

1                                   **COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION FUNDING**

2   2017 GENERAL SESSION

3   STATE OF UTAH

4   **Chief Sponsor: Ann Millner**

5   House Sponsor: Bradley G. Last

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7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9           This bill authorizes the State Board of Education to reimburse an eligible local  
10 education agency for a student who graduates early.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

12           This bill:

- 13           ▶ defines terms;
- 14           ▶ establishes the Reimbursement Program for Early Graduation From

15 Competency-Based Education; and

- 16           ▶ authorizes the State Board of Education to reimburse a local education agency that  
17 offers a competency-based education for a student who graduates early from the  
18 local education agency.

19 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

20           None

21 **Other Special Clauses:**

22           This bill provides a special effective date.

23 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

24 ENACTS:

25           **53A-17a-173**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

28           Section 1. Section **53A-17a-173** is enacted to read:

29           **53A-17a-173. Reimbursement Program for Early Graduation From**

30 **Competency-Based Education.**

31 (1) As used in this section:

32 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

33 (b) "Cohort" means a group of students, defined by the year in which the group enters  
34 grade 9.

35 (c) "Eligible LEA" means an LEA that has demonstrated to the board that the LEA or,  
36 for a school district, a school within the LEA, provides and facilitates competency-based  
37 education that:

38 (i) is based on the core principles described in Section [53A-15-1803](#); and

39 (ii) meets other criteria established by the board in rule.

40 (d) "Eligible student" means an individual who:

41 (i) attended an eligible LEA and graduated by completing graduation requirements, as  
42 described in Section [53A-13-108](#), earlier than that individual's cohort completed graduation  
43 requirements because of the individual's participation in the eligible LEA's competency-based  
44 education;

45 (ii) no longer attends the eligible LEA; and

46 (iii) is not included in the LEA's average daily membership under this chapter.

47 (e) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means:

48 (i) a school district;

49 (ii) a charter school; or

50 (iii) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

51 (f) "Partial pupil" means if an eligible student attends less than a full year of  
52 membership, the number of days the student was in membership compared to a full  
53 membership year.

54 (g) "Program" means the Reimbursement Program for Early Graduation From  
55 Competency-Based Education established in this section.

56 (2) (a) There is established the Reimbursement Program for Early Graduation From  
57 Competency-Based Education.

58           (b) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature may annually appropriate  
59 money to the Reimbursement Program for Early Graduation From Competency-Based  
60 Education.

61           (3) An LEA may apply to the board to receive a reimbursement, as described in  
62 Subsection (5), for an eligible student.

63           (4) The board shall approve a reimbursement to an LEA after the LEA demonstrates:

64           (a) that the LEA is an eligible LEA; and

65           (b) that the individual for whom the eligible LEA requests reimbursement is an eligible  
66 student.

67           (5) (a) For each eligible student, the board shall only reimburse an eligible LEA:

68           (i) if the eligible student attended the eligible LEA for less than a full school year  
69 before the eligible student's cohort graduated, up to the value of one weighted pupil unit pro  
70 rated based on the difference between:

71           (A) the number of days of partial pupil in average daily membership earned by the  
72 eligible LEA while the eligible student was still in attendance; and

73           (B) a full pupil in average daily membership; and

74           (ii) the value of one weighted pupil unit for each full school year the eligible student  
75 graduated ahead of the eligible student's cohort.

76           (b) The board shall:

77           (i) use data from the prior year average daily membership to determine the number of  
78 eligible students; and

79           (ii) reimburse the eligible LEA in the current school year.

80           (6) The board shall in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative  
81 Rulemaking Act, adopt rules to administer the provisions of this section.

82           Section 2. **Effective date.**

83           This bill takes effect on July 1, 2017.