

**DRIVER EDUCATION MODIFICATIONS**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Ariel Defay**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill makes changes to the way an local education agency may fund driver education classes.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ allows for additional funding to be used by an local education agency to fund driver education classes; and
- ▶ increases driver education student reimbursement amounts.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53G-10-503**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 247

---

---

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53G-10-503** is amended to read:

**53G-10-503. Driver education funding -- Reimbursement of a local education agency for driver education class expenses -- Limitations -- Excess funds -- Student fees.**



28 (1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a local education agency that provides  
29 driver education shall fund the program [~~solely~~] through:

30 (i) funds provided from the Automobile Driver Education Tax Account in the Uniform  
31 School Fund as created under Section [41-1a-1205](#); and

32 (ii) student fees collected by each school.

33 (b) In determining the cost of driver education, a local education agency may exclude:

34 (i) the full-time equivalent cost of a teacher for a driver education class taught during  
35 regular school hours; and

36 (ii) classroom space and classroom maintenance.

37 (c) A local education agency may [~~not~~] use [~~any~~] additional school funds beyond those  
38 allowed under Subsection (1)(b) to subsidize driver education.

39 (2) (a) The state superintendent shall, prior to September 2nd following the school year  
40 during which it was expended, or may at earlier intervals during that school year, reimburse  
41 each local education agency that applied for reimbursement in accordance with this section.

42 (b) A local education agency that maintains driver education classes that conform to  
43 this part and the rules prescribed by the state board may apply for reimbursement for the actual  
44 cost of providing the behind-the-wheel and observation training incidental to those classes.

45 (3) Under the state board's supervision for driver education, a local education agency  
46 may:

47 (a) employ personnel who are not licensed by the state board under Section [53E-6-201](#);

48 or

49 (b) contract with private parties or agencies licensed under Section [53-3-504](#) for the  
50 behind-the-wheel phase of the driver education program.

51 (4) The reimbursement amount shall be paid out of the Automobile Driver Education  
52 Tax Account in the Uniform School Fund and may not exceed:

53 (a) [~~\$100~~] \$150 per student who has completed driver education during the school  
54 year;

55 (b) [~~\$30~~] \$45 per student who has only completed the classroom portion in the school  
56 during the school year; or

57 (c) [~~\$70~~] \$105 per student who has only completed the behind-the-wheel and  
58 observation portion in the school during the school year.

59 (5) If the amount of money in the account at the end of a school year is less than the  
60 total of the reimbursable costs, the state superintendent shall allocate the money to each local  
61 education agency in the same proportion that the local education agency's reimbursable costs  
62 bear to the total reimbursable costs of all local education agencies.

63 (6) If the amount of money in the account at the end of any school year is more than the  
64 total of the reimbursement costs provided under Subsection (4), the state superintendent may  
65 allocate the excess funds to local education agencies:

66 (a) to reimburse each local education agency that applies for reimbursement of the cost  
67 of a fee waived under Section [53G-7-504](#) for driver education; and

68 (b) to aid in the procurement of equipment and facilities which reduce the cost of  
69 behind-the-wheel instruction.

70 (7) A local school board shall establish the student fee for driver education for the local  
71 education agency. Student fees shall be reasonably associated with the costs of driver education  
72 that are not otherwise covered by reimbursements and allocations made under this section.

73 Section 2. **Effective date.**

74 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2024.