

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:

ACTION: R277-407, School Fees (Amendment & Continuation)

Agenda item type:

Action Item

Recommended Action:

That the Board continue and approve R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

Purpose of Memo:

Result of legislative action

Background:**Background:**

Rule R277-407 provides Local Education Agencies (LEAs) with the regulatory framework to establish a system of reasonable school fees. The rule requires LEAs to provide adequate notice to students and families regarding both the fees being charged and the accompanying fee waiver requirements. Crucially, the rule is designed to prohibit practices that would either exclude students unable to pay from participating in school-sponsored activities or create a detrimental financial burden on a student or family.

Reason for Proposed Amendments:

There are two primary reasons this rule is being brought before the Committee for review and amendment:

Five-Year Continuation: Under the Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, administrative rules must be reviewed and renewed every five years to remain active. Rule R277-407 is currently scheduled to expire on August 19, 2026. This review serves as the required continuation process for the Office of Administrative Rules (OAR) to ensure the rule remains in effect.

Alignment with 2026 Legislation: The proposed amendments to Rule R277-407 will update the rule to comply with the new statutory mandates from S.B. 54 and H.B. 142. Specifically, Section R277-407-7, which governs the fee structure for scholarship student expenses, will be revised to align with S.B. 54 by requiring that all tuition, fees, and refund policies for scholarship students be identical to those applied to regularly enrolled students. Furthermore, to reflect the requirements of H.B. 142, Section R277-407-9 regarding fee waivers will be amended to mandate an overall dollar amount cap on total fee waivers and strictly limit fee waivers for trips to a maximum of two trips per student annually. Finally, Section R277-407-10 will be updated to introduce the new statutory "action plan" provision, requiring students seeking a waiver for a second trip to perform school-related service or contributions in lieu of fees.

Staff will present R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 2](#); [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53G-7-503](#)

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Attachments:

1. R277-407 - Draft 1 - May 2026 Committee
2. R277-407 Reporting Burden and Fiscal Impact Estimate Form