-related matters and performing on-site reviews of program
87 operations.

88 ~~[(13)]~~(15)(a) "External audit" means an appraisal activity established under the
89 direction of an individual or entity outside of the subject agency to examine and evaluate
90 the adequacy and effectiveness of:

- 91 (i) agency control systems;
- 92 (ii) compliance;
- 93 (iii) performance; and
- 94 (iv) financial position.

95 (b) An external audit is conducted in accordance with current professional and
96 industry technical standards, as applicable, for external audits.

97 ~~[(14)]~~(16)(a) "Home school student" means a student who:

- 98 (a) attends a home school pursuant to Section 53G-6-204; and
- 99 (b) is not counted by an LEA in membership for purposes of generating state or
100 federal funding.

101 ~~[(15)]~~(17) "Individualized education program" or "IEP" means a written statement
102 for a student with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance
103 with Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. Section
104 1400 (2004), and rule.

105 ~~[(16)]~~(18) "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act" or "IDEA," 20 U.S.C.
106 Section 1400 et seq. (2004), is a four part (A-D) piece of federal legislation that ensures
107 a student with a disability is provided with a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
108 that is tailored to the student's individual needs.

109 (19) "Instructional Day" means:

110 (i) for attendance validated programs, a day with scheduled instructional periods
111 and direct teacher interaction; or

112 (ii) for learner validated programs, any day during which educational services are
113 actively provided through the LEA's structured learning system.

114 (b)"Instructional day" does not include:

115 (i) days where educational services are not actively provided to students; or

116 (ii) any day in a program that an LEA designated as learner validated solely to
117 avoid providing direct educational services that would otherwise be required for an
118 attendance validated program.

119 (20) "Instructional hours" means:

120 (a) for attendance validated programs, hours of scheduled instruction; or

121 (b) for learner validated programs, equivalent hours of educational services as
122 defined by LEA policy.

123 ~~[(47)](21)(a)~~ "Internal audit" means an independent appraisal activity established
124 within an agency as a control system to examine and objectively evaluate the adequacy
125 and effectiveness of other internal control systems within the agency or the public
126 education system.

127 (b) An "internal audit" is conducted in accordance with the current:

128 (i) International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing; or

129 (ii) Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the
130 United States.

131 ~~[(18)](22)(a)~~ "LEA" or "local education agency" means a school district or charter
132 school.

133 (b) For purposes of certain rules, "LEA" or "local education agency" may include
134 the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) if indicated in the specific rule.

135 ~~[(49)](23)(a)~~ "LEA governing board" or "local board" means:

136 (i) for a school district, a local school board; and

137 (ii) for a charter school, a charter school governing board.

138 (b) For purposes of certain rules, "LEA governing board" or "local board" may
139 include the State Board of Education as the governing board for the Utah Schools for
140 the Deaf and the Blind if indicated in the specific rule.

141 (24) "Learner Validated Program" means an educational program specifically
142 designed for competency-based or self-paced learning where:

143 (a) student participation is measured by demonstrated academic progress and
144 completion of learning objectives rather than attendance during a scheduled class or
145 instructional period; and

146 (b) the LEA has established a written policy that defines:

147 (i) continuing enrollment measurement requirements;

148 (ii) standards for demonstrating academic progress;

149 (iii) methods for calculating equivalent instructional hours; and

150 (iv) procedures for ensuring equivalent educational rigor and support.

151 ~~[(20)]~~(25)(a) "Monitor" means to formally supervise, inspect, or examine the
152 compliance, performance, or finances of a program or set of requirements.

153 (b) A monitoring program may include:

154 (i) review of financial and performance reports required of the subject program;

155 (ii) follow-up to ensure the subject program takes timely and appropriate actions
156 to correct identified deficiencies;

157 (iii) supervising remedial action recommended by audit or monitoring findings or
158 required by Board rule; and

159 (iv) any function performed in an evaluation or review.

160 ~~[(21)]~~(26)(a) "Multidisciplinary team" means a group of individuals from multiple
161 disciplines who meet to:

162 (i) pursue the common goal of evaluating and triaging the academic, social,
163 emotional, physical, and behavioral needs of a student or group of students; and

164 (ii) create individualized strategies and interventions to address identified needs.

165 (b) An LEA's multidisciplinary school team as described in Subsection (20)(a)
166 may include:

167 (i) administrative personnel;

168 (ii) a local law enforcement officer or school resource officer;

169 (iii) a mental health professional;

170 (iv) a general education or special education teacher; and

171 (v) other community members as determined by the LEA.

172 ~~[(22)]~~(27) "Parent" means a parent or guardian who has established residency of
173 a child under Section 53G-6-302, 53G-6-303, or 53G-6-402, or another applicable Utah
174 guardianship provision.

175 ~~[(23)]~~(28) "Plan for College and Career Readiness" or "SEOP" means a student
176 education occupation plan for college and career readiness that is a developmentally
177 organized intervention process that includes:

178 (a) a written plan, updated annually, for a secondary student's (grades 7-12)
179 education and occupational preparation;

180 (b) all Board, local board and local charter board graduation requirements;

181 (c) evidence of parent or guardian, student, and school representative
182 involvement annually;

183 (d) attainment of approved workplace skill competencies, including job
184 placement when appropriate; and

185 (e) identification of post secondary goals and approved sequence of courses.

186 (24) "Preschool" means a school in which all the students enrolled are pre-
187 kindergarten.

188 ~~[(25)]~~(29)(a) "Private school student" means a student who:

189 (a) attends a private school; and

190 (b) is not counted by an LEA in membership for purposes of generating state or
191 federal funding.

192 ~~[(26)]~~(30) "Program" means an instructional environment that does not meet the
193 criteria to be classified as a school, as described in Subsection (27).

194 ~~[(27)]~~(31) "Public school student" means a student who:

195 (a) attends an LEA governed public school; and

196 (b) is counted by an LEA in membership for purposes of generating state or
197 federal funding.

198 ~~[(28)]~~(32) "School" means an instructional environment that:

199 (a) is governed by an LEA board;

200 (b) has an assigned administrator;

201 (c) has enrolled students that generate average daily membership hours during
202 the school year;

203 (d) has assigned instructional staff;

204 (e) provides instruction in the Utah core standards;

205 (f) has one or more grade groups in the range from kindergarten through grade
206 12; and

207 (g) is not a program for students enrolled in another public school.

208 ~~[(29)]~~(33) "Split enrollment student" means a student who is:

209 (a) regularly enrolled at two schools within two LEAs at the same time;

210 (b) eligible for graduation and other services at both schools; and

211 (c) subject to the split enrollment requirements in Rule R277-419, counted by
212 each LEA in membership for purposes of generating state or federal funding for only
213 those courses or subjects for which each LEA provides instruction.

214 ~~[(30)]~~(34) "State Charter School Board" or "SCSB" means the State Charter
215 School Board created in Section 53G-5-201.

216 ~~[(31)]~~(35) "Student Threat assessment" means a prevention strategy that
217 involves:

218 (a) identifying student threats including to commit a violent act;

219 (b) determining the seriousness of the threat;

220 (c) developing intervention plans that prioritize protecting potential victims and
221 address threatening behavior; and

222 (d) address underlying behavior contributing to the risk.

223 ~~[(32)]~~(36) "Success sequence" means a three-prong framework for youth and
224 young adults that encourages:

225 (a) completing at least a high school education and pursuing further educational
226 opportunities;

227 (b) obtaining full-time employment; and

228 (c) having children within a health and stable family and marriage.

229 ~~[(33)]~~(37) "Superintendent" means the State Superintendent of Public Instruction
230 or the Superintendent's designee.

231 ~~[(34)]~~(38) "Suspension" means, except for purposes of Rules R277-210 through
232 R277-217:

233 (a) an in-school suspension that is a temporary removal of a student from the
234 student's regular classroom for disciplinary reasons for at least half a school day but
235 remains under the direct supervision of school personnel; or

236 (b) an out-of-school suspension that is the removal of a student from school
237 grounds for disciplinary reasons unless the student removed is:

238 (i) served solely under a Section 504 plan, where an out-of-school suspension is
239 the excluding of the student from school for disciplinary purposes for one day or longer;
240 or

241 (ii) a student with disabilities under IDEA, where an out-of-school suspension is
242 the temporary removal of the student from the student's regular school for disciplinary
243 reasons to another setting.

244 ~~[(35)]~~(39) "Threat" means an expression of intent to harm someone that is direct,
245 indirect, or implied and may be spoken, written, or expressed in some other way.

246 ~~[(36)]~~(40) "USDB" means the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

247 ~~[(37)]~~(41) "USIMS" or "Utah Schools Information Management System" means a
248 software system maintained by the Superintendent for collecting, processing, providing
249 oversight, and reporting on education data for the state as required by Section 53E-3-
250 518.

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253 **Date of Last Change: January 7, 2026**

254 **Notice of Continuation: June 10, 2025**

255 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401(4)**

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