

## **R277. Education, Administration.**

### **R277-417. Prohibiting LEAs and Third Party Providers from Offering Incentives or Disbursement for Enrollment or Participation.**

#### **R277-417-1. Authority, Purpose, and Oversight Category.**

- (1) This rule is authorized by:
  - (a) Utah Constitution [Article X, Section 3](#), which vests general control and supervision over public education in the Board; and
  - (b) Subsection [53E-3-401](#)(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute the Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law.
- (2) The purpose of this rule is to provide standards and procedures for prohibiting LEAs and third party providers from offering incentives for student enrollment.
- (3) This rule is categorized as Category 2 as described in Rule R277-111.

#### **R277-417-2. Definitions.**

- (1)(a) "Disbursement" means the payment of money or provision of other item of value greater than \$10, per school year, offered as payment or compensation to a student or to a parent or guardian for:
  - (i) a student's enrollment in an LEA; or
  - (ii) a student's participation in an LEA's program.
- (b) "Disbursement" does not include a reimbursement paid by an LEA to a student, parent or guardian, for an expenditure incurred by the student, parent or guardian on behalf of the LEA if:
  - (i) the expenditure is for an item that will be the property of the LEA; and
  - (ii) the expenditure was preauthorized by the LEA, as evidenced by preauthorization documentation.
- (2) "Educational good or service" means the same as that term is defined in Section [53E-3-401](#).
- (3) "Incentive" means one of the following given to a student or to the student's parent or guardian by an LEA or by a third-party provider as a condition of the student's enrollment in an LEA or specific program for any length of time, during any school year:

- (a) money greater than \$10; or
- (b) an item of value greater than \$10.
- (4) "Program" means a program within a school that is designed to accomplish a predetermined curricular objective or set of objectives.
- (5) "Section 504 accommodation plan" required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, means a plan designed to accommodate an individual who has been determined, as a result of an evaluation, to have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.
- (6) "Third-party provider" means a third-party who provides an educational good or service on behalf of an LEA.

**R277-417-3. LEA and Third-Party Provider Use of Public Funds for Incentives and Disbursement.**

(1) An LEA or a third-party provider may not use public funds, as defined under Subsection [51-7-3](#)(26), to provide the following to a student, parent or guardian, individual, or group of individuals:

- (a) an incentive for a student's:
  - (i) enrollment in an LEA; or
  - (ii) participation in an LEA's program; or
- (b) a referral bonus for a student's:
  - (i) enrollment in an LEA; or
  - (ii) participation in an LEA's program.

(2) An LEA or third-party provider may not use public funds to provide a disbursement to a student or the student's parent or guardian for:

- (a) curriculum exclusively selected by a parent;
- (b) instruction not provided by the LEA;
- (c) private lessons or classes not provided by:
  - (i) an employee of the LEA; or
  - (ii) a third-party provider who meets all of the requirements of Rule R277-115;
- (d) technology devices exclusively selected by a parent; or
- (e) other educational expense exclusively selected by a parent.

- (3) An LEA may use public funds to provide:
  - (a) uniforms, technology devices, curriculum, or materials and supplies to a student if the uniforms, technology devices, curriculum, or materials and supplies are:
    - (i) available to all students enrolled in the LEA or program within the LEA; or
    - (ii) authorized by the student's college and career readiness plan, IEP, or Section 504 accommodation plan; or
  - (b) internet access for instructional purposes to a student:
    - (i) in kindergarten through grade 6; or
    - (ii) in grade 7 through grade 12 if:
      - (A) the internet access is provided in accordance with the fee waiver policy requirements of Section R277-407-8; or
      - (B) failure to provide the internet access will cause economic hardship on the student or parent.
- (4) An LEA or third-party provider shall ensure that equipment purchased or leased by the LEA or third party provider remains the property of the LEA and is subject to the LEA's asset policies if:
  - (a) the LEA or third-party provider purchases equipment; and
  - (b) provides the equipment to a student or to the student's parent or guardian.

**KEY: students, enrollment, incentives**

**Date of Last Change: May 8, 2025**

**Notice of Continuation: March 14, 2025**

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401](#)(4)**