

# Board Policy I-3: Optional and Specialized Programs



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## REFERENCES

[Administrative Procedures for Board Policy I-3](#)

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## THE POLICY

The Salt Lake City School District Board of Education supports and offers optional and specialized programs that provide alternative learning environments for students. Such programs must meet the requirements of state and federal law, teach the Utah Core Standards, meet accountability requirements applicable to all district schools, and align with the board's vision, mission, and student achievement plan.

The purpose of this policy is to provide instructional alternatives in learning environments that are accessible and responsive to the needs of the district's diverse student population.

The creation of new optional and specialized programs may be initiated at the district level or at an individual school site, and must offer academic rigor, research-based instructional strategies, and assessment of student learning and achievement. Prior to implementation, all such programs must provide a description of the program's design and its intended effect on the target population. The program must be approved by the appropriate district personnel before it is implemented. Approved programs may take the form of smaller learning communities within neighborhood or comprehensive schools, or may constitute a whole magnet or lab school.

The district will set forth its specific processes for implementing this board policy through the accompanying [administrative procedures](#).

No district employee or student shall be subjected to discrimination in employment or any district program or activity on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The district is committed to providing equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services and employment including its policies, complaint processes, program accessibility, district facility use, accommodations and other Equal Employment Opportunity matters. The district also provides equal access to district facilities for all youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United State Codes, including scouting groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation: Whitney Banks, Compliance and Investigations, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 578-8388. You may also contact the Office for Civil Rights, Denver, CO, (303) 844-5695.