

UTAH SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Utah School Improvement Initiatives

S.B. 234 – School Turnaround and Leadership Development Act (\$7 million)

- The lowest performing 3 percent of all Utah schools for 2 consecutive years
 - Funding:
 - Needs assessment with root cause analysis by a third-party partner
 - Contract/Partner with a USBE approved turnaround expert agency to
 - Develop and implement a school turnaround plan that addresses the results from the needs assessment and root cause
 - Funding is allocated to the LEA

ESSA Title I Sec. 1003 – School Improvement (7% of Title I allocation – 95% goes to LEAs with CSI schools)

- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) – The lowest performing 5 percent of Title I schools over the past 3 years on average and any high school in the State with a 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate at or below 67 percent for two consecutive years
 - Funding:
 - Can be by formula, competitive, or a combination of both
 - Can only be used to implement school plans for rigorous evidence-based strategies that are supported with strong, moderate, or promising evidence
 - Cannot be used to purchase items like computer hardware or software, or excessive travel costs (e.g., sending large numbers of staff to conferences)
- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) - Any public school in which one or more student group is consistently underperforming
 - Funding:
 - TSI schools do not receive 1003 School Improvement funds
 - TSI schools develop improvement plans that are approved and monitored by the LEA

Schools will not be double identified. If a school is identified for state School Turnaround, it will not be identified for Title I School Improvement and vice versa.

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Every Utah School identified for School Turnaround or School Improvement will participate in Utah's continuous school improvement cycle which is built around the Four Domains for Rapid School Improvement developed by The Center on School Turnaround at WestED.

Four Domains for Rapid School Improvement

1. Turnaround Leadership - Prioritize improvement and communicate urgency, monitor short-and long-term goals, customize and target supports to meet needs
2. Talent Development - Recruit, develop, retain, and sustain talent, target professional learning opportunities, set clear performance expectations
3. Instructional Transformation - Diagnose and respond to student needs, provide rigorous, evidence-based instruction, remove barriers and provide opportunities
4. Culture Shift - Build a strong school community focused on learning, solicit and act upon stakeholder input, engage students and families in pursuing education goals

The Continuous Improvement Cycle

1. Set the Direction – Mission statement, student-focused goals, and goal performance measures
2. Assess Needs – Identify gaps and determine root causes
3. Create Plan- Develop strategies, milestones, actions and timeline based on root causes
4. Implement Plan - The process through which a school carries out the plan with fidelity
5. Monitor Work – Ongoing monitoring and adjustments throughout implementation
6. Adjust Course - The improvement cycle is iterative and ongoing and provides multiple opportunities for adjustment in implementation

Utah System of Support Handbook

