



THE UTAH SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND BUDGET BRIEF

PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
STAFF: THOMAS YOUNG & BEN LEISHMAN

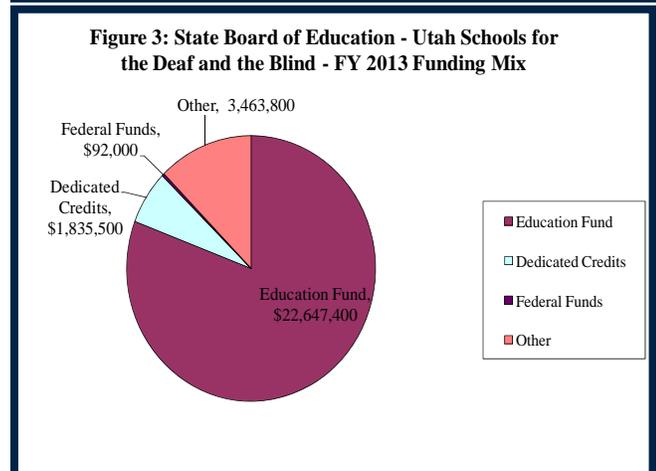
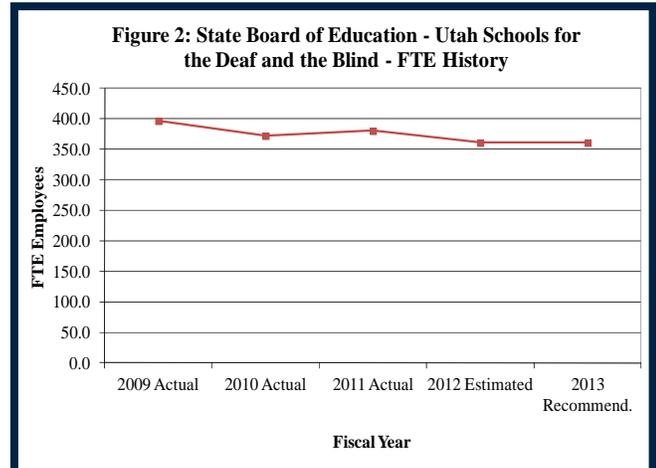
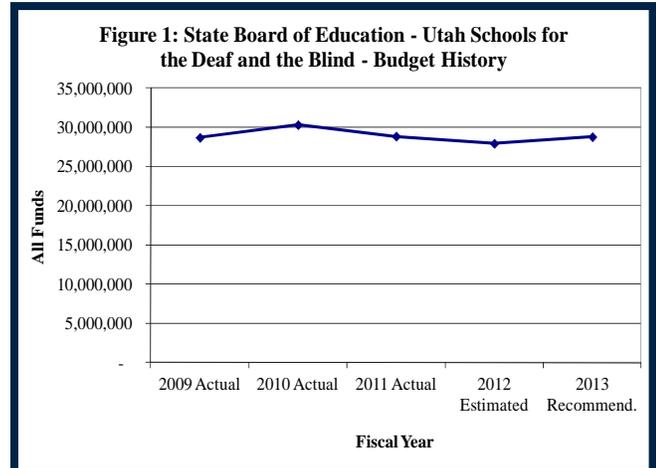
BUDGET BRIEF

SUMMARY

The Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind (USDB) offers educational services from birth through 21 years of age to individuals with sensory impairments and their families. Statute governing USDB is contained in Section 53A, Chapters 25 and 25b. Further budget detail on USDB is available in the annual Compendium of Budget Information:
http://le.utah.gov/lfa/reports/cobi2012/LI_PVA.htm.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

1. **Base Budget Adoption:** Item 13 of House Bill 1 of this session a \$28,038,700 base budget appropriation to the USDB line item. The Subcommittee can adopt this amount unchanged, or revise by making changing to expenditures, revenue sources, or fees.
2. **Adoption of Fees:** The fee schedule for the USDB line item is on page 2. In the 2011 General Session, the Legislature authorized increases to four fees, ranging from an increase of 5% to 54%. The Legislature also authorized the imposition of two new fees (After-School Program and the Educator Conference Attendance fee).
3. **Consider Requests for Spending Increases:** The Department has asked for four expenditure increases, briefly detailed below:
 - a. **Expanded Core Curriculum:** USDB requested funding to provide 2 day programs, summer programs, and regional programs to blind and/or visually impaired students. The FY 2013 request is \$81,500. The initial and out-year costs are shown in the table on the following page. The Governor recommended funding \$81,000 ongoing.
 - b. **Deaf Mentor Program:** USDB requested funding to provide an adult deaf mentor to families of a deaf child. The mentor would make regular home visits and assist the child/family with such things as American Sign Language and deaf culture. The request is for 7 FTEs (\$231,700). The number of deaf students and their families expected to be served is 98 students/families at any one time. The Governor recommended funding \$232,000.



Expanded Core Curriculum - Initial and Out Year Costs					
	Quantity	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Two-day programs	8	\$28,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$92,000
One-week summer program	1	\$10,500	\$11,500	\$12,500	\$34,500
Regional programs	4-8	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,500	\$13,500
Program coordinator	0.5-1.0	\$40,000	\$60,000	\$80,000	\$180,000
Program office specialist	0.5	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total		\$81,500	\$107,500	\$156,000	\$345,000

- c. **Assistive Technology:** USDB’s request for more assistive technology covers the costs associated with CCTVs (\$10,800), Braille Note Takers (\$67,500), Victor Stream (\$3,500), and FM Systems and digital hearing aids (\$18,200).
- d. **Low Vision Clinics:** USDB would like to expand its vision screenings and diagnostics beyond Ogden and Salt Lake. The request is for \$100,000, which cover the anticipated costs of a ¾ FTE certified low vision specialist (\$60,000), contracts with outside optometrists/ophthalmologists (\$30,000), and retrofitting of their mobile clinic (\$10,000).

ISSUES

	Amount	FTE
FY 2011 Overspending	-\$203,800	
How to get to the \$203,800?		
1 Bad debt from school districts not paying for instructional services provided (FY 2010, FY 2011)	-\$663,220	
2 Bad debt from the Utah State Instructional Materials Access Center	-\$33,000	
3 Medicaid bad debt	-\$60,849	
4 Total Revenue Shortfall	-\$757,069	
5 Reductions or revenue sources to address overspending in FY 2011		
6 USOE transfer to Washington School District for payment to USDB	\$200,000	
7 Special Education transfer to districts for payment to USDB	\$113,000	
8 Personnel and program reductions by USDB	\$240,269	
9 Total Reductions or revenue sources to address overspending	\$553,269	
10 FY 2011 overspending (row 4 + row 9)	-\$203,800	
11 Reductions to pay back overage from FY 2011 in FY 2012 and to balance FY 2012 budget	Amount	FTE
12 Eliminated the deaf mentor program	-\$231,700	-7.0
13 Reconfigure the residential program	-\$37,000	-2.8
14 Eliminated program specialist positions	-\$390,000	-6.0
15 Increased caseload requirements	\$0	-17.7
16 Total	-\$658,700	-33.5

- 4. **FY 2011 Overspending:** At the end of FY 2011, USDB spent \$203,800 over FY 2011 appropriations. The overage was caused by lower than anticipated revenue of \$663,220 from school districts for contracted services in both FY 2010 and FY 2011. Additionally, reimbursements from Medicaid and the Utah State Instructional Materials Access Center came in lower than expected by \$60,800 in FY 2010 and \$33,000 in FY 2011. In order to lower the overspending

amount to \$203,800, USDB also received a transfer of \$200,000 from USOE's Discretionary Account (the funding was transferred to Washington School District and then onto USDB). The overage is repaid to the Education Fund in FY 2012 by allocating -\$203,800 from USOE's FY 2012 appropriation. To avoid overspending in FY 2012 and FY 2013, USDB reduced the number of personnel by eliminating program specialist positions in all divisions, reconfiguration of the residential program, eliminated the Deaf Mentor program, eliminated funding for the Expanded Core Curriculum Program for children who are blind or visually impaired and increased the caseload requirements for remaining staff.

FEES

Fees imposed by the Schools for the Deaf and Blind cover such things as interpreters, tuition, lunches, conferences attendees, and sports. The complete list of authorized fees is listed in the table below.

Fee Name	FY 11 Rate	FY12 Rate	Fee		FY 2011 Quantity	FY 2011	FY 2011
			Increase	FY13 Rate		Revenue @ FY 2011	Revenue @ FY 2012
						Rate	Rate
Educational Interpreter	\$37.30	\$36.17	-3%	\$36.17	2,534	\$94,518	\$158,100
Teachers Aide	\$11.08	\$11.58	5%	\$11.58	3,801	\$42,115	\$64,080
Student Education Services Aide	\$24.65	\$22.54	-9%	\$22.54	3,733	\$92,018	\$51,390
Educator	\$48.06	\$52.83	10%	\$52.83	14,933	\$717,680	\$400
After-School Program	\$0.00	\$30.00	∞	\$30.00	50	\$0	\$5,040
Pre-School Monthly Tuition	\$75.00	\$75.00	0%	\$75.00	42	\$3,150	\$2,950
Out-of-State Tuition	\$50,600.00	\$50,600.00	0%	\$50,600.00	0	\$0	\$94,350
Support Services - Educator	\$45.00	\$52.83	17%	\$52.83	500	\$22,500	\$268,500
Conference Attendance - Educator	\$0.00	\$100.00	∞	\$100.00	50	\$0	\$48,000
Adult Lunch Tickets	\$2.00	\$2.00	0%	\$2.00	200	\$400	\$1,860
Fax Machine	\$1.00	\$1.00	0%	\$1.00	50	\$50	\$19,180
Copy Machine - Color	\$1.00	\$1.00	0%	\$1.00	100	\$100	\$73,080
Copy Machine	\$0.10	\$0.10	0%	\$0.10	1,000	\$100	\$9,220
Athletic Fee - Per Sport	\$65.00	\$100.00	54%	\$100.00	40	\$2,600	\$11,520
Dormitory	\$19.00	\$19.00	0%	\$19.00	5	\$95	\$39,935
Room Rental	\$94.00	\$94.00	0%	\$94.00	12	\$1,128	\$63,600
Multipurpose	\$188.00	\$188.00	0%	\$188.00	12	\$2,256	\$108,000
Total					27,062	\$978,711	\$1,019,205

BUDGET DETAIL

Funding for USDB stems largely from the Education Fund, accounting for 81% of FY 2013 base budget appropriations; transfers and dedicated credits revenue make up almost all of the remaining 19% of funding. Expenditures are largely personnel related (75%), followed by current expenditures (23%), and travel (2%). Personnel services covers 361 budgeted FTEs, at an average cost of \$58,321 per individual. Current expenditures cover pupil transportation (\$3,210,000), facilities/leases (\$926,000), and curriculum and assistive technology materials, diagnostic assessments, and education supplies (\$2,498,600). The positive FY 2011 nonlapsing balance and the negative FY 2012 beginning balance of \$203,800 are due to overspending, addressed on page 2 of this brief.

State Board of Education - Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

	FY 2011	FY 2012		FY 2012		FY 2013*
Sources of Finance	Actual	Appropriated	Changes	Revised	Changes	Recommended
Education Fund	22,753,700	22,647,400	0	22,647,400	0	22,647,400
Education Fund, One-time	0	100,000	0	100,000	(100,000)	0
Federal Funds	90,300	91,500	0	91,500	500	92,000
Dedicated Credits Revenue	1,034,700	1,543,900	291,600	1,835,500	0	1,835,500
Transfers	3,531,957	4,496,400	(2,097,600)	2,398,800	0	2,398,800
Transfers - Medicaid	1,243,743	0	1,065,000	1,065,000	0	1,065,000
Beginning Nonlapsing	0	0	(203,800)	(203,800)	203,800	0
Closing Nonlapsing	203,800	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$28,858,200	\$28,879,200	(\$944,800)	\$27,934,400	\$104,300	\$28,038,700
Programs						
Instructional Services	15,532,300	14,884,900	(2,216,900)	12,668,000	26,400	12,694,400
Support Services	13,325,900	13,994,300	1,272,100	15,266,400	77,900	15,344,300
Total	\$28,858,200	\$28,879,200	(\$944,800)	\$27,934,400	\$104,300	\$28,038,700
Categories of Expenditure						
Personnel Services	22,618,300	22,556,300	(1,742,500)	20,813,800	239,900	21,053,700
In-state Travel	415,000	469,500	(49,200)	420,300	0	420,300
Out-of-state Travel	38,800	30,000	7,000	37,000	0	37,000
Current Expense	5,573,500	5,649,800	768,400	6,418,200	(35,600)	6,382,600
DP Current Expense	112,600	149,600	(28,500)	121,100	0	121,100
DP Capital Outlay	0	24,000	0	24,000	0	24,000
Capital Outlay	0	0	100,000	100,000	(100,000)	0
Transfers	100,000	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$28,858,200	\$28,879,200	(\$944,800)	\$27,934,400	\$104,300	\$28,038,700
Other Data						
Budgeted FTE	380.3	361.0	0.0	361.0	0.0	361.0
Actual FTE	350.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vehicles	60.0	63.0	0.0	63.0	0.0	63.0

*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.