

EDUCATOR EXPENSE MODIFICATIONS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Kera Birkeland

Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill provides for distribution of an appropriation for teaching supplies and materials.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- provides for the distribution of teaching supplies and materials money among teachers;
- provides for the use of the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to fund teaching supplies and materials; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2025:

- to State Board of Education - Minimum School Program - Related to Basic School Programs - Teacher Supplies and Materials as a one-time appropriation:
 - from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account, One-time, \$8,400,000

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53F-7-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 348

53F-9-204, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 386, 456

ENACTS:

53F-2-526, as Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 53F-2-526 is enacted to read:

53F-2-526 . Appropriations for teaching supplies and materials.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Classroom teacher" means a teacher who:

(i) is assigned by an LEA in a permanent teacher position filled by one teacher or two or more job-sharing teachers employed by an LEA;

(ii) is licensed and paid on an LEA's salary schedule;

(iii) is employed for an entire contract period; and

(iv) is primarily responsible to provide instruction or a combination of instructional and counseling services to students in public schools.

(b) "Teaching supplies and materials" means consumable and non-consumable items that are used for educational purposes by teachers in classroom activities that are approved by the LEA.

(2) For the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2024, the state board shall distribute money appropriated for teaching supplies and materials as follows:

(a) \$500 to each classroom teacher position for pre-kindergarten special education and kindergarten through grade 6; and

(b) \$250 to each classroom teacher position for grades 7 through 12.

Section 2. Section 53F-7-203 is amended to read:

53F-7-203 . Paid professional hours for educators.

(1) Subject to legislative appropriations, the state board shall provide funding to each LEA to provide additional paid professional hours to the following educators in accordance with this section:

(a) general education and special education teachers;

(b) counselors;

(c) school administration;

(d) school specialists;

(e) student support;

(f) school psychologists;

(g) speech language pathologists; and

(h) audiologists.

(2) The state board shall distribute funds appropriated to the state board under Subsection 53F-9-204(6)(a) to each LEA in proportion to the number of educators described in Subsection (1) within the LEA.

- (3) An LEA shall use funding under this section to provide paid professional hours that:
- (a) provide educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to enable students to succeed in a well-rounded education and to meet the challenging state academic standards; and
 - (b) may include activities that:
 - (i) improve and increase an educator's:
 - (A) knowledge of the academic subjects the educator teaches;
 - (B) time to plan and prepare daily lessons based on student needs;
 - (C) understanding of how students learn; and
 - (D) ability to analyze student work and achievement from multiple sources, including how to adjust instructional strategies, assessments, and materials based on the analysis;
 - (ii) are an integral part of broad school-wide and LEA-wide educational improvement plans;
 - (iii) allow personalized plans for each educator to address the educator's specific needs identified in observation or other feedback;
 - (iv) advance educator understanding of:
 - (A) effective and evidence-based instructional strategies; and
 - (B) strategies for improving student academic achievement or substantially increasing the knowledge and teaching skills of educators;
 - (v) are aligned with, and directly related to, academic goals of the school or LEA; and
 - (vi) include instruction in the use of data and assessments to inform and instruct classroom practice.
- (4) (a) An educator shall:
- (i) on or before the fifth day of instruction in a given school year, create a plan, in consultation with the educator's principal, on how the educator plans to use paid professional hours provided under this section during the school year; and
 - (ii) before the end of a given school year, provide a written statement to the educator's principal of how the educator used paid professional hours provided under this section during the school year.
- (b) (i) Subsection (4)(a)(i) does not limit an educator who begins employment after the fifth day of instruction in a given year from receiving paid professional hours under this section.
- (ii) An LEA may prorate the paid professional hours of an educator who begins

employment after the fifth day of instruction in a given year according to the portion of the school year for which the LEA employs the educator.

Section 3. Section **53F-9-204** is amended to read:

53F-9-204 . Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account.

(1) There is created within the Uniform School Fund a restricted account known as the "Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account."

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), the account shall be funded from the following revenue sources:

(i) 15% of the difference between, as determined by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst:

(A) the estimated amount of ongoing Income Tax Fund and Uniform School Fund revenue available for the Legislature to appropriate for the next fiscal year; and

(B) the amount of ongoing appropriations from the Income Tax Fund and Uniform School Fund in the current fiscal year; and

(ii) other appropriations as the Legislature may designate.

(b) If the appropriation described in Subsection (2)(a) would cause the ongoing appropriations to the account to exceed 11% of Uniform School Fund appropriations described in Section 53F-9-201.1 for the same fiscal year, the Legislature shall appropriate only those funds necessary to ensure that the ongoing appropriations to the account equal 11% of Uniform School Fund appropriations for that fiscal year.

(3) Subject to the availability of ongoing appropriations to the account, in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article X, Section 5, Subsection (4), the ongoing appropriation to the account shall be used to fund:

(a) except for a year described in Subsection (3)(b), one-time appropriations to the public education system; and

(b) the Minimum School Program for a year in which Income Tax Fund revenue and Uniform School Fund revenue are insufficient to fund:

(i) ongoing appropriations to the public education system; and

(ii) enrollment growth and inflation estimates, as defined in Section 53F-9-201.1.

(4) (a) The account shall earn interest.

(b) All interest earned on account money shall be deposited in the account.

(5) On or before December 31, 2023, and every three years thereafter, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:

(a) review the percentages described in Subsections (2)(a)(i) and (2)(b); and

(b) recommend to the Executive Appropriations Subcommittee any changes based on the review described in Subsection (5)(a).

(6) In preparing budget bills for a given fiscal year, the Executive Appropriations Committee shall make the one-time appropriations described in Subsection (3)(a) by appropriating at least the lesser of 10% of the total amount of the one-time appropriations; or

(a) the cost of providing 32 paid professional hours for teachers in accordance with Section 53F-7-203[-] ; and

(b) the amount to make the distribution required under Section 53F-2-526.

Section 4. **FY 2025 Appropriation.**

The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2025.

Subsection 4(a) **Operating and Capital Budgets**

Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

ITEM 1 To State Board of Education - Minimum School Program - Related to Basic School Programs

From Public Education Economic Stabilization

Restricted Account, One-time	\$8,400,000
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Schedule of Programs:

Teacher Supplies and Materials	\$8,400,000
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The Legislature intends that the State Board use the appropriations provided under this section in accordance with Section 53F-2-526.

Section 5. **Effective date.**

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2024.