

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:

ACTION: R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education (Amendment)

Agenda item type:

Action Item

Recommended Action:

That the Board approve R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

Purpose of Memo:

Result of legislative action

Background:**Background of the Rule and Program**

Rule R277-911, "Secondary Career and Technical Education," establishes the standards, procedures, and funding formulas for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to qualify for and administer state Career and Technical Education (CTE) funds. The program supports approved CTE pathways that are designed to prepare students for high-skill, high-demand careers and provide a seamless transition from public education to post-secondary opportunities. The rule governs the disbursement of Weighted Pupil Units (WPU) and added cost funds across various CTE initiatives, including comprehensive high schools, school district technical centers, college and career awareness, and work-based learning programs. To remain eligible for these disbursements, LEAs must meet specific Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements based on their prior year CTE expenditures.

Summary of Proposed Changes

During the 2026 General Session, the Utah Legislature passed H.B. 1, "Public Education Base Budget Amendments," which directly impacted how CTE WPU are calculated and distributed across the state. Specifically, the legislation amended the WPU provisions for career and technical education programs to address eligibility for Career and Technical Education center funding. As a result, amendments to R277-911 are required to align the Board's administrative rule with the new statutory framework.

Key changes include:

Repeal and Integration of R277-916: Funding guidelines for College and Career Awareness are being moved into the "Added Cost Funds" section of this rule. LEAs may now use these funds for middle school course equipment and supplies, subject to strict new guardrails that prohibit spending on personnel, teacher personal use, or social activities.

CTE Leadership Organizations (CTSOs): The standalone disbursement section for CTE Leadership Organization funds has been completely repealed. Instead, the definition and list of approved organizations (like FFA, DECA, and HOSA) have been moved to the general definitions section.

School District Technical Centers: The amendments remove the strict requirement that technical centers must provide a separate facility from an existing high school and employ a separate full-time

CTE administrator. Technical centers may now include comprehensive high schools and serve as regional hubs.

Staff will present R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-507](#); [53F-2-311](#); [53G-6-708](#)

Contact:

Name: Elisse Newey	Thalea Longhurst	Wendi Morton
Title: Deputy Superintendent of Policy	Director of Career and technical Education	CTE Coordinator
Phone 801-538-7764	801-538-7889	801-538-7738
:		
Email: Elisse.newey@schools.utah.gov	thalea.longhurst@schools.utah.gov	Wendi.Morton@schools.utah.gov

Attachments:

1. R277-911 - Draft 1 - May 2026 Committee
2. R277-911 Reporting Burden and Fiscal Impact Estimate Form