

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AMENDMENTS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Marsha Judkins

Senate Sponsor: Michael S. Kennedy

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill amends a formula related to add-on weighted pupil units for students with disabilities.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- amends a formula related to add-on weighted pupil units for students with disabilities; and
- makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53F-2-307, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 408

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

Section 1. Section **53F-2-307** is amended to read:

53F-2-307. Weighted pupil units for programs for students with disabilities --
Local school board allocation.



(1) The number of weighted pupil units for students with disabilities shall reflect the direct cost of programs for those students conducted in accordance with rules established by the state board in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

(2) Disability program money allocated to school districts or charter schools is restricted and shall be spent for the education of students with disabilities but may include expenditures for approved programs of services conducted for certified instructional personnel who have students with disabilities in their classes.

(3) The state board shall establish and strictly interpret definitions and provide standards for determining which students have disabilities and shall assist school districts and charter schools in determining the services that should be provided to students with disabilities.

(4) Each year the state board shall evaluate the standards and guidelines that establish the identifying criteria for disability classifications to assure strict compliance with those standards by the school districts and charter schools.

(5) (a) Money appropriated to the state board for add-on WPU's for students with disabilities enrolled in regular programs shall be allocated to school districts and charter schools as provided in this Subsection (5).

(b) The state board shall use a school district's or charter school's average number of special education add-on weighted pupil units determined by [the previous five year's] the prior year's average daily membership plus growth and the preceding four years' average daily membership data as a foundation for the special education add-on appropriation.

(c) The growth factor described in Subsection (5)(b) is the percentage change in total enrollment of kindergarten through grade 12 students on the first school day of October in the current school year as compared to the total enrollment of kindergarten through grade 12 students on the first school day of October in the previous school year.

~~[(c)]~~ (d) A school district's or charter school's special education add-on WPU's for the current year may not be less than the foundation special education add-on WPU's described in Subsection (5)(b).

~~[(d)]~~ (e) Growth WPU's shall be added to the prior year special education add-on WPU's, and growth WPU's shall be determined as follows:

(i) The special education student growth factor is calculated by comparing ~~Ŝ~~ **→ [S-3]** S-2 **←Ŝ** total special education ~~[ADM of two years]~~ average daily membership of one year previous to the

59 current year to the ~~Ŝ → [S-3] S-2 ← Ŝ~~ total special education [~~ADM three~~] average daily membership
 59a two
 60 years previous to the current year, not to exceed the official October total school district or
 61 charter school growth factor from the prior year.

62 (ii) When calculating and applying the growth factor, a school district's S-3 total
 63 special education ADM for a given year is limited to [~~+2.18%~~] the following percentage of the
 64 school district's ~~Ŝ → [S-3] S-2 ← Ŝ~~ total student ADM for the same year[-]:

65 (A) for a school district in a county of the first, second, or third class, 14%; and
 66 (B) for a school district in a county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class, 20%.

67 (iii) Growth ADMs are calculated by applying the growth factor to the ~~Ŝ → [S-3] S-2 ← Ŝ~~
 67a total special
 68 education [~~ADM of two years~~] average daily membership of one year previous to the current
 69 year.

70 (iv) Growth ADMs for each school district or each charter school are multiplied by
 71 1.53 weighted pupil units and added to the prior year special education add-on WPU to
 72 determine each school district's or each charter school's total allocation.

73 (6) If money appropriated under this chapter for programs for students with disabilities
 74 does not meet the costs of school districts and charter schools for those programs, each school
 75 district and each charter school shall first receive the amount generated for each student with a
 76 disability under the basic program.