

R277-928 received final approval by the Utah State Board of Education on August 1, 2019. R277-928 is published in the September 1, 2019 Utah State Bulletin, subject to a 30-day comment period, with a first possible effective date of October 8, 2019.

R277. Education, Administration.

R277-928. High-Need Schools Grant.

R277-928-1. Authority and Purpose.

(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;

(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; and

(c) Section 53F-5-212, which establishes a grant to hire educators in high-need schools and directs the Board to make rules to govern the application process.

(2) The purpose of this rule is to provide:

(a) procedures for an LEA to apply for the High-Need Schools Grant; and

(b) criteria for determining if an elementary school is a high-need school.

R277-928-2. Definitions.

(1) "High-need school" means the same as the term is defined in Subsection 53F-5-212(1)(c).

(2) "Qualifying educator," except as provided in Subsection R277-928-4(2), means a first-year classroom teacher holding a professional educator license.

R277-928-3. Application Process.

(1) The Superintendent shall establish an application process for an LEA to apply for a high-need school grant.

(2) An LEA shall submit an application for the high-need school grant by November 30th annually.

(3) An LEA's application shall include acknowledgments that:

(a) the high-need school grant is for a single year only;

(b) the LEA shall match the grant amount in accordance with Subsection 53F-5-212(4)(b); and

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(c) comply with the requirements of Subsection 53F-5-212(6).

(4) The Superintendent shall review an LEA's application based on October 1 enrollment data.

(5) The Superintendent shall:

(a) create a rubric to assign weight to the criteria outlined in Subsection 53F-5-212(5)(b); and

(b) assess low school performance to include the lowest ten percent of schools as evidenced by results from Board-approved standardized testing.

(6) The Superintendent shall select grantees by January 31st annually.

(7) An LEA shall submit the report required under Subsection 53F-5-212(6)(b) by June 30th annually.

(8) If an LEA that receives a high-need school grant is unable to fill a position with a qualifying educator or a funded educator leaves mid-year and the LEA is unable to fill the position with a qualifying educator:

(a) the LEA shall notify the Superintendent; and

(b) the LEA shall forfeit grant funds on a pro rata basis for the remainder of the school year.

R277-928-4. Grants for the 2019-20 School Year.

(1) The Superintendent shall establish an expedited process to take applications and award grant funds for the high-need school grant in the 2019-20 school year.

(2) A qualifying educator shall hold a Level 1 License for an LEA to qualify for a high-need school grant in the 2019-20 school year.

KEY: grant, high-need school

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: 2019

Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401(4), 53F-5-212