

**MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR
STUDENTS AND TEACHERS PROGRAM**

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason

Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill reinstates the Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers Program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ reinstates the Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers (MOST) Program;
- ▶ addresses the duties and authority of the State Board of Education related to the funding of the MOST Program and associated grants;
- ▶ addresses the allowable expenditures for MOST Program grant money; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2022:

- ▶ to the State Board of Education - Minimum School Program - Related to Basic School Programs, as an ongoing appropriation:
 - from the Education Fund, \$3,900,000; and
- ▶ to the State Board of Education - MSP Categorical Program Administration, as an ongoing appropriation:



- from the Education Fund, \$100,000.

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53F-2-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Fifth Special Session, Chapter 14

ENACTS:

53F-2-505.1, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53F-2-203** is amended to read:

53F-2-203. Reduction of LEA governing board allocation based on insufficient revenues.

(1) As used in this section, "Minimum School Program funds" means the total of state and local funds appropriated for the Minimum School Program, excluding:

(a) an appropriation for a state guaranteed local levy increment as described in Section **53F-2-601**; and

(b) the appropriation to charter schools to replace local property tax revenues pursuant to Section **53F-2-704**.

(2) If the Legislature reduces appropriations made to support public schools under this chapter because an Education Fund budget deficit, as defined in Section **63J-1-312**, exists, the state board, after consultation with each LEA governing board, shall allocate the reduction among school districts and charter schools in proportion to each school district's or charter school's percentage share of Minimum School Program funds.

(3) Except as provided in Subsection (5) and subject to the requirements of Subsection (7), an LEA governing board shall determine which programs are affected by a reduction pursuant to Subsection (2) and the amount each program is reduced.

(4) Except as provided in Subsections (5) and (6), the requirement to spend a specified amount in any particular program is waived if reductions are made pursuant to Subsection (2).

(5) An LEA governing board may not reduce or reallocate spending of funds distributed to the school district or charter school for the following programs:

- (a) educator salary adjustments provided in Section 53F-2-405;
- (b) the Teacher Salary Supplement Program provided in Section 53F-2-504;
- (c) the extended year for special educators provided in Section 53F-2-310;
- (d) the School LAND Trust Program described in Sections 53F-2-404 and 53G-7-1206; [or]
- (e) the Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers Program provided in Section 53F-2-505.1; or
- ~~(e)~~ (f) a special education program within the basic school program.
- (6) An LEA governing board may not reallocate spending of funds distributed to the school district or charter school to a reserve account.
- (7) An LEA governing board that reduces or reallocates funds in accordance with this section shall report all transfers into, or out of, Minimum School Program programs to the state board as part of the school district or charter school's Annual Financial and Program report.
- Section 2. Section 53F-2-505.1 is enacted to read:
- 53F-2-505.1. 29 Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers Program.**
- (1) As used in this section, "MOST Program" means the Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers Program created in this section.
- (2) (a) The Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers Program is created to provide a financial incentive for LEA governing boards to adopt programs in respective LEAs that result in a more efficient use of human resources and capital facilities.
- (b) The intended benefits of the program include:
- (i) increased opportunities for supporting math and science teachers in their instructional delivery as it pertains to student learning outcomes;
- (ii) increased compensation for math and science teachers by providing opportunities for an expanded contract year which will enhance LEAs' ability to attract and retain talented and highly qualified math and science teachers;
- (iii) increased capacity of school buildings by using buildings more hours of the day or more days of the year, resulting in reduced capital facilities costs;
- (iv) decreased class sizes created by expanding the number of instructional opportunities in a year;

(v) opportunities for earlier high school graduation;
(vi) improved student college preparation;
(vii) increased opportunities to offer additional remedial and advanced courses in math and science; and
(viii) opportunities to coordinate high school and post-secondary math and science education.

(3) From money appropriated for the MOST Program, the state board shall award grants to LEAs to pay for costs related to the adoption and implementation of the program.

(4) The state board shall:

(a) solicit proposals from an LEA or a regional education service agency on behalf of an LEA for the use of grant money to facilitate the adoption and implementation of the program; and

(b) award grants on a competitive basis.

(5) In selecting a grant recipient, the state board shall consider:

(a) the degree to which an LEA's proposed adoption and implementation of an extended year for math and science teachers achieves the benefits described in Subsection (2);

(b) the unique circumstances of different urban, rural, large, small, growing, and declining LEAs; and

(c) providing programs in as many different LEAs as possible.

(6) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), an LEA may only use grant money to provide educator contracts, educator contract extensions, educator stipends, or combinations of both, for participating MOST Program math and science teachers.

(b) Up to 5% of the grant money may be used to fund math and science field trips, textbooks, and supplies.

(7) Participation in the MOST Program is:

(a) voluntary for an individual teacher; and

(b) voluntary for a charter school or school district.

Section 3. Appropriation.

The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2022. Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures

121 Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts
122 indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

123 ITEM 1

124 To State Board of Education - Minimum School Program - Related to Basic School

125 Programs

126 From Education Fund \$3,900,000

127 Schedule of Programs:

128 Math and Science Opportunities for Students

129 and Teachers Program \$3,900,000

130 ITEM 2

131 To State Board of Education - MSP Categorical Program Administration

132 From Education Fund \$100,000

133 Schedule of Programs:

134 Math and Science Opportunities for Students

135 and Teachers Program \$100,000