

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:

ACTION: R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students Learning English (Amendment)

Agenda item type:

Action Item

Recommended Action:

That the Board approve R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students learning English, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

Purpose of Memo:

Result of legislative action

Background:**Background:**

Rule R277-632 governs the reporting and distribution requirements for funding allocated to at-risk students and students learning English. The primary purpose of the rule is to clarify LEA reporting requirements for the At-Risk Add-On Funding Report and to establish the process for distributing emergency funding to schools.

Summary of Proposed Changes:

The proposed amendments to Rule R277-632 will update the rule to align with the revised emergency funding provisions for students learning English enacted in H.B. 1. Specifically, the amendments will remove the current assessment-based identification of qualifying students (which relies on WIDA assessment scores) and replace it with the new statutory definition based on "interrupted formal education." Additionally, the rule will be updated to reflect the lowered statutory eligibility thresholds of a 40% enrollment increase and 10 or more students. The amendments will also establish a new discretionary pathway for the Board to approve emergency funding for LEAs that experience a significant enrollment increase but fall short of the new numerical thresholds. Finally, the criteria for demonstrating "substantial need" will be revised to align with the new statutory requirement of showing "insufficient existing funds," which will require modifying the rule's current restriction regarding carry-forward at-risk funds.

Staff will present R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students Learning English, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Article X, Section 3](#); [53F-2-314](#)

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Attachments:

1. R277-632 - Draft 1 - May 2026 Committee
2. R277-632 Reporting Burden and Fiscal Impact Estimate Form