R277. Education, Administration.

R277-410. Accreditation of Schools.

R277-410-1. 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 53E-3-501, which directs the Board to establish rules governing school accreditation.

(2) The purpose of this rule is to require qualifying secondary schools to be accredited.


For the purposes of this rule:

"Qualifying secondary school" means a public school that:

(1) includes any of grades 9-12; or

(2) offers credits toward high school graduation.

R277-410-3. Accreditation of Public Schools.

(1) A qualifying secondary school shall obtain accreditation from a regional accrediting body.

(2) If a qualifying secondary school does not obtain accreditation before the beginning of the school's second year of operation, the credit awarded by the qualifying secondary school is considered earned from a non-accredited source as described in Section R277-705-3:

(a) for the school's first year of operation; and

(b) until the school becomes accredited.

(3)(a) The Superintendent shall establish Utah-specific assurances demonstrating compliance with state law and Board rule to be followed by the accrediting body.
(b) The Superintendent shall ensure that qualified secondary schools meet the Utah-specific assurances described in Subsection (3)(a).

(4) The Superintendent may require on-site visits as part of the accreditation process.

R277-410-4. **Transfer or Acceptance of Credit.**

(1) A qualifying secondary school shall accept transfer credits from an accredited qualifying secondary school consistent with Section 53G-7-206 and Section R277-705-3.

(2) A qualifying secondary school may accept transfer credits from other credit sources consistent with Section R277-705-3.

**KEY:** accreditation, public schools, nonpublic schools

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**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law:** Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-501(1)(c); 53E-3-401(4)