



SCSB DISTANCE PROGRAM FORM

The Utah State Charter School Board (SCSB) has been working to address parent and school concerns regarding student safety, facility capacity, and planning for the next school year. Thus, for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years, the SCSB will allow flexibility in how a school authorized by the SCSB delivers quality education during the pandemic. This means that a charter school may run a distance education program not currently allowed by or envisioned in its Charter Agreement if it completes and submits this form by June 30, 2020.

Revised: 5/22/2020

The assurances specified within this form do not pre-empt or supersede any statutory or regulatory requirements, assurances, certifications, and other legal obligations.

NOTICE:

The office of the Utah State Charter School Board has designed the assurances described in this form to aid schools in complying with R277-418. They do not pre-empt, supersede, or replace any obligations required under R277-418. The valid operation of a distance or blended educational program that is not currently within a school's Charter Agreement during SY2021 and SY2022 is contingent upon full compliance with all laws and board rules, including R277-418. If an LEA/school chooses to implement a distance or blended learning model for the SY2021 and SY2022 school years, it will be held accountable to these assurances and all laws and board rules.

Charter LEA or School: _____

Contact's Name: _____

Contact's Phone: _____

Contact's Email: _____

A valid SCSB Distance Program Form must be signed, completed, and uploaded to the Utah Charter Access Point (UCAP) website in its original fillable format.

NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY:

Charter schools authorized by the SCSB implementing distance or blended learning programs as part of their instructional methods for the SY2021 and SY2022 school years are hereby formally notified that homeschooling¹ and distance or blended education are not one and the same, nor interchangeable. According to UCA 53G-5-401(3), “home school is not eligible for charter school status.”

By board rule, the following criteria must be met for a distance or blended education program to qualify as public education:

- Instruction must be given from a qualified teacher who is licensed according to Utah law and employed by the LEA
- Students must be registered in public courses offered by the LEA
- Students must be taught according to the Utah core standards
- Students are subject to laws regarding state and federally mandated testing
- Students are included in accountability measures

The Charter School Governing Board acknowledges that any distance or blended program run by the charter school is not home school and no public education funding will be used to finance any form of homeschooling.

Chair of the Governing Board
(Signature Required)

Date
(Required)

REQUIRED KEY ELEMENTS:

The charter school must list the key elements of the distance or blended learning program:

REQUIRED LINKS (URLs):

Access to technology plan (URL): _____

Continuing Enrollment Policy (URL) _____

¹ Board rule R277-419 defines home school as “instruction, curriculum, evaluations, and reporting are given or administered to students by non-qualified teachers (parents or others) and is not supervised or directed by an LEA.”

ASSURANCES:

Charter schools implementing a distance or blended learning program under this flexibility for SY2021 or SY2022 will check each box below to assure to the following:

- The school's governing board has accepted in an open and public meeting a plan that outlines the distance or blended learning program in accordance with R277-418
- The distance or blended learning program will be an extension of the school and will align with the mission, vision, and purpose in the Charter Agreement
- Grading in the distance or blended learning program will be consistent with in-seat program grading and expectations
- Students in the distance or blended program meet required days and instructional hours as required under R277-419
- The school's governing board will appropriate sufficient funds to ensure that the distance program is no less effective and compelling as the in-seat program
- Students will have access to all necessary technology, materials, and services needed to be successful in a distance or blended learning program
- The distance program complies with all requirements as stated in R277-417, including the use of public funds for any incentive, disbursement, or reimbursement
- The distance program complies with all requirements stated in R277-418, including the procuring and monitoring of third-party vendors
- Enrollment in the distance program will not increase or exceed the maximum number of students allowed in the Charter Agreement
- The distance program will not be used or marketed to expand the school's geographic reach

I do hereby agree to the terms and conditions set forth in this SCSB Distance Program Form for and on behalf of the stated LEA/school and do assure compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations, and board rules.

Chair of the Governing Board
(Signature Required)

Date
(Required)