

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-303. Educator Preparation Programs.**

3 **R277-303-1. 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) Subsection 53E-3-401(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute the
8 Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law; [~~and~~]

9 (c) Subsection 53E-6-201(3)(a), which allows the Board to establish the criteria for
10 obtaining licenses; and

11 (d) Section 53E-6-302, which requires the Board to establish standards for approval
12 of educator preparation programs.

13 (2) The purpose of this rule is to establish criteria for educator preparation programs
14 in the State of Utah.

15 **R277-303-2. Definitions.**

16 (1)(a) "Educator preparation program" means a comprehensive program
17 administered by an entity that is intended to prepare individuals to meet the requirements
18 for a Utah professional license or license area of concentration.

19 (b) "Educator preparation program" may include a program developed by or
20 associated with an institution of higher education, individual LEA, or the Board.

21 (2) "LEA" includes, for purposes of this rule, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
22 Blind

23 (3) "License area" has the same meaning as set forth in Subsection R277-301-
24 2(5)(a).

25 (4) "Professional license" means the educator license described in Section R277-
26 301-6.

27 **R277-303-3. Educator Preparation Program Review and Approval.**

28 (1) The Superintendent shall establish uniform procedures for initial approval and

29 review of educator preparation programs to ensure compliance with this R277-303.

30 (2) The Superintendent shall approve an educator preparation program that meets
31 the requirements of this rule and the standards for program approval established in:

32 (a) Rule R277-304;

33 (b) Rule R277-305;

34 (c) Rule R277-306; and

35 (d) all other applicable Board rules.

36 (3) The Superintendent shall conduct an on-going review of approved educator
37 preparation programs and shall renew or deny approval for a program at least every seven
38 years.

39 (4) The Superintendent may grant preliminary approval to a new educator
40 preparation program within a Utah public college or university pending approval by the Utah
41 State Board of Regents.

42 (5) The Superintendent shall make a report to the Board when an educator
43 preparation program's initial application for approval is granted or denied.

44 (6) The Superintendent may place an approved educator preparation program on
45 probation for:

46 (a) failure to meet program requirements detailed in applicable Board rules; or

47 (b) failure to submit complete and accurate information in a report required under
48 this rule.

49 (7) The Board may revoke the approval of a probationary program that fails to meet
50 probationary requirements with at least one year's notice to the educator preparation
51 program.

52 (8) The Superintendent may require a program or subset of programs to submit
53 reports to inform the annual report to the Board required in Section R277-301-10.

54 (9) The Superintendent shall accept an approved educator preparation program's
55 recommendations for a professional license or license area if the prospective licensee has
56 met all other requirements of Board rule.

57 **R277-303-4. Educator Preparation Programs.**

58 (1) An educator preparation program that applies for approval by the Superintendent
59 shall demonstrate how it will ensure that participants:

60 (a) are prepared to meet the Utah Effective Educator Standards established in
61 R277-530;

62 (b) successfully complete or are prepared to complete the pedagogical performance
63 assessment required in R277-301;

64 (c) have met the competencies required in R277-301; and

65 (d) have sufficiently demonstrated the ability to work in the applicable license area
66 and subject area.

67 (2) In addition to the requirements of Subsection (1), an educator preparation
68 program that is not also a Utah LEA shall:

69 (a) have a physical location in the state of Utah where participants attend classes;
70 or

71 (b) if the program provides only online instruction:

72 (i) have the program's primary headquarters located in Utah; and

73 (ii) be licensed to do business through the Utah Department of Commerce; and

74 (c) establish entry requirements that are designed to ensure that only high quality
75 individuals enter the preparation program, which include measures of:

76 (i) previous academic success;

77 (ii) disposition for employment in an educational setting; and

78 (iii) basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics; and

79 (d) include a student teaching or intern experience that meets the requirements
80 detailed in:

81 (i) Rule R277-304;

82 (ii) Rule R277-305; and

83 (iii) Rule R277-306; and

84 (e) include a pedagogical performance assessment meeting standards established
85 by the Superintendent and approved by the Board for all new students enrolled in the
86 program after January 1, 2020 in all license areas for which such an assessment is
87 available.

88 (3)(a) If the Superintendent denies an application from an educator preparation
89 program, the proposed educator preparation program may appeal the Superintendent's
90 decision to the Board by submitting a written appeal to the Board Secretary.

91 (b) The Board shall assign an appeal under Subsection (3)(a) to a standing
92 committee to make a recommendation to the full Board for final action.

93 ([3]4) An approved educator preparation program may recommend an individual that
94 completed the program for a professional license or license area for up to five years after
95 the individual completed the program, as long as all current license requirements have
96 been met.

97 ([4]5) If five years have passed since an individual completed an approved educator
98 preparation program, the program may recommend the individual for a professional license
99 or license area if the program:

100 (a) reviews the individual's program; and

101 (b) requires the individual to complete any additional necessary requirements to
102 meet current programs standards prior to making a licensing recommendation.

103 ([5]6) Notwithstanding Subsections ([3]4) and ([4]5), an approved educator
104 preparation program may recommend an individual who began the program before January
105 1, 2020 for a professional license or license area without meeting the pedagogical
106 performance assessment requirement in R277-301, but must present documentation
107 showing that the individual met the appropriate license requirements in effect prior to that
108 date.

109 **R277-303-5. Superintendent Responsibilities.**

110 (1) The Superintendent shall provide support to educator preparation programs and
111 potential licensees to the extent that funding allows by:

112 (a) maintaining a website to:

113 (i) facilitate collaboration between educator preparation programs;

114 (ii) facilitate communication between potential educators and approved programs;

115 and

116 (iii) provide access to up-to-date research on educator preparation and education

117 practices;

118 (b) reviewing third-party preparation materials for alignment with the Utah Effective
119 Educator Standards in R277-530; and

120 (c) working with potential licensed educators to help them become licensed
121 educators.

122 (2) The Superintendent shall design and maintain a model educator preparation
123 program that:

124 (a) meets all requirements of this rule;

125 (b) may be adopted by an LEA or an accredited private school; and

126 (c) is overseen by staff distinct from the staff responsible for ensuring educator
127 preparation program compliance with this Rule R277-303.

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129 **R277-303-6. Effective Date.**

130 This rule will be effective beginning January 1, 2020.

