

ROCKWELL CHARTER SCHOOL

Local Education Agency Specific License Policy

Purpose

The Board of Directors of Rockwell Charter School requests Local Education Agency (LEA)-Specific Licenses from the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) for specific teachers whose qualifications meet the criteria outlined in this policy and upon the recommendation of the school's administration. The board delegates to the Administration the responsibility for implementing this policy for LEA-Specific Licenses in accordance with R277-301-7, LEA-Specific Educator License Requirements.

Local Education Agency (LEA) Specific Licenses

An LEA-Specific educator license, along with allowable endorsements, may be issued by the USBE at the request of an LEA's Board of Directors. Once granted, an LEA-Specific License is valid for three years within the requesting LEA only but may be renewed. The license allows a teacher to fill a position in the LEA if other licensing routes for the applicant are untenable or unreasonable. The LEA governing board agrees to comply with the provisions for LEA-Specific Licenses outlined in R277-301-7.

LEA-Specific Educator

This policy defines an LEA-Specific Licensed Educator as an individual, approved by the school's Board of Directors, who has met locally defined competencies to be an educator at the school and has been subsequently authorized through a request by the school's Board that has been granted by the USBE.

LEA-Specific Educator License Requirements

In order to request an LEA-Specific license for an educator, the school's Board of Directors ensure the following requirements:

- The school has adopted and posted an LEA-Specific License policy;
- The policy includes the criteria for employing educators with an LEA-specific license;
- The policy includes the educator preparation and support provided to those educators holding LEA-Specific Licenses;
- The school's governing board requests the license from the USBE on behalf of the school;
- The candidate meets all the requirements of Utah Administrative Code R277-301-7 for LEA-Specific license applicants;
- Within the first year of employment, the school trains the candidate on:

- Educator ethics;
- Classroom management and instruction;
- Basic education law and instruction; and,
- Utah Effective Teaching Standards.

Requirements for an LEA-Specific Educator License

The USBE requires a local board of directors to require the following of LEA-Specific license applicants:

- Completion of a criminal background check including:
 - review of any criminal offenses and clearance in accordance with R277-214; and,
 - continued background check monitoring in accordance with 53G-11-403(1).
- Completion of an educator ethics review within one calendar year before the application; and,
- Approval of the requesting LEA governing board in a public meeting no more than 60 days prior to the application, which includes the LEA's rationale for the request.

Established Criteria for the School's LEA-Specific Licensed Educators

The Board of Directors has established these criteria for the content knowledge and pedagogical skill of an LEA-Specific Licensed Educator:

- Completion of a bachelor's or higher degree in a related field of study; or,
- Exceptional or specialized occupational experience, training, or expertise related to the teacher's assignment; and,
- Completion of all USBE requirements as described above

Participation in a Mentoring Program

An educator holding an LEA-Specific license must participate in the school's Mentoring Program if that teacher has fewer than three years of experience as a teacher. This mentor will have the following qualifications:

- A Professional Educator License;
- Experience performing substantially the same duties as the educator;
- Expertise in the Utah Educator Standards;
- A mentor may not serve as an evaluator of the LEA-Specific Licensed Educator.

LEA-Specific License Notification

As an LEA requesting and hiring educators with LEA-Specific licenses, the school must disclose the following:

- The fact that the school employs individuals holding LEA-Specific educator licenses, license areas, or endorsements;
- An explanation of the types of licenses issued by the USBE;
- The percentage of types of licenses, license areas, and endorsements held by educators employed at the school based on FTE; and,
- A link to the [Utah Educator Look-up Tool](#) in accordance with [R277-312-7\(6\)](#).

Reviewed: November 15, 2023