

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-625. Mental Health Screening Program.**

3 **R277-625-1. Authority and Purpose.**

4 (1) This rule is authorized by:

5 (a) [Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3](#), which vests general control and  
6 supervision over public education in the Board;

7 (b) Section [53E-3-401](#)(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute the  
8 Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law;

9 (c) Section [53F-2-522](#) which directs the board to make rules regarding the  
10 selection of mental health screening programs and financial aid for qualifying parents.

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

12 (a) provide the approval process for mental health screening programs chosen by  
13 an LEA; and

14 (b) establish the approval and distribution of funds for a qualifying parent to receive  
15 financial assistance for related mental health services.

16

17 **R277-625-2. Definitions.**

18 (1) "Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health" or "DSAMH" means the  
19 same as the term is defined in Subsection [62A-15-103](#).

20 (2) "Mental health screening program" or "screening program" means the same  
21 as the term is defined in Subsection [53F-2-522](#)(1)(e).

22 (3) "Qualifies for financial assistance" means a qualifying parent that has a student  
23 receiving educational services through an LEA who:

24 (a) receives free or reduced lunch; or

25 (b) as recommended by the local mental health authority, demonstrates need  
26 including being:

27 (i) uninsured;

28 (ii) underinsured;

29 (iii) ineligible for Medicaid to cover part or all of any recommended mental health  
30 treatments; or

31 (iv) demonstrates a high need for interventions based upon results of the LEA's  
32 mental health screening program.

33 (4) "Qualifying parent" means the same as the term is defined in Subsection [53F-](#)  
34 [2-522\(1\)\(d\)](#).

35 (5) "Relevant services" means mental health services provided to a student that  
36 are directly related to mental health needs identified by a student's mental health  
37 screening.

38

39 **R277-625-3. Approval of Mental Health Screening Programs.**

40 (1)(a) The Superintendent, in consultation with DSAMH, shall publish annually a  
41 list of pre-approved mental health screening programs to the Board's website.

42 (b) the published pre-approved list shall include:

43 (i) the name or brand of the mental health screening program including a link to  
44 the screening program's website;

45 (ii) the recommended ages for the mental health screening program;

46 (ii) any limitations of the mental health screening program including the typical  
47 level of false positives;

48 (iii) the mental health conditions the mental health screening program can detect;  
49 and

50 (iv) the scientific data or research used to verify a screening program is evidence-  
51 based.

52 (2) The Board shall approve:

53 (a) the pre-approved mental health screening program list; and

54 (b) the mental health conditions for which a screening program can be used.

55 (3) All pre-approved mental health screening programs shall comply with the  
56 requirements as described in [Title 53E, Chapter 9, Student Privacy and Data Protection](#),  
57 and the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#), 20 U.S.C. 1232g.

58 (4) Except as provided for in Subsection (4)(c) and (d), an LEA shall notify the  
59 Superintendent by May 1:

60 (a) if the LEA plans to:

61 (i) use a mental health screening program from the pre-approved list; or

62           (ii) apply to the Superintendent for approval of a mental health screening program  
63 that is not on the pre-approved list;

64           (b) whether an LEA elects to participate in providing a qualifying parent with  
65 financial assistance;

66           (c) In accordance with Subsections (4)(a) and (b) and for the 2020-2021 school  
67 year, an LEA shall notify the Superintendent by August 15; and

68           (d) An LEA is not required to comply with Subsection (4) if the LEA chooses not  
69 to offer a mental health screening program.

70           (5) If the LEA chooses to apply for use of a mental health screening program that  
71 is not on the pre-approved list, the LEA shall submit an application in a form prescribed  
72 by the Superintendent specifying:

73           (a) the mental health screening program proposed for use by the LEA;

74           (b) the reason for choosing the mental health screening program;

75           (c) the approved mental health conditions the mental health screening program  
76 measures;

77           (d) how the mental health screening program complies with all state and federal  
78 data privacy laws; and

79           (e) the scientific data or research demonstrating the mental health screening  
80 program is evidence based and meets industry standards;

81           (f) why the mental health screening program is age appropriate for each grade the  
82 screening program is administered; and

83           (g) why the mental health screening program is an effective tool for identifying  
84 whether a student has a mental health condition that requires intervention.

85           (6) The Superintendent shall review the application in consultation with DSAMH  
86 and approve or deny the application within 30 days of receipt.

87           (7) If the application is approved, the Superintendent shall submit the approved  
88 application to the Board for final approval.

89           (8) Subject to legislative appropriation, the Superintendent shall provide annually  
90 a maximum reimbursement amount an LEA may receive for use of a mental health  
91 screening program.

92           (9) An LEA may request in writing a reimbursement from the Superintendent in an  
93 amount not to exceed the amount described in Subsection (8).

94           (10)(a) An LEA shall require relevant staff, who will be administering a mental  
95 health screening program, to attend an annual mental health screening program training  
96 provided by the Superintendent in collaboration with DSAMH;

97           (b) the training described in Subsection (10)(a) shall provide an LEA with  
98 information needed for appropriate parental consent including:

99           (i) consent shall be obtained:

100           (A) within 8 weeks prior to administration of the mental health screening program;

101 and

102           (B) in accordance with Subsection [53E-9-203](#)(4);

103           (ii) the consent form shall be provided separately from other consent forms given  
104 to a parent pursuant to other state or federal laws;

105           (iii) additional variables that might influence a screening program's results; and

106           (iv) a statement that:

107           (A) the mental health screener is optional;

108           (B) a screening program is not a diagnostic tool;

109           (C) a parent has the right to seek outside resources or opinions; and

110           (D) specifies which board approved mental health conditions the mental health  
111 screening program measures.

112           (11) An LEA may not administer a mental health screening program if the LEA  
113 has not attended the annual mental health screening program training described in  
114 Subsection (10).

115           (12) An LEA shall report annually to the Superintendent aggregate data regarding  
116 the types of LEA provided mental health interventions, referrals, or other actions taken  
117 based on screening program results.

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119 **R277-625-4. Data Privacy.**

120           (1)(a) An LEA shall ensure all data collected or stored by a mental health screening  
121 program complies with all state and federal data privacy laws and requirements, including  
122 those described in Subsection R277-625-3(3).

123 (b) notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), an LEA shall provide a parent with a list of  
124 all parties that may receive any data related to a student's mental health screener prior  
125 to the parent providing consent.

126 (2) An LEA shall provide a parent with a list of all data potentially collected by the  
127 mental health screening program prior to consenting to a student's mental health  
128 screening.

129 (3) An LEA shall provide the parent of a screened student with:

130 (a) results as described in Subsection [53F-2-522](#)(4)(d);

131 (b) applicable available resources; and

132 (c) who has access to the screening program data

133 (4) If an LEA has received parental consent, an LEA may share data collected  
134 from the mental health screening program with a school's multi-disciplinary team.

135 (5) An LEA shall retain and dispose of all data related to a student's mental health  
136 screener in accordance with an approved retention schedule not to exceed three years.

137

138 **R277-625-5. Financial Assistance for a Qualifying Parent.**

139 (1) An LEA that has elected to participate as described in Subsection R277-625-  
140 3(4)(b), may receive reimbursement for relevant services obtained by a qualifying parent  
141 that qualifies for financial assistance.

142 (2) An LEA may not receive reimbursement for a qualifying parent if:

143 (a) the qualifying parent's student has begun to receive relevant services outside  
144 of the school setting prior to seeking reimbursement;

145 (b) the LEA can provide the relevant services, including relevant services provided  
146 by a third party through a contract with the LEA;

147 (c) except for as provided in Subsection (d), the qualifying parent has received  
148 reimbursement for the same relevant services within one year from the date the relevant  
149 services began for the student; or

150 (d) an LEA may provide reimbursement to a qualifying parent for the same relevant  
151 services within one year from the date relevant services began for the student if:

152 (i) the LEA has no other qualifying parents seeking reimbursement by April 1 and;

153 (ii) has reimbursement funds remaining.

154 (3) An LEA may not receive reimbursements that exceed the LEA's award amount  
155 as described in Subsection (4).

156 (4) An LEA that has elected to participate as described in Subsection R277-625-  
157 3(4)(b), shall receive a total award amount based on need as determined by the  
158 Superintendent.

159 (5) The Superintendent shall determine a participating LEA's need by considering  
160 the LEA's ability to support and provide mental health services for a student including:

161 (a) the availability of mental health services within the LEA;

162 (b) the availability of mental health services within the LEA's surrounding  
163 community;

164 (c) the overall accessibility of mental health services for students within the LEA;

165 (d) the current student demand for mental health services within an LEA; and

166 (e) capacity of the LEA to meet existing and future student demands for mental  
167 health services.

168

169 **KEY: mental health screening program, mental health, prevention**

170 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: August 12, 2020**

171 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53F-](#)  
172 [2-522](#)**