



NEWS RELEASE

Utah State Board of Education

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For Immediate Release

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State Board of Education Launches Competency-based Education Grant Program

SALT LAKE CITY – SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Board of Education [announced](#) that the following Utah school districts and charter school have been accepted in the state's [competency-based learning pilot program](#):

- American Academy of Innovation
- Davis School District
- Duchesne School District
- Iron County School District
- Juab School District
- Logan City School District
- Murray School District

The charters and districts accepted in the program, [authorized in 2016 by the Utah Legislature](#), will begin planning a competency-based education system in order to move to a pilot implementation

phase in the 2020-21 school year. Competency-based education focuses on measurable student education outcomes based on skill mastery rather than seat-time in a classroom. Core principles in the program include:

- student advancement upon mastery of a concept or skill;
- competencies that include explicit, measurable, and transferable learning objectives that empower a student;
- assessment that is meaningful and provides a positive learning experience for a student;
- timely, differentiated support based on a student's individual learning needs; and
- learning outcomes that emphasize competencies that include application and creation of knowledge along with the development of important skills and dispositions.

Juab School District:

This CBE planning grant is such a blessing for our district. It will allow our teachers the resources to plan, synthesize, and create the tools necessary to provide our students with a personalized, competency-based learning experience. Royd Darrington, Assistant Superintendent

Iron School District:

We are excited for a competency-based structure allowing educators to work 1-on-1 with students to truly personalize their education, no matter their ability or prior knowledge in the content, whether they need credit recovery or access to early college. By highlighting their interests and focusing on the essential skills, hands-on projects, and business and tech partnerships with local post-secondary and industry partners, learning will become more relevant and empowering for students to better meet

the needs of ALL Iron County Students. - Cory Henwood, Digital Media, Teaching and Learning
Coordinator

Davis School District:

In the Davis School District, it is our mission to provide each one of our students with the personalized services and support that they deserve. The additional resources and the network of collaboration provided through the Competency Based Learning Grant is essential to our success. - Ryan C. Hansen, Director of Digital Learning

American Academy of Innovation:

Competency based education is vital to American Academy of Innovation (AAI) because it allows students to advance and grow at their pace. A competency-based program allows students to build on their knowledge in an environment that fosters critical thinking skills. AAI is thrilled to be a recipient of this grant to help our students challenge their potential every day. - Stacey Thompson, Assistant Director

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