

DECEMBER 2020 SPEDOMETER FOR LEA ACTION

Getting up to Speed with IDEA and
Accelerating Results for Students with Disabilities

ACT close date to request accommodations	January 15, 2021
ACT close date to request reconsideration	January 22, 2021
Policies and Procedures Manual Q&A Session 1	February 9, 2021
Data Literacy Trainings	February 22–26, 2021
USEAM	February 25, 2021
Policies and Procedures Manual Q&A Session 2	April 22, 2021
USEAM	April 29, 2021
Special Education Personnel Survey Deadline	June 30, 2021
Approved Updated Policies and Procedures Manual Posted to LEA Website	October 18, 2021

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ANNUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION PERSONNEL SURVEY

The [2020–2021 Special Education Personnel Survey](#) is available for submission. Answers must be based on your LEA’s personnel as of December 1, 2020. You can complete the survey anytime in the next six months, but it must be submitted no later than June 30, 2021. Contact [Tami Gear](#) with questions.

UPDATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MODEL MANUALS

To receive IDEA Part B funds, **each Local Education Agency (LEA) must have in effect a USBE-approved special education program, including policies and procedures that are consistent with the USBE Special Education Rules (Rules IX.A.1).**

“The LEA’s program is approved . . . when the LEA’s special education policies and procedures are approved by the USBE special education staff and then by the LEA’s local board in a public meeting” (Rules IX.A.2).

“As part of establishing eligibility for Part B funds, [each] LEA must have revised policies and procedures in alignment with the . . . current rules within one year of the final Board approval of these Rules” (Rules IX.A.3).

The current rules that LEA policies and procedures manual must be in alignment with were approved by the Board in October 2020. Therefore, **each LEA’s updated manual will need to be approved by the USBE special**



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ADA Compliant: December 2020

ADA Compliant March 2021

education staff, approved by the LEA's local Board in a public meeting, and uploaded to the LEA website no later than October 18, 2021.

Policies and procedures must follow approved USBE Rules and are the responsibility of the LEA to develop. The LEA policies and procedures are the rules that each LEA is required to follow and implement. An unawareness by LEA staff of the policies and procedures an LEA has in place can put the LEA in a precarious situation and lead to a risk of liability.

The updated model policy and procedure manuals align with the newly approved Rules and include all required components, as well as directions for the additional components LEAs must add. A guidance document has also been created to provides LEAs the opportunity to work together as teams to personalize the policies and procedures manual to fit the unique needs of the LEA.

The model manuals have been posted to the USBE Special Education Services webpage. USBE special education staff offered a live virtual training session on December 11, 2020 to introduce the new model manuals and the accompanying guidance document to help LEAs navigate through the process. A recording of the training and accompanying documentation is all together in the [Model Policies and Procedures Manuals and Guidance](#) OneDrive folder.

Additionally, two live virtual Q&A sessions will be provided to support LEAs needing additional assistance. Register for MIDAS course #58644.

- * February 9, 2021 | 9:30–11:30 AM
- * April 22, 2021 | 2:00–4:00 PM

ASSESSMENT UPDATES

Assessment Windows and Remote Testing

The USBE Assessment and Accountability Department has added a “Remote Testing Allowed” status for each statewide assessment to the “USBE Assessment and Accountability 2020-2021 Assessment Director Resource Guide”. This document provides the list of all Utah Assessments, grades tested, testing windows, remote testing allowed, data exchange, other important information, and links. It is included in the SpEdOmeter [December 2020](#) OneDrive folder. It can also be found on the USBE Assessment and Accountability webpage, on the [Assessment Directors page](#), under the resources tab. Contact your LEA's assessment director or [Tracy Gooley](#) with questions.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)

REMINDERS

Grades assessed with DLM:

- * English Language Arts: grades 3–11
- * Mathematics: grades 3–11
- * Science: grades 4–11

PADLET AND TRAINING RESOURCES

USBE hosted a district-staff-only DLM training before Thanksgiving. This training walked through requirements and resources for district staff who support the implementation of DLM. For those who could not make it, the training was recorded and is available with other resources on the [DLM District Staff Resources Padlet](#).

Additional DLM Padlets have been created to assist teachers with DLM administration and instruction. Please share these links with teachers as appropriate. Contact [Tracy Gooley](#) with questions or concerns.

- * [Science Alternate Achievement Standards and Assessment Resources Padlet](#)
- * [DLM Administration Resources Padlet](#)

ACT

The ACT Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) System opened September 14, 2020.

Open Date	Close Date	Responsible Role	Event
September 14, 2020	January 15, 2021	Test Coordinator, Test Accommodations Coordinator	Request accommodations and/or supports for eligible examinees through the TAA.
September 14, 2020	January 22, 2021	Test Coordinator, Test Accommodations Coordinator	Request reconsideration of accommodations and/or supports in TAA.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodation requests for students who require them (IEP, 504, or students learning English) must be completed in the Test Accessibility and Accommodations System (TAA). **The accommodations request window closes January 15, 2021.** Please do not wait to make accommodations requests!

To find accommodations and support resources on the [ACT Information Page](#), scroll down to Section 3 – Verification. Contact your LEA’s assessment director with questions regarding ACT.

UTAH SPECIAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS’ MEETING (USEAM)

Please save the dates for this year’s USEAMs. Register for MIDAS course #42970.

Date	Location	Date	Location
February 25, 2021	Virtual	April 29, 2021	Virtual

DATA LITERACY TRAININGS 2021

Next year’s data literacy trainings have been scheduled for February 22–26, 2021. Information regarding MIDAS registration and virtual meeting links will be included in a future SpEdOmeter.