

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-461. Elementary School Counselor Grant Program.**

3 **R277-461-1. 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 53F-5-209, which directs the Board to make rules to administer the
8 Elementary School Counselor Grant Program; and

9 (c) Subsection 53E-3-401(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute the
10 Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law.

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

12 (a) an application procedure;

13 (b) criteria and procedures for awarding grants; and

14 (c) requirements for grant recipients.

15 **R277-461-2. Definitions.**

16 (1) "Grant" means funding awarded by the Board to an LEA to hire qualifying
17 personnel for purposes of supporting school-based mental health, in accordance with
18 Section 53F-5-209.

19 (2) "Qualifying personnel" means:

20 (a) a school counselor or school social worker, as defined in Section 53F-5-
21 209(1)(e); or

22 (b) a Board-licensed school psychologist who is assigned to a school and funded by
23 grant funds to carry out work described in Subsection 53F-5-209(1)(e)(ii).

24 **R277-461-3. Grant Applications.**

25 (1) The Superintendent shall develop and make available a grant application for
26 LEAs, consistent with the requirements in Subsection 53F-5-209(4)(a).

27 (2) The grant application shall require the LEA to report how it intends to provide the
28 matching funds required in Subsection 53F-5-209(4)(b), including the source of funding the

29 LEA intends to use.

30 (3) For each grant cycle that the Superintendent is authorized to solicit grant
31 applications, the Superintendent shall publish a timeline on the Board's website by March
32 30, including a date for the application release, and due dates for an LEA to submit
33 required materials.

34 **R277-461-4. Procedures and Criteria for Awarding a Grant.**

35 (1) An LEA applying for a grant shall commit to establishing, at a minimum, a 3-year
36 plan and program for using the grant funds.

37 (2) In accordance with Subsection 53F-5-209(3), the Superintendent shall prioritize
38 LEA applications that propose to target funds as outlined in statute.

39 (3) For purposes of prioritizing grants under this Rule, the Superintendent shall
40 examine behaviors and indicators in schools for childhood trauma, including:

41 (a) office referrals or discipline reports;

42 (b) absenteeism;

43 (c) free or reduced-price lunch;

44 (d) homelessness;

45 (e) school-reported referrals to the Utah Division of Child and Family Services
46 (DCFS);

47 (f) foster care;

48 (g) intergenerational poverty; and

49 (h) grade 3 reading proficiency.

50 **R277-461-5. Grant Recipient Requirements, Accountability, and Reporting.**

51 (1) A grant recipient shall engage in systemic leadership and planning to align efforts
52 in supporting school improvement and school-based mental health, based on the Utah
53 School Counseling Program Model.

54 (2) Grant funds may only be used to pay for salaries and benefits for qualified
55 personnel.

56 (3) A full-time equivalent (FTE) position who is a qualifying personnel funded by

57 grant funds may not be assigned to more than two schools.

58 (4) Qualifying personnel funded by these grant funds shall:

59 (a) implement a systemic school-based mental health program;

60 (b) participate in USBE trainings;

61 (c) participate in quarterly collaboration meetings with USBE;

62 (d) in accordance with Subsection 53F-5-209(8), participate in trauma-informed
63 modules; and

64 (e) implement data projects.

65 (5) A data project is a process in which qualifying personnel and others:

66 (a) identify a school's needs based on analysis of school data;

67 (b) establish one or more interventions to address the needs or problems identified
68 from the data;

69 (c) design and implement, through a systemic approach, the intervention; and

70 (d) examine and evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention, based on the school
71 data.

72 (6) The Superintendent shall establish a process and accompanying forms for grant
73 recipients to document grant requirements, which may include an initial implementation
74 report and a year-end accountability report.

75 (7) A grant recipient shall report its findings and outcomes from a data project to:

76 (a) the school personnel;

77 (b) the local school board or charter governing board; and

78 (c) the Superintendent.

79 (8)(a) If a grant recipient plans to discontinue its program for any reason at any time
80 in the three-year period, the grant recipient shall notify the Superintendent, or the
81 Superintendent's designee, in writing.

82 (b) The written notification shall include a detailed explanation of why the grant
83 recipient is discontinuing the program before the end of its three-year commitment.

84 **KEY:**

85 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: 2018**

86 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53A-1-401**