

YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AMENDMENTS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Brian S. King

Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

Cosponsors:	Sandra Hollins	Andrew Stoddard
Cheryl K. Acton	Karen Kwan	Steve Waldrip
Gay Lynn Bennion	Rosemary T. Lesser	Raymond P. Ward
Joel K. Briscoe	Ashlee Matthews	Elizabeth Weight
Clare Collard	Carol Spackman Moss	Douglas R. Welton
Jennifer Dailey-Provost	Doug Owens	Mark A. Wheatley
Steve Eliason	Stephanie Pitcher	
Stephen G. Handy	Angela Romero	

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to the purposes for youth suicide prevention programs.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ amends provisions related to the purposes for youth suicide prevention programs;
- ▶ divides elements of the youth suicide prevention programs between elementary grades and secondary grades;
- ▶ requires communication between the school district or charter school and certain parents or guardians;
- ▶ requires school districts and charter schools to ensure coordination between youth suicide prevention programs and certain other prevention programs;
- ▶ repeals a separate program to consolidate funding and effort into one

comprehensive suicide prevention program; and
 ▸ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53G-9-702, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 293, 324, and 447

REPEALS:

53F-5-206, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 414 and renumbered and
amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 2

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

Section 1. Section **53G-9-702** is amended to read:

**53G-9-702. Youth suicide prevention programs -- State board to develop model
programs.**

(1) As used in the section:

(a) "Elementary grades" means:

(i) kindergarten through grade 5; and

(ii) if the associated middle or junior high school does not include grade 6, grade 6.

~~[(a)]~~ (b) "Intervention" means an effort to prevent a student from attempting suicide.

~~[(b)]~~ (c) "Postvention" means mental health intervention after a suicide attempt or
death to prevent or contain contagion.

~~[(c)]~~ (d) "Program" means a youth suicide prevention program described in Subsection
(2).

~~[(d)]~~ (e) "Public education suicide prevention coordinator" means an individual
designated by the state board as described in Subsection ~~[(3)]~~ (4).

57 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) "Secondary grades" means:

58 (i) ~~[means]~~ grades 7 through 12; and

59 (ii) if a middle or junior high school includes grade 6, ~~[includes]~~ grade 6.

60 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) "State suicide prevention coordinator" means the state suicide prevention
61 coordinator described in Section [62A-15-1101](#).

62 (2) In collaboration with the public education suicide prevention coordinator, a school
63 district or charter school~~[, in the secondary grades of the school district or charter school,]~~ shall
64 implement a youth suicide prevention program, which, in collaboration with the training,
65 programs, and initiatives described in Section [53G-9-607](#), shall include programs and training
66 to address:

67 ~~[(a) bullying and cyberbullying, as those terms are defined in Section [53G-9-601](#);~~

68 (a) for elementary grades and secondary grades:

69 (i) life-affirming education, including on the concepts of resiliency, healthy habits,
70 self-care, problem solving, and conflict resolution;

71 (ii) methods of strengthening the family; and

72 (iii) methods of strengthening a youth's relationships in the school and community; and

73 (b) for secondary grades:

74 ~~[(b)]~~ (i) prevention of youth suicide;

75 ~~[(c) increased]~~ (ii) decreasing the risk of suicide among youth who are;

76 (A) not accepted by family for any reason, including lesbian, gay, bisexual,
77 transgender, or questioning youth; or

78 (B) suffer from bullying;

79 ~~[(d)]~~ (iii) youth suicide intervention; and

80 ~~[(e)]~~ (iv) postvention for family, students, and faculty[;].

81 ~~[(f) underage drinking of alcohol;]~~

82 ~~[(g) methods of strengthening the family; and]~~

83 ~~[(h) methods of strengthening a youth's relationships in the school and community.]~~

84 (3) Each school district and charter school shall ensure that the youth suicide

prevention program described in Subsection (2):

(a) considers appropriate coordination with the following prevention programs:

(i) the prevention of bullying and cyber-bullying, as those terms are defined in Section

53G-9-601; and

(ii) the prevention of underage drinking of alcohol and substance abuse under Section

53G-10-406; and

(b) includes provisions to ensure that the school district or charter school promptly communicates with the parent or guardian of a student in accordance with Section 53G-9-604.

~~[(3)]~~ (4) The state board shall:

(a) designate a public education suicide prevention coordinator; and

(b) in collaboration with the Department of ~~[Heath]~~ Health and the state suicide prevention coordinator, develop model programs to provide to school districts and charter schools:

(i) program training; and

(ii) resources regarding the required components described in ~~[Subsection (2)(b)]~~

Subsections (2)(a) and (b).

~~[(4)]~~ (5) The public education suicide prevention coordinator shall:

(a) oversee the youth suicide prevention programs of school districts and charter schools; and

(b) coordinate prevention and postvention programs, services, and efforts with the state suicide prevention coordinator~~[-and]~~.

~~[(c) award grants in accordance with Section 53F-5-206.]~~

~~[(5)]~~ (6) A public school suicide prevention program may allow school personnel to ask a student questions related to youth suicide prevention, intervention, or postvention.

~~[(6)]~~ (7) (a) Subject to legislative appropriation, the state board may distribute money to a school district or charter school to be used to implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide in the school district or charter school.

(b) The state board shall ~~[distribute]~~ ensure that an LEA's allocation of funds from the board's distribution of money under Subsection ~~[(6)]~~ (7)(a) ~~[so that each school that enrolls students in grade 7 or a higher grade receives an allocation of]~~ provides an amount equal to at least \$1,000 per school.

(c) (i) A school shall use money allocated to the school under Subsection ~~[(6)]~~ (7)(b) to implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide.

(ii) Each school may select the evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide that the school implements.

(8) An LEA may not charge indirect costs to the program.

Section 2. **Repealer.**

This bill repeals:

Section **53F-5-206, Grant awards for elementary suicide prevention programs.**