

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Angie Stallings, Associate Superintendent
Policy and Communication

DATE: February 4-5, 2016

ACTION: R277-922 *Digital Teaching and Learning Grant Program* (New)

Background:

The purpose of this new rule is to establish an application and grant review committee and process and to give direction to LEAs participating in the Digital Teaching and Learning Program.

Key Points:

This new rule provides standards and procedures for:

- The Digital Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee.
- Board approval or denial of LEA plans.
- Pre-LEA plan submission and LEA plan requirements.
- Distribution of grant money to participating LEAs.
- Prohibited uses of grant money.

Anticipated Action:

It is proposed that the Law and Licensing Committee consider approving R277-922 on first reading and, if approved by the Committee, the Board consider approving R277-922 on second reading.

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1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-922. Digital Teaching and Learning Grant Program.**

3 **R277-922-1. Authority and Purpose.**

4 (1) This rule is authorized by:

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

7 (b) Subsection 53A-1-401(3), which allows the Board to adopt rules in
8 accordance with its responsibilities; and

9 (c) Section 53A-1-710.5 which requires the Board to:

10 (i) establish a qualifying grant program; and

11 (ii) adopt rules related to administration of the Digital Teaching and Learning
12 Grant Program.

13 (2) The purpose of this rule is to:

14 (a) establish an application and grant review committee and process;

15 (b) give direction to LEAs participating in the Digital Teaching and Learning
16 Grant Program.

17 **R277-922-2. Definitions.**

18 (1) “Advisory committee” means the Digital Teaching and Learning Advisory
19 Committee:

20 (a) established by the Board as required in Section 53A-1-710.5; and

21 (b) required to perform the duties described in R277-922-4.

22 (2) “LEA plan” has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 53A-
23 1-710.5.

24 (3) “Master plan” means Utah’s Master Plan: Essential Elements for
25 Technology-Powered Learning, October 9, 2015.

26 (4) “Program” has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 53A-1-
27 710.5.

28 (5) “Participating LEA” means an LEA that:

29 (a) has an LEA plan approved by the Board; and

30 (b) receives a grant under the program.

31 **R277-922-3. Incorporation of Utah's Master Plan by Reference.**

32 (1) This rule incorporates by reference Utah's Master Plan: Essential
33 Elements for Technology-Powered Learning, October 9, 2015, which establishes:

34 (a) the application process for an LEA to receive a grant under the program;
35 and

36 (b) a more detailed description of the requirements of an LEA plan.

37 (2) A copy of the manual is located at:

38 (a) <http://www.schools.utah.gov/edtech/>; and

39 (b) the Utah State Office of Education, 250 East 500 South, Salt Lake City,
40 Utah 84111.

41 **R277-922-3. Digital Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee duties.**

42 (1) The advisory committee shall:

43 (a) review an LEA plan to determine whether the LEA plan meets the criteria
44 described in Section R277-922-5;

45 (b) make a recommendation to the Superintendent and the Board on whether
46 the Board should approve or deny an LEA plan;

47 (c) make recommendations to an LEA on how the LEA may improve an LEA
48 plan; and

49 (d) perform other duties as directed by:

50 (i) the Board; or

51 (ii) the Superintendent.

52 (2) The advisory committee or the Superintendent shall present the advisory
53 committee's recommendations on whether to approve or deny an LEA plan to the
54 Board for approval.

55 **R277-922-4. Board Approval or Denial of LEA Plans.**

56 (1) The Board may either approve or deny an LEA plan submitted by the
57 advisory committee.

58 (2) If the Board denies an LEA plan, an LEA may amend and resubmit the
59 LEA plan to the advisory committee until the Board approves the LEA plan.

60 **R277-922-5. Pre-LEA Plan Submission Requirements.**

61 Before an LEA submits an LEA plan to the advisory committee for approval
62 by the Board, an LEA shall:

63 (1) send an LEA representative to a pre-grant submission training conducted
64 by the Superintendent;

65 (2) require the following individuals to participate in a leadership and change
66 management training conducted by the Superintendent:

67 (a) a principal or executive director of each school participating in the
68 program;

69 (b) the school district superintendent or chair of the charter school governing
70 board; and

71 (c) the LEA technology director; and

72 (3) participate in a readiness assessment designated by the Superintendent.

73 **R277-922-6. LEA Plan Requirements.**

74 (1) An LEA plan shall include:

75 (a) a statement of purpose that describes:

76 (i) the learning objectives;

77 (ii) goals; and

78 (iii) measurable outcomes the LEA will accomplish by implementing the
79 program;

80 (b) design criteria that enable the LEA to improve school level outcomes
81 identified by the LEA that may include:

82 (i) student achievement on statewide assessments;

83 (ii) cost savings and improved efficiency relating to instructional materials,
84 facilities, and maintenance;

85 (iii) attendance;

86 (iv) discipline incidents;

87 (v) parental involvement;

88 (vi) citizen involvement;

89 (vii) graduation rates;

90 (viii) student enrollment in higher education;

91 (ix) dropout rates;
92 (x) student technology proficiency for college and career readiness;
93 (xi) teacher satisfaction and engagement; or
94 (xii) other school level outcomes approved by the advisory committee or the
95 Board;
96 (d) an implementation process structured to yield the LEA's school level
97 outcomes;
98 (e) a plan for infrastructure acquisition;
99 (f) a process for procurement and distribution of the goods and services the
100 LEA intends to use as part of the LEA's implementation of the program;
101 (g) a description of necessary high quality digital instructional materials;
102 (h) a detailed plan for student engagement in personalized learning;
103 (i) technical support standards for implementation and maintenance of the
104 program that:
105 (i) include support for hardware and Internet access; and
106 (ii) remove technical support burdens from the classroom teacher;
107 (j) proposed security policies, including:
108 (i) security audits;
109 (ii) student data privacy; and
110 (iii) remediation of identified lapses;
111 (k) an inventory of the LEA's current technology resources, including software,
112 and a description of how the LEA will integrate those resources into the LEA's
113 implementation of the program;
114 (l) a disclosure by the LEA of the LEA's current technology expenditures;
115 (m) a description of how the LEA will:
116 (i) provide high quality professional learning for educators, administrators, and
117 support staff participating in the program, including ongoing periodic coaching; and
118 (ii) provide special education students with appropriate software;
119 (n) except as provided in Subsection (3), an assurance that the LEA will
120 implement the program in an entire school at a time and not introduce the program
121 into schools in a partial manner; and
122 (o) any other criteria or requirement established by the Superintendent.

123 (2) An LEA shall include the LEA's proposed implementation of the program
124 over multiple years in the LEA plan.

125 (3)(a) An LEA is not required to implement the program an entire school at a
126 time in an elementary school.

127 (b) An LEA is not required to implement the program in kindergarten through
128 grade 4.

129 **R277-922-7. Distribution of Grant Money to Participating LEAs.**

130 (1) If an LEA's plan is approved by the Board, the Superintendent shall
131 distribute grant money to the LEA as described in this section.

132 (2)(a) The amount available to distribute to participating charter schools is an
133 amount equal to the product of:

134 (i) enrollment on October 1 in the prior year at charter schools statewide,
135 divided by enrollment on October 1 in the prior year in public schools statewide; and

136 (ii) the total amount available for distribution under the program.

137 (b) The Superintendent shall distribute to participating charter schools the
138 amount available for distribution to participating charter schools in proportion to each
139 participating charter school's enrollment as a percentage of the total enrollment in
140 participating charter schools.

141 (3) The Superintendent shall distribute grant money to the Utah Schools for
142 the Deaf and the Blind in an amount equal to the product of:

143 (a) enrollment on October 1 in the prior year at the Utah Schools for the Deaf
144 and the Blind, divided by enrollment on October 1 in the prior year in public schools
145 statewide; and

146 (b) the total amount available for distribution under this section.

147 (4) Of the funds available for distribution under the program after the
148 allocation of funds for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind and participating
149 charter schools, the Superintendent shall distribute grant money to participating
150 LEAs that are school districts as follows:

151 (a) the Superintendent shall distribute 10 percent of the total funding available
152 for participating LEAs that are school districts to the participating LEAs as a base
153 amount on an equal basis; and

154 (b) the superintendent shall distribute the remaining 90% of the funds to the
155 participating LEAs on a per-student basis.

156 (5)(a) Subject to the provisions of Subsections (5)(b) and (c), each LEA has
157 an opportunity to receive an amount of money equal to the amount of money that the
158 LEA would receive in year one of the program if the LEA plan had been approved
159 in year one as described in Section R277-922-5.

160 (b) If an LEA plan is not approved during year one of the program, the
161 Superintendent shall deposit the LEA's allocation of program money described in
162 Subsection (5)(a) into a separate account that is non-lapsing.

163 (c) The Superintendent shall award an LEA the LEA's allocation of the year
164 one program money in a subsequent year of the program if the LEA plan was not
165 approved during year one of the program.

166 **R277-922-8. Prohibited Uses of Grant Money.**

167 A participating LEA may not use grant money:

168 (1) to fund non-technology programs;

169 (2) to purchase mobile telephones; or

170 (3) to fund voice or data plans for mobile telephones.

171 **KEY: digital teaching and learning, grant program**

172 **Date of Enactment of Last Substantive Amendment: 2016**

173 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53A-1-401(3);**

174 **53A-1-710.5**