

Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities  
 EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
 FACT SHEET

**DRAFT**

NEED	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>ASSERT – Autism Support Services: Education, Research, and Training</b></p> <p><b>\$200,000</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autism is the fastest growing disability category in the United States. Since 1998, Utah’s school enrollment of children with autism has jumped 90% to 1,799 students in 2005 – 2006.</li> <li>• Research indicates that early, intensive intervention services for children with autism ages 3-5 is associated with a reduced need for subsequent intensive special education services.</li> <li>• ASSERT is a collaborative effort between the Department of Special Education and the Center for Persons with Disabilities at Utah State University.</li> <li>• ASSERT benefits:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local school districts by providing intensive training to education personnel</li> <li>• Education professionals throughout Utah by providing a model training classroom</li> <li>• Children with autism, and their families, by providing effective educational and behavioral early intervention, currently in Washington, Weber and Cache Counties.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• ASSERT is a supplemental program to the special education preschool programs offered by local school districts.</li> <li>• ASSERT conducts research on effective teaching procedures for young children with autism.</li> <li>• The Purpose of this request is to seek funding to sustain a model scientifically-based training program to provide in-service training and technical assistance to educators who serve young children and to prepare preservice educators for young children with autism spectrum disorder.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Low Incident/High Cost Students</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State and federal law guarantees all Utah children reasonably equal educational opportunities.</li> <li>• It costs more to provide the same educational opportunity for some children than it does for others.</li> </ul>

**For Further Information Please Contact**  
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<b>\$1,720,000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The special education and related services provided to the student are determined by the Individual education Plan (IEP) – i.e. nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, etc.</li> <li>• Not all students who require costly services are eligible for Medicaid.</li> <li>• In the 2005-06 school year, 509 Utah children received educational services costing in excess of \$15,000 each.</li> <li>• Beginning in July 2005 states are allowed to set aside up to 1% of the IDEA funding they receive for a high cost risk pool.</li> <li>• In FY 06 Utah State risk pool allocation was \$161,042.</li> <li>• The State Board of Education supported by the LCPD is requesting state funding to cover educational costs that exceed \$15,000 per student.</li> </ul> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">FY 2006</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Actual Expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,858,077</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FY 2006</td> <td>State Allocation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$161,042</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FY 2006</td> <td>IDEA Risk Pool</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$983,267</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FY 2007</td> <td>Allocation Shortfall</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,713,768</td> </tr> </table>	FY 2006	Actual Expenses	\$2,858,077	FY 2006	State Allocation	\$161,042	FY 2006	IDEA Risk Pool	<u>\$983,267</u>	FY 2007	Allocation Shortfall	\$1,713,768
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