

USBE Research Study Grant Application Request

Board Memo and Backup Information

Title of program

Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking in Special Education (ALN 84.324S, FY 2027)

Description of grant program

The USBE special education team is proposing to apply to partner with the University of Utah Department of Special Education and the Utah Education Policy Center for a research grant to study Utah's statewide policy on meaningful inclusionary practices for students with Extensive Support Needs (students with the most significant cognitive disabilities) using longitudinal Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment and special education program Implementation data.

Link to public website where Board members can find additional information (if available)

<https://ies.ed.gov/funding/grants/2027/using-longitudinal-data-support-state-education-policymaking-special-education-84-324s>

Description of intended use of funds, should they be awarded

USBE will receive no funding or staff but will support the research by interacting with LEAs and providing expertise, as well as DLM assessment and LEA special education program services and placement data. The USBE already has a Master Data Sharing Agreement with the Utah Education Policy Center which will govern the data sharing needed to implement the research study.

Will the funds be available to all LEAs? If not, which LEAs or grantees are able to apply?

N/A

Timeline of period of performance

3 Years. July 1, 2027 to June 30 2030

Amount of funding

\$1,200,000 – which will go to the University of Utah Special Education and Utah Education Policy Center departments

Application due date

October 1, 2026 11:59:59 ET

Will any new FTE at USBE be needed as a result of this funding?

No

The terms and conditions of accepting the grant funding

USBE will receive no funding

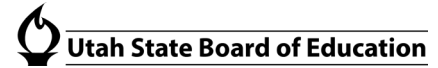
What actions will USBE or LEAs be required to take if they receive the funding?

USBE will share Assessment and Placement data with the Utah Education Policy Center (UEPC) through our current Master Data Sharing Agreement. As the USBE and the UEPC are currently working on updating the agreement, when it is approved, the new Master Data Sharing Agreement will immediately apply to this research study even if it has already begun under the current Agreement.

Title: Special Education Research Study Grant Partner Proposal

Draft: 1

Date: October 1, 2026



Specific reports and reporting deadlines

The USBE will not be responsible for any reports as the University of Utah will be the grantee.

Federal or state awarding agency

Institute of Education Sciences (IES) in the Department of Education

How much of the funding will flow-through to grantees?

All of the funds will flow to the University of Utah.

What is the administrative burden to USBE to administer the funds and how will they be covered?

N/A

Date: September 21, 2026

Draft: 1

Contact Person and Email: Deputy Superintendent Leah Voorhies (leah.voorhies@schools.utah.gov)

This draft is for consideration during the Consent Calendar of the Board Meeting (October 1, 2026)