



Breaking Down the USDB Proposal in Clear Simple Language

ASL Breakdown by UAD President Ashli-Marie



UTAH ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

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The State of Utah has released recommendations about the Utah Schools and the Blind (USDB). The wording is extremely formal and complicated, Association of the Deaf (UAD) President has created an ASL video to clear what these proposals actually mean for Deaf, blind, and deafblind students.

Here is a simplified summary of the key points from the video:

1. USDB as a full-time LEA "on a minimal basis"



— but only in very limited cases

Impact:

Fewer students would be allowed to attend USDB full-time, even when USDB is the best placement for their needs.

2. Only students with very specific IEPs could attend

What it means:

If a student's IEP doesn't include highly detailed Deaf, blind, or deafblind they will not be allowed to attend USDB.

Impact:

Many students who currently benefit from USDB support could lose access

3. Districts must pay 100% of outreach service costs

What it means:

Districts would be fully responsible for paying for services like audiology, support, itinerant teachers, and early intervention.

Impact:

Some districts may refuse to pay full cost. They may try to provide these services with their own staff — even when they do not have the correct expertise.

4. High school programs limited to Salt Lake County

What it means:

Comprehensive high school programs for Deaf, blind, and deafblind students only exist in Salt Lake County.

Impact:

Students outside Salt Lake County would have fewer options and may not complete high school program.

5. Push toward attending local district high schools

What it means:

The Legislature believes it is “most efficient” for students to attend their neighborhood high school instead of a full USDB high school.

Impact:

More students could be pushed into mainstream settings that are not readily accessible, and not language-rich for Deaf, blind, and deafblind learners.

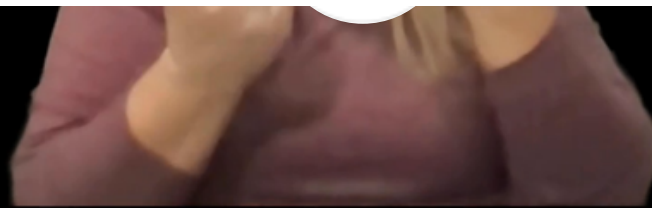
Why this matters

These proposals would significantly weaken USDB’s ability to serve students statewide.

They reduce access, limit educational choices, and risk pushing students into environments without the necessary skills, staff, or language access.

Please watch the full ASL video with captions for deeper explanation.





The committee will review them and decide

👉 Full details and updates available here on [UAD Substack](#).

- [Emergency Update: Proposed Changes Could Harm Deaf & Blind Stu](#)
- [Upcoming Public Meetings Related to USDB](#)

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