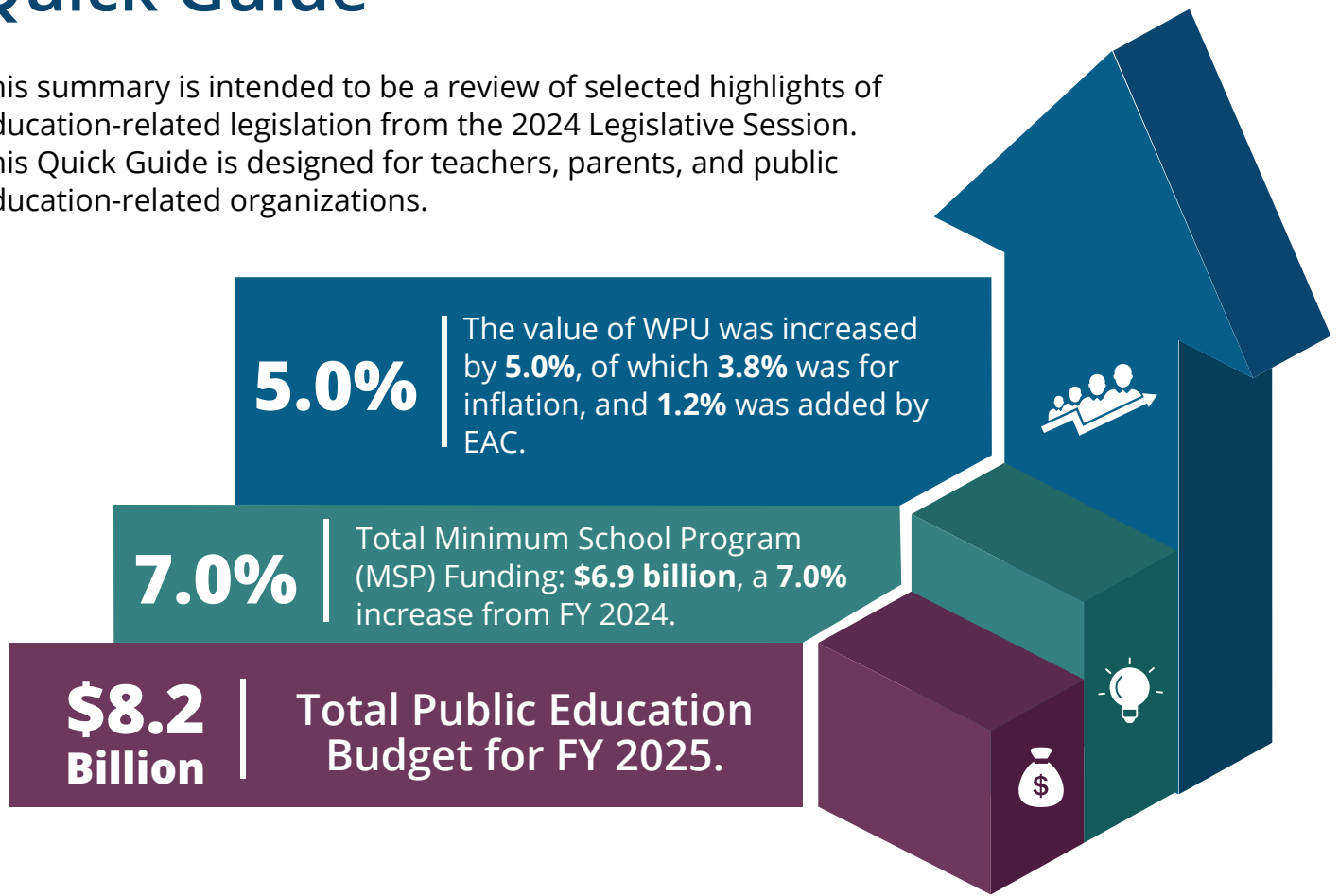


# Quick Guide

This summary is intended to be a review of selected highlights of education-related legislation from the 2024 Legislative Session. This Quick Guide is designed for teachers, parents, and public education-related organizations.



Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) Value	FY 2024	FY 2025	Increase	Percentage
	\$4,280	\$4,494	\$214	5.0%

## Notable Education Stabilization Funding Distribution




Excellence in Education and Leadership  
**\$150 Million**  
*One-Time*



School Safety Support Grant  
**\$100 Million**  
*One-Time*



K-12 Property Insurance Pool  
**\$101 Million**  
*One-Time*



Educator Prep. and Collaboration Time  
**\$74 Million**  
*One-Time*

# Notable Funding Highlights

## Educator Support

Teacher Retention  
**\$4.8 Million**  
*One-Time*

Educator Expense Modifications  
**\$8.4 Million**  
*One-Time*

Stipends for Future Educators  
**\$8.4 Million**  
*One-Time*

## Student Safety and Support

Early Warning Systems  
**\$2.1 Million**  
*Ongoing*

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Amendments  
**\$1.5 Million**  
*Ongoing*

At-Risk Students WPU Weighting Phase-In  
**\$27.9 Million<sup>+</sup>**  
*Ongoing*

## Technology

Innovation in AI Grant Pilot Program  
**\$2 Million**  
*One-Time*

K-12 Computer Science Initiative  
**\$1 Million** *Ongoing*  
**\$6 Million** *One-Time*

## Additional Funding

School Fees Amendments  
**\$36 Million**  
*One-Time*

Utah Fits All Program  
**\$40 Million<sup>\*</sup>**  
*Ongoing*

High School Service Pilot Program  
**\$3 Million**  
*One-Time*

Small/Rural Capital Grants  
**\$30 Million**  
*Ongoing*

<sup>+</sup> The \$27.9 Million is not new funding but rolls existing funding from repealed programs into the At-Risk WPU Add-on.

<sup>\*</sup> In addition to the \$42 million already appropriated for FY25

# 2024 Other Notable Education Bills

The following are notable bills which passed during the 2024 General Session.

**HB  
84**

## School Safety Amendments

Creates a school guardian program. Requires LEAs to conduct school safety needs assessment for classrooms to have panic alert devices and video cameras. Requires schools to provide regular parental updates on bullying.

**SB  
173**

## Market Informed Compensation for Teachers

Creates the Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement program to provide salary bonuses to high performing teachers. Renames and redesigns the existing TSSP program to the Highly Needed Educators program, which allows LEAs to designate up to 5 high-needs areas.

**HB  
221**

## Stipends for Future Educators

Provides stipends for student teachers enrolled in an education preparation program that leads to a Utah professional level education license and works at an LEA as a full time student teacher.

**HB  
431**

## Teacher Retention

Creates the Mentoring and Supporting Teacher Excellence and Refinement Pilot Program to improve teacher retention. Beginning July 2027, requires LEAs to provide postpartum recovery leave to equivalent to state employees.

**HB  
331**

## School and Classroom Amendments

Requires toilet training as a condition for kindergarten enrollment. Includes the superintendent's designee as one of the school officials that can be notified of civil and criminal charges against a student in their school.

**HB  
29**

## Sensitive Material Review Amendments

Prioritizes the protection of children from sensitive materials over other considerations in evaluating instructional material. Establishes a process to review allegations and requires statewide action to remove material when certain criteria are met.

**HB  
517**

### **Half-Day Kindergarten Amendments**

Requires instruction to meet the Board's minimum standards for half-day kindergarten. Requires notification of half-day options and requires half-day designated classrooms when enrollment thresholds are met.

**HB  
261**

### **Equal Opportunity Initiatives**

Prohibits engaging in or maintaining a policy, procedure, practice, program, office, initiative, or required training that is based on an individual's personal identity characteristics. Requires an institution to ensure that all students have access to programs providing student success and support.

**HB  
257**

### **Sex-based Designations for Privacy, Anti-bullying, and Women's Opportunities**

Requires government entities to ensure the preservation of distinctions on the basis of sex that protect individual privacy and competitive opportunity. Requires LEAs to establish privacy plans with parents and students.

**HB  
247**

### **Statewide Online Education Program Amendments**

Requires USBE to update the SOEP operating system allowing the transfer of student information within the program, dedicates staff to the program and requires coordination between the LEAs and the online course provider.

**HB  
82**

### **Public Education Program Modifications**

Incorporates many USBE policy requests and requires LEAs to submit school employee work email addresses to USBE. Allows USBE and the Legislature to send email communication to school employees up to three times per year. Extends the deadline to include ethnic studies standards into materials.

**HB  
347**

### **Educational Rights Amendments**

Requires an LEA to provide an education environment that is safe for all students and staff and has minimal disruptions.

**SB  
159**

### **Public School Discipline and Conduct Plans Amendments**

Creates a Teaching Self-Government Skills for Success, Classroom Communication And Discipline Framework Pilot program that LEAs can participate in using TSSA funds.

**HB  
362**

### **Juvenile Justice Revisions**

Modifies requirements for juvenile gang and other violent crime prevention and intervention programs, requirements for referring a minor who is alleged to be habitually truant, and reintegration plans for students who have committed a serious offense.

**HB  
119**

### **School Employee Firearm Possession Amendments**

Creates the Educator-Protector Program to incentivize school teachers to responsibly secure or carry a firearm on school grounds.

**SB  
137**

### **Teacher Empowerment**

Expands the allowable use of funds allocated for paid professional hours, establishes an alternative teacher evaluation process, and prohibits data of a chronically absent student from being used in a teacher's evaluation.

**HB  
208**

### **Teacher Licensure Amendments**

Directs USBE and the Utah Board of Higher Education to develop a strategy for modifying traditional and alternative programs for training and licensing teachers and prohibits the state board from requiring a pedagogical performance assessment to obtain licensure.

**HB  
121**

### **Educator Background Check Amendments**

Allows entities to clone background information between LEAs or qualifying private schools under certain circumstances and prohibits LEAs from collecting background check fees from volunteers and licensed, non-licensed and contract employees.

**HB  
499**

### **Education Reporting Amendments**

Modifies the required frequency of certain trainings and extends certain due dates for required reporting.

**HB  
415**

### **School Fees Amendments**

Narrows the list of possible school fees an LEA may charge students beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

**HB  
1**

### **Beverly Taylor Sorenson Grant Funding Change**

Requires USBE to establish a uniform amount per specialist for the Beverly Taylor Sorenson Elementary Arts Learning Program and ensure that the funding will not duplicate state funding for the educator salary adjustment.

**SB  
86**

### **Local Government Bond Amendments**

Prohibits a local political subdivision from issuing a lease revenue bond if the issuance of the bond will cause the combined total to exceed \$200 million. Requires a notice and comment period when proposing issuance of a lease revenue bond.

**HB  
460**

### **Government Employee Conscience Protection Amendments**

Prohibits a governmental entity from denying an employee's reasonable request to be relieved from performing a certain task if the task would conflict with the employee's sincerely held religious beliefs or conscience.

**HB  
182**

### **Student Survey Amendments**

Requires that LEAs obtain parental consent before administering a survey to students. Prohibits any incentives or adverse action related to a student's participation in a survey. Allows LEAs to opt into administering the model school climate survey created by the USBE.