

# School Fees

2021 August Newsletter



## Reminder - Beginning of New School Year:

### Class Schedules:

**R277-407-8:** *(emphasis added)*

"(11) An LEA may pursue reasonable methods for collecting student fees, but **may not**, as a result of unpaid fees:

- (a) **exclude a student from a school, an activity, class, or program** that is provided, sponsored, or supported by a school during the regular school day;
- (b) refuse to issue a course grade; or
- (c) **withhold official student records**, including written or electronic grade reports, diplomas or transcripts."

School class schedules are considered "official student records" and therefore cannot be withheld for non-payment of fees. A class schedule is required for a student to attend, therefore, by withholding class schedules, a school is creating a distinct division among students.

## Fall Training:

**Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**9:00 a.m. - Noon**

Topics will include:

- Results of July 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Statistical Report
- Updates to the Certificate of Compliance
- 2022-23 Upcoming Requirements
- LEA On-site reviews
- School Fees Accounting Practices

The Bi-Annual School Fees training will be a Hybrid meeting. Attendees can register to either attend in person at the USBE building in Basement West or through Zoom.

The training pertains to all Superintendents, Charter Directors, Board Chairs, School Principals, School Fees Contacts, and Business Administrators. A registration link for the training will be sent the beginning of September.

**For any questions regarding the training please contact us at: [schoolfees@schools.utah.gov](mailto:schoolfees@schools.utah.gov)**

## Upcoming:

### August:

- Contact Lists for the Certificate of Compliance Distribution. Emails will be sent to School Fee Contacts and Superintendents on **Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**. LEAs are asked to verify and update the contact information no later than **Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### October:

- SY2021-22 Certificate of Compliance. Links to the Certificate will be sent on **Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**. All information must be submitted by **October 31<sup>st</sup>**. Changes to the statistical data reported in July (SY2020-21) will require a full resubmission.

### November:

- SY2020-21 Statistical Data will be reported to the Legislative Education Interim Committee per UCA 53G-7-503(5)(b).



## Training Focus:

### ***Charters: Boundary School Participation Fees:***

Board rule **R277-494** permits a student attending a charter school to participate in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities at their local "qualifying school" if the activity is not offered by the charter school. Per Board rule R277-494 "qualifying school" means a school described in Utah Code **53G-6-704**.

*"(1) A charter school student is eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity not offered by the student's charter school at:*

- (a) **the** school within those attendance boundaries the student's custodial parent resides;*
- (b) **the** public school from which the student withdrew for the purpose of attending a charter school; or*
- (c) **a public school** that is not a charter school if the student's charter school is located on the campus of the public school or has local school board approval to locate on the campus of the public school."*

If a charter school student chooses to participate in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities at their "qualifying school," and the student meets any requirements outlined in Board rule R277-494, the charter school **"shall pay a one-time annual participation fee of \$75.00 per student to the qualifying school..."** Once paid, the student may participate in **all** extra-curricular or co-curricular activities at the "qualifying school" during the school year.

Once the \$75 participation fee has been paid by the charter, **the student** participating **is required** to pay all required student activity fees to the "qualifying school" **unless** the student is on fee waivers. For charter school students on fee waivers, in accordance with Board rule R277-407, the charter school shall pay the \$75 participation fee **"and** any waived student activity specific fees to the qualifying school." (R277-494-3(4))

However, if a student chooses to attend activities at more than one school, no additional \$75 participation fee or waived activity fees would be paid by the charter as Utah Code 53G-6-704 refers to **a single** "qualifying school" per charter school student.

## Website Updates:

### Updated Documents:

- ▶ **Advanced Placement (AP) and Concurrent Enrollment (CE) Courses** - includes additional information for low-income students.
- ▶ **School Fees Forms Packets** - all Fee Waiver forms were combined into a single file. Previous and current year form packets are available in English and translated versions.

### New Documents:

- ▶ **Fee Waiver Eligibility: Sharing Eligibility Information** - provides guidance when sharing eligibility information between the Child and Nutrition Program and Fee Waivers.
- ▶ **School Fees and Fundraisers** - provides guidance on fundraising practices, policies, and requirements.

## School Fees Team:

The School Fees Team continues to meet with the School Fees Advisory Committee each month. Feedback was received and discussed regarding the published School Fees and Fundraisers document. Future topics discussed with the committee will include: school fees paid to third parties and accounting and fee waiver practices. Individuals can submit topics or concerns they wish to be discussed to the school fees email at: [schoolfees@schools.utah.gov](mailto:schoolfees@schools.utah.gov).

