R277. Education, Administration.

R277-476. Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program.

R277-476-1. 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-5-219, which directs the Board to make rules creating a local innovations civics education program that complies with the Utah Core Standards, establish eligibility for the program, and establish an application process.

(2) The purpose of this rule is to:
   (a) create a pilot local innovations civics education program;
   (b) establish eligibility requirements to participate in the program;
   (c) create an application process; and
   (d) establish reporting criteria.


(1) "Civic knowledge" means a student's grasp of governmental processes and core concepts of representative government including:
   (a) ways citizens can play a role in civic life;
   (b) respect and understanding for the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution of the United States and the State of Utah;
   (c) the values and principles of a constitutional republic; and
   (d) an acquisition of civic values including those outlined in Subsection 53G-10-204(3).

(2) "Civic skills" means a student's capability to use acquired skills effectively to participate in civic life, including abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, problem-solve, and work collaboratively.

(3) "Evidenced informed" means the same as the term is defined in Subsection 53F-5-219(1)(c) including:
(a) explicit instruction;
(b) scaffolded supports.


(1) Subject to legislative appropriation, an LEA may apply for a three-year pilot civics engagement project grant.

(2) An LEA's proposal submission shall contain the following:
(a) a budget proposal for the use of funds;
(b) the number of schools, teachers, and projected students participating in the grant program within the LEA;
(c) the LEA's goals and outcome measures for the program; and
(d) the LEA's plan to create and implement a program including:
(i) how the LEA's proposal aligns with:
(A) Subsections 53F-5-219(2) and (3);
(B) Section 53G-10-204;
(C) Section 53G-10-302;
(D) Subsection 53G-10-304(2); and
(E) Subsection 53F-5-219(3);
(ii) opportunities for student reflection;
(iii) opportunities for parent feedback of a participating student; and
(iv) opportunities for public student presentations; and
(e) the specific evidenced informed innovations the LEA intends to deploy to achieve the LEA's proposal and related goals; and
(f) if the LEA intends to contract with a third party provider to implement the proposal.

(3) An LEA's proposal shall be scored and ranked based upon the following:
(a) the quality of the LEA's overall budget and proposal as described in Subsection (2); and
(b) the criteria described in Subsections 53F-5-219(3)(b) and (c).

(4) A participating LEA is not exempt from the civics test requirement described in Section 53E-4-205.
(5) A participating LEA shall ensure the program is run in accordance with Section 53F-5-219.

(6) The Superintendent shall specify all relevant deadlines for the proposal submission and annual progress report described in Section R277-476-4.


(1) An LEA shall submit to the Superintendent an annual progress report by the date and in a manner prescribed by the Superintendent.

(2) The annual progress report shall report on all performance measures and data requested by the Superintendent including:
   (a) the criteria described in Subsection R277-476-3(2);
   (b) project impact on civic knowledge;
   (c) enhancement of civic skills;
   (d) the LEA's goals and outcome measures;
   (e) project categories and types; and
   (f) other relevant experiential data.

(3) An LEA may use a board-approved online provider to collect performance measures and outcome data.

(4) The Board shall approve a contract for a third party provider pursuant to Subsection 53F-5-219(5) and an approved contractor shall provide an annual report to the Board.

R277-476-5. Distribution and Use of Funds.

(1) An LEA may receive up to the LEA's requested amount not to exceed an amount determined by the Superintendent using the criteria described in Subsections R277-476-3(2) and (3).

(2) An LEA shall use funds only for the purposes specified in the LEA's proposal.

(3) An LEA may submit a request to amend the LEA's proposal to the Superintendent.

(4) An LEA may not use funds for:
   (a) purchase of property;
(b) new equipment;
(c) maintenance of current equipment; or
(d) travel expenses.

KEY: civics, civics engagement project, social studies.

Date of Last Change: July 22, 2022

Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401(4); 53G-10-204