

Educator Licensing Newsletter




Podcast Version

You can now LISTEN to the newsletter instead of reading it! [Click here to listen](#) to the 5/19/2025 Educator Licensing Newsletter Podcast (created by [NotebookLM](#)).

Utah's Foundations of Reading Assessment (UFORA)

Candidates in Elementary, Early Childhood, and Special Education who do not pass the Utah Foundations of Reading Assessment (UFORA) with a score of 240 or higher, may complete any of the

 **UFORA Assessment Options** to meet the licensing requirement.

USIMS Errors & Workarounds

Any individual who encounters any error or issue with USIMS should contact USIMShelp@schools.utah.gov

If you have any specific feedback for the Educator Licensing team to consider, please contact [Malia Hite](#).

(801) 538-7740

[Educator Licensing Website](#)

[Link to Previous Newsletters](#)



Utah State
Board of
Education

Educator
Licensing

Student Teacher Stipend Updates for SY26

The Board approved amendments to R277-331 due to recent legislation. The changes allow student teachers to participate even if they are attending out-of-state universities or working as an extracurricular coach/advisor. All student teachers will sign an affidavit, as part of their application, that states they intend to seek employment in a Utah public school. The Board approved an additional \$500 to cover any employer expenses. Updates to the application and website will occur in June. For more information, please contact [Malia Hite](#).

SHiNE

As your LEA is developing policies for SHiNE, please contact Malia Hite with any questions. SHiNE is only available to teachers. Please see the new [SHiNE webpage](#) for additional information.

Meet ULA, the USBE Licensing Assistant

This chatbot is now hosted on the [Educator Licensing website](#) and can assist educators with their licensing questions. While it is primarily designed to help educators, we are looking into expanding the functionality to support LEAs and EPPs.

New JROTC/ROTC Endorsement Requirements

The military recently updated their JROTC/ROTC instructor requirements. We have adopted these standards, which are much more flexible, for Utah. Please see the updated [ROTC/JROTC Endorsement Application](#)

PE Teacher Qualifications

Please see the [recent clarification](#) regarding PE teacher qualifications, specifically what license is required for PE teachers. For more information, please contact Malia Hite.

Grow Your Own Educator (GYO) Program

The State Legislature has approved additional one-time funds (\$7.3 million) that will be used to administer one additional cohort for GYO through a competitive application in the Utah Grants Management System. Our [website](#) will be updated as more information becomes available. We anticipate the application will be released in Utah Grants May 2025. For more information, please contact [Lisa McLachlan](#).

USIMS Open House

USIMS recently held an [open house](#) to invite stakeholders to provide feedback regarding recent development. USIMS will take the place of CACTUS for LEAs to enter educator assignments and LEA-Specific requests starting this fall after the October 13th funding deadline. For more information, please contact Tim Davis, the USIMS Educator Domain Product Owner.

Educator Preparation Program Research

The USBE has contracted with WestEd to complete a research project that will look at characteristics of teacher preparation programs. The project will seek to understand the relationship between TPPs and teacher readiness, employment and retention. Universities and APPEL programs will participate in this research. For more information, please contact [Lisa McLachlan](#).

Registered Apprenticeship Program for Teachers (U-RAPT)

All Utah LEAs are invited to apply to become an employer partner with the U-RAPT for the Pre-Apprenticeship or Apprenticeship phase. Through related instruction and on-the-job learning individuals can gain extended experience to earn a bachelor's degree and professional educator license simultaneously. Financial support for college for pre-apprentices and apprentices. [U-RAPT SY26 Application](#) For more information, please contact [Christina Guevara](#).

Course (Core) Code Changes: Here is the link to [2025-2026 Course \(Core\) Code Changes](#)