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08-21-23

Rule ID(s):

9922

File Date: 8/28/2023

Effective Date: 11/26/2023

Rulemaking Hearing Rule(s) Filing Form

Rulemaking Hearing Rules are rules filed after and as a result of a rulemaking hearing (Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-205).

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-229, any new fee or fee increase promulgated by state agency rule shall take effect on July 1, following the expiration of the ninety (90) day period as provided in § 4-5-207. This section shall not apply to rules that implement new fees or fee increases that are promulgated as emergency rules pursuant to § 4-5-208(a) and to subsequent rules that make permanent such emergency rules, as amended during the rulemaking process. In addition, this section shall not apply to state agencies that did not, during the preceding two (2) fiscal years, collect fees in an amount sufficient to pay the cost of operating the board, commission or entity in accordance with § 4-29-121(b).

Agency/Board/Commission:

State Board of Education

Division: N/A

Contact Person: Angie Sanders

Address: 500 James Robertson Parkway, 8th Floor

Zip: 37243 Phone: 615 253-5707

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Revision Type (check all that apply):

X	Amendment	Content based on previous emergency rule filed on
	New	Content is identical to the emergency rule
	Reneal	

Rule(s) (ALL chapters and rules contained in filing must be listed here. If needed, copy and paste additional tables to accommodate multiple chapters. Please make sure that ALL new rule and repealed rule numbers are listed in the chart below. Please enter only ONE Rule Number/Rule Title per row.)

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-01-02	District and School Operations
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-01-0201	Approval of Local Education Agencies (LEAS)
0520-01-0209	Alternative Education
0520-01-0210	Homebound Instruction
0520-01-0213	Fiscal Accountability Standards

AMENDMENT

AMEND the rules of the State Board of Education Chapter 0520-01-02 District and School Operations, by amending Rules 0520-01-02-.01 Approval of Local Education Agencies (LEAS), 0520-01-02-.09 Alternative Education, 0520-01-02-.10 Homebound Instruction, and 0520-01-02-.13 Fiscal Accountability Standards, so that the revised rules shall read:

RULES OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHAPTER 0520-01-02 DISTRICT AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

0520-01-02-.01 APPROVAL OF LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES (LEAS).

- (1) A public school is the basic administrative unit of a state, county, city, or special district school system, consisting of one (1) or more grade groups, one (1) or more teachers to give instruction, and one (1) principal, which school shall be subject to the statutes of the State of Tennessee, and to the rules, regulations, and minimum standards of the State Board of Education (State Board).
- (2) The Department of Education (Department) shall make periodic inspections of the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) under its control. These inspections shall be made to determine the extent to which LEAs operate in compliance with State Board rules and regulations and to verify the information received on reports from local school officials. The Department shall develop and annually notify LEAs of the inspection criteria.
 - (a) Each LEA shall be classified as approved, conditionally approved, or non-approved based on the inspection of the Department. LEAs classified as conditionally approved by the Commissioner of Education shall receive a written explanation of the reasons for such classification and shall be afforded the opportunity to respond. The Commissioner's notification shall include a time by which corrective action shall be completed by the LEA. If such corrective action is not taken within the time specified, the LEA shall be classified as non-approved and the Commissioner shall impose sanctions on the LEA which may, in the Commissioner's discretion, include withholding part or all of funds generated by the state's K-12 funding formula to the non-approved LEA.
 - (b) The Department shall make an annual report to the State Board regarding each LEA's compliance with State Board rules and regulations. The report shall include the approval status of each LEA, deficiencies identified by the Department in the approval process, an assessment of action needed to attain approval, LEA response, and sanctions imposed upon LEAs which do not comply.
- (3) The Department shall maintain an internal audit function which shall assist the Department in the inspection of schools. Internal audit reports shall be presented to the Commissioner of Education and the State Board.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, and 49-3-353. Administrative History: Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed August 20, 1984; effective November 13, 1984. Amendment filed September 26, 1985; effective December 14, 1985. Amendment filed September 20, 1987; effective December 22, 1987. Amendment filed October 18, 1988; effective January 29, 1989. New rule filed February 16, 1989; effective April 2, 1989. Amendment filed July 11, 1990; effective October 29, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective

June 29, 1992. Repeal and new rule filed December 5, 2011; effective May 30, 2012. Amendments filed August 20, 2020; effective November 18, 2020.

0520-01-02-.09 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION.

- (1) Alternative education is a non-traditional, short-term academic program or school designed to meet the student's educational, behavioral, and social needs. Alternative education includes alternative schools and alternative programs.
- (2) Alternative school means a short-term intervention program designed to provide educational services outside of the regular school program for students who have been suspended or expelled. Alternative schools are located in a separate facility from the regular school program.
- (3) Alternative program means a short-term intervention program designed to provide educational services outside of the regular school program for students who have been suspended or expelled. Alternative programs may be located within the regular school or be a self-contained program within a school. Alternative programs include, but are not limited to, night schools or inschool suspension.
- (4) Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-3402, local boards of education may establish alternative schools for students in grades one (1) through six (6) who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program.
- (5) Attendance in an alternative school or alternative program shall be voluntary for students in grades one through six (1-6) who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program, unless the local board of education adopts a policy mandating attendance in either instance.
- (6) A local board of education shall establish at least one (1) alternative school for students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) who have been suspended or expelled. Attendance in an alternative school or program is mandatory for students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who have been suspended for more than ten (10) days or expelled from the regular school program if space and staff are available. Space and staff availability shall be determined by the LEA at the time the disciplinary decision is rendered.
 - (a) Attendance in an alternative school or alternative program is not mandatory for students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who have been expelled from the regular school program for committing a zero-tolerance offense. However, this does not prohibit a director of schools, or a director's designee, from assigning a student who has been expelled from the regular school program for committing a zero-tolerance offense to an alternative school or alternative program.
- (7) Students in pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten shall not be assigned to an alternative school or program.
- (8) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy regarding alternative education that is aligned to this rule and the State Board's Alternative Education Policy 2.302.
- (9) Requirements for alternative education:
 - (a) The instruction shall proceed as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instructional program in the student's regular school. Instruction shall be based on the academic standards adopted by the State Board.

- (b) All course work and credits earned shall be transferred and recorded in the student's home school, which shall grant credit earned and progress thereon as if earned in the home school.
- (c) Students shall participate in all required state assessments at sites determined by school officials and in accordance with established guidelines regarding student grade levels and eligibility. State assessment results shall be reported in the LEA where the student was enrolled prior to his or her placement in the alternative school.
- (d) Each alternative school or program shall comply with class size requirements established in T.C.A. § 49-1-104 and instructional and planning time requirements established by the State Board. Nothing shall prohibit an LEA from establishing a lower class size ratio in an alternative school or program.
- (e) The minimum length of the school day for alternative schools and programs shall be six and one-half (6½) hours.
- (f) LEAs shall monitor and regularly evaluate the academic progress of each student enrolled in an alternative school.
- (g) Students are subject to all rules pertaining to the alternative school or alternative program.
 - 1. The director of schools, or the director's designee, may remove a student from the alternative school or alternative program if the director, or the director's designee, determines that:
 - (i) The student has violated the rules of the alternative school or alternative program; or
 - (ii) The student is not benefiting from the student's assignment to the alternative school or alternative program, and all interventions available to help the student to succeed in the alternative school or alternative program have been exhausted unsuccessfully.
 - 2. A student's removal from the alternative school or alternative program shall not constitute grounds for extending the length of original suspension or expulsion.
 - The director of schools, or the director's designee, shall make the final decision on removal.
- (h) If a student has an active Individualized Education Program (IEP), a 504 plan, or is suspected of having a disability, all state and federal laws and rules relating to students with disabilities and special education shall be followed.
- (i) Prior to the assignment of a student to an alternative school or program, the LEA shall provide written notice, which includes the reason for the student's placement, to the student's parent or guardian. Reasons for placement in an alternative school must be documented. End of year reports must be made to the regular school for each student.
- (j) Each teacher providing instruction to students in an alternative education school or program shall be licensed to teach in Tennessee and shall meet the qualifications to teach in compliance with the rules and regulations of the State Board.
- (k) Alternative schools shall have an appropriately licensed administrator assigned to supervise the school.

- (I) Support services such as counseling and psychological services must be accessible.
- (m) Each LEA shall develop and implement formal transition plans for the integration of students from a traditional school to an alternative school or from an alternative school back to a traditional school. Transition plans shall be targeted to improve communication between a traditional school and an alternative school staff and should address any barriers that would prohibit students from successfully transitioning. Transition plans shall include aligning of curricula, in-take procedures for students returning to traditional school, professional development opportunities for traditional and alternative school staff, educational and behavioral supports, follow-up for students returning to traditional school, and the development of graduation and postsecondary goals.
- (n) All alternative school classrooms shall have working two-way communication systems that make it possible for teachers or other employees to notify a principal, supervisor, or other administrator that there is an emergency.
- (o) It is the responsibility of the director of schools to ensure that all alternative school teachers and other employees have been trained to use the two-way communication system and are notified of emergency procedures prior to the beginning of classes for any school year and when changes are made in the emergency procedures and/or personnel. Such emergency procedures shall be linked to the school and school system emergency preparedness plan.
- (p) LEAs shall submit an annual alternative education survey to the Department that provides the following information:
 - Alternative schools or programs currently in operation in the LEA;
 - Number and grade level of students served;
 - Primary reason for student assignment;
 - 4. Number of faculty and staff; and
 - 5. Information required by T.C.A. § 49-6-3405.

(10) Funding:

(a) Students attending an alternative school shall continue to earn funding through the state's K-12 education funding formula for the LEA in which the student is enrolled.

(11) Facilities:

- (a) A local board of education may not contract or otherwise affiliate with an alternative school program which requires an order of a court as a precondition of placement in such alternative school.
- (b) A local board of education may contract with independent contractors to provide alternative school facilities and other appropriate services consistent with T.C.A. § 49-2-203.
- (c) A local board of education may establish its own facility.
- (d) Two or more boards may join together and establish an alternative school attended by students from any such LEA.

(e) Through a mutually accepted agreement with another local board of education, a board may send its suspended or expelled students to an alternative school already existing in another LEA.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-6-3401, 49-6-3402, and 49-6-3405. Administrative History: Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed February 28, 1978; effective March 30, 1978. Amendment filed January 9, 1979; effective February 23, 1979. Amendment filed April 14, 1980; effective May 28, 1980. Amendment filed June 28, 1984; effective September 11, 1984. Amendment filed January 2, 1986; effective April 15, 1986. Amendment filed May 28, 1986; effective June 27, 1986. Amendment filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed June 24, 1992; effective September 28, 1992. Amendment filed April 18, 1997; effective August 28, 1997. Amendment filed April 27, 1998; effective August 28, 1998. Amendments filed August 20, 2020; effective November 18, 2020.

0520-01-02-.10 HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION.

- (1) Definitions. As used in this rule:
 - (a) "Homebound Instruction Period" means the number of school days that the medical homebound instruction program shall be provided to the student.
 - (b) "Individualized Education Program (IEP) team" means a group of individuals described in 34 C.F.R. § 300.321 that is responsible for developing, reviewing, and/or revising an IEP for a child with a disability.
 - (c) "Medical Condition" means a physical or mental condition, illness, or disorder that prevents a student from attending regular classes and is certified in writing by the student's treating physician.
 - (d) "Medical Homebound Instruction Program" means an instruction program provided at home, hospital, or other related locations to all students, including students with disabilities, who are enrolled in a public school but are unable to attend regular classes due to a medical condition.
 - (e) "Regular Classes" means the classes to which the student has been assigned by the school where the student is enrolled.
 - (f) "Review Team" means Local Education Agency ("LEA") staff and/or school staff, including the student's 504 team or IEP team if applicable, who are familiar with the health and educational needs of the student for whom a medical homebound instruction program is being requested.
 - (g) "Student" means a child enrolled in a Tennessee public school in grades kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12).
 - (h) "Treating Physician" means a person who is licensed under T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 6; T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 9; T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 11; or T.C.A. § 63-23-105 or similar statute in another jurisdiction and who is the professional treating the student for the medical condition requiring medical homebound instruction.
- (2) Medical Homebound Qualification and Placement.
 - (a) Each LEA shall establish a medical homebound instruction program for each student enrolled in the LEA who qualifies. A student qualifies for a medical homebound instruction program if the student's treating physician certifies in writing that the student has a medical condition that prevents the student from attending regular classes. A student is prevented from attending regular classes if the student will miss more than ten (10)

consecutive instructional days over the period of the school year due to the medical condition. An LEA may also create a policy that allows students who miss an aggregate number of instructional days over the period of the school year due to a medical condition to be eligible for a medical homebound instruction program.

- (b) Once a student has qualified for a medical homebound instruction program, the homebound instruction period shall be determined by the student's review team on a case-by-case basis and shall take into consideration the recommendations of the student's treating physician, if available. Educational decisions regarding the student's medical homebound instruction program shall be determined by the student's review team on a case-by-case basis.
- (c) Decisions regarding students with disabilities who require instruction in the home, hospital, or related site pursuant to an IEP team's determination that the home, hospital, or related site is the child's least restrictive environment are governed by the requirements set forth in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (34 C.F.R. § 300.39; 34 C.F.R. § 300.115) and State Board Rule 0520-01-09-.07 regarding educational homebound placements.
- (3) Medical Homebound Instructional Requirements.
 - (a) A medical homebound instruction program shall consist of a minimum of three (3) hours of instruction per week while school is in session for the homebound instruction period determined by the student's review team.
 - (b) For students receiving special education and related services, the frequency and duration of instruction necessary to provide a free appropriate public education for a student with a disability during a medical homebound instruction program placement shall be determined by the student's IEP team, but shall not be less than the minimum of three (3) hours per week.
 - (c) The student's review team shall consider the student's grade level, academic status, physical abilities, individual academic needs, homebound instruction period, and similar factors when determining the amount of instructional time per week provided to the student under a medical homebound instruction program.
 - (d) The minimum of three (3) hours of instruction per week shall not include travel to and from the student or preparation time. Homebound instruction is measured by the amount of time that the student and the homebound teacher are working together; or, if a student is enrolled in an LEA's virtual program, homebound instruction is only the actual time that the student is engaging in instruction via the virtual program.
 - (e) Homebound instruction shall be provided by a teacher holding a valid Tennessee teacher license as provided in T.C.A. Title 49, Chapter 5.
 - (f) An adult, other than the homebound teacher/instructor, shall be present during the homebound instruction period.
 - (g) The LEA may provide the homebound instruction program by sending a teacher to the student's home, hospital, or related site, by contracting with a hospital or related site to provide educational services to the student in compliance with this rule, or via the LEA's own online or virtual program, if the review team deems it appropriate for the student. The LEA shall verify that the student has all the necessary equipment, access, and training for working via the internet at no additional cost to the student.
- (4) Recertification for Medical Homebound.

- (a) A medical homebound instruction program for longer than the initial medical homebound instruction period shall only be provided to a student who is recertified in writing by his or her treating physician as having a medical condition that, in the student's treating physician's judgment, continues to prevent the student from returning to regular classes.
- (b) The initial medical homebound instruction period and any additional medical homebound instruction period shall be for the number of school days certified by the student's review team.
- (c) Recertification must be obtained upon the expiration of each additional medical homebound instruction period if medical homebound instruction is to be continued beyond the initial medical homebound instruction period.

(5) Reentry.

- (a) Prior to the expiration of the medical homebound instruction period, the review team shall develop a transition plan for the student's reentry into the school environment.
- (6) Attendance and Funding.
 - (a) LEAs are responsible for ensuring the provision of medical homebound instruction to students enrolled in the LEA. Such students shall not be counted absent from school and shall continue to earn funding through the state's K-12 education funding formula for the LEA in which the student is enrolled.
 - (b) IDEA Part B funds may be expended only for instruction of students with disabilities who are placed in a homebound instruction program.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-10-1101 and 49-10-1103; 34 C.F.R. § 300.39 and 34 C.F.R. § 300.115. Administrative History: Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed June 10, 1974; effective July 10, 1974. Amendment filed July 15, 1976; effective August 16, 1976. Amendment filed February 28, 1978; effective March 30, 1978. Amendment filed January 9, 1979; effective February 23, 1979. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Repeal and new rule filed May 20, 2019; effective August 18, 2019. Amendments filed April 7, 2021; effective July 6, 2021.

0520-01-02-.13 FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS.

- (1) Data Collection.
 - (a) The Commissioner of Education (Commissioner), in consultation with the Comptroller of the Treasury, shall prescribe a system of school fiscal accounting for all LEAs which ensures that the expenditure of funds is properly accounted for and safeguarded in accordance with current law and State Board rules, regulations, and minimum standards. The Commissioner shall require such reports from LEAs as are required by federal or state law, State Board rules, or as are otherwise necessary for ensuring fiscal accountability standards.
 - (b) To ensure proper financial reporting of revenue and expenditures for all public school purposes, the system of school fiscal accounting shall include a standard chart of accounts and audit procedures. The standard chart of accounts shall be the basis for the Annual Public School Budget Document (Budget Document), which shall contain the account codes necessary to ensure the capability for meaningful comparisons of school systems. At a minimum, the Budget Document shall be designed to facilitate year-to-year and agency-to-agency comparison, as well as adequately indicating the sources and uses of all funds received by each LEA, and sufficient revenue account codes to differentiate between federal, state and local revenue.

- (c) The report of actual expenditures shall be the Annual Public School Financial Report (Financial Report) and shall include sufficient information to allow an LEA by LEA comparison of budgeted and actual expenditures. The Financial Report shall, at a minimum, be designed to facilitate year-to-year and agency-to-agency comparison, as well as adequately indicating the sources and uses of all funds received by each LEA, and shall differentiate between federal, state and local revenue when reporting actual revenue for the prior year and estimated revenue for budget purposes.
- (d) The Department of Education shall establish procedures for collecting and verifying required data inputs for use in determining allocations through the state's K-12 education funding formula.

(2) Reports & Documents.

- (a) Within thirty (30) days after the beginning of each fiscal year, each LEA shall submit to the Commissioner, on a form provided by the Department of Education, a complete and certified copy of its entire school budget for the current school year.
- (b) On or before October 1 of each year, each LEA shall submit to the Commissioner a correct and accurate financial report of public school revenues and expenditures for the school year ending on June 30. The Commissioner shall require such reports and maintain such documents as will allow a comparison of the state's K-12 education funding allocations with actual expenditures for each school system.
- (c) The Commissioner shall provide to the State Board on or before October 1 of each year a report of ADM for each LEA for the previous school year.
- (d) The Department of Education shall prepare and report to the State Board final allocations of the state's K-12 education funding formula for each LEA prior to the start of the school year.

(3) Review and Verification.

- (a) The budget submitted by each LEA will be reviewed by the Department of Education to ensure that state funds are not being used to supplant local funds and that each school system has appropriated funds sufficient to fund its local share of the state's K-12 education funding formula.
- (b) Revenue derived from local sources must equal or exceed prior year actual revenues excluding capital outlay and debt service, and adjusted for decline in average daily membership (ADM).
- (c) The Department of Education shall verify that funds generated in the state's K-12 education funding formula are being budgeted for eligible expenses, inclusive of any legal requirements that restrict fund usage. The Commissioner shall advise the State Board of all LEAs which fail to meet these minimum standards by January 15 of each year.
- (d) Each LEA shall provide to the Commissioner or a designated representative copies of all LEA related audit reports, including those made by governmental or independent public accountants.
- (e) The Department of Education shall conduct review and follow-up procedures to ensure that audit exceptions are evaluated and appropriate actions are taken. The Commissioner shall notify the State Board of any material and significant findings which reflect on the ability of the LEA to provide a quality education or which indicate that progress toward satisfactory resolution is not being made.

(4) Audit.

- (a) An Internal Audit Section will be maintained in the Department of Education for the purpose of testing and evaluating LEA administrative and accounting controls, compliance, and financial and program accountability for state and federally funded programs, and for compliance with State Board rules, regulations, and minimum standards. The Internal Audit Section shall make such full and limited scope audits as it deems necessary under the circumstances, and special audits as requested by responsible government officials. The audits will be performed in accordance with standards for the professional practice of internal auditing and with generally accepted governmental auditing standards.
- (b) To provide reasonable assurance that attendance and financial reports are reliable and accurate, the Internal Audit Section shall conduct audit procedures for the review and testing of the attendance accounting system. The Internal Audit Section shall review such programs as necessary to provide reasonable assurance that funds are properly accounted for and safeguarded in accordance with current law, applicable federal standards, and State Board rules, regulations, and minimum standards. Audits shall include evaluating program objectives, grant performance and accountability to determine that each LEA has a system in place to ensure compliance with program regulations and guidelines.
- (c) The Commissioner shall be advised of all audits, including a summary of the scope of the audit, the findings, recommendations, management comments, and conclusions including a determination as to the adequacy of corrective action planned or implemented. The State Board, Director of Schools, and representatives of the Comptroller's Office shall be provided copies of all audits conducted.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-210, 49-1-302, 49-3-316, and Public Chapter 966 of the Public Acts of 2022. Administrative History: Original rule filed November 3, 1993; effective March 30, 1994. Amendment filed June 30, 1995; effective October 27, 1995. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.

* If a roll-call vote was necessary, the vote by the Agency on these rulemaking hearing rules was as follows:

Board Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Signature (if required)
Nick Darnell	x				
Jordan Mollenhour	х				
Bob Eby	х				
Ryan Holt				X	
Warren Wells	x				
Lillian Hartgrove	х				
Nate Morrow	х				
Darrell Cobbins				X	
Larry Jensen				Х	
Victoria Harpool, designee for Interim Executive Director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member.					

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of rulemaking hearing rules, lawfully promulgated and adopted by the State Board of Education on 03/23/2023, and is in compliance with the provisions of T.C.A. § 4-5-222.

Notice of Rulemaking Hearing filed with the Departme Rulemaking Hearing(s) Conducted on: (add more date	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Signature: Name of Officer:	6/23/2023 Angie Sanders General Counsel
Agency/Board/Commission: State Board of Educat Rule Chapter Number(s): 0520-01-02010910.	

All rulemaking hearing rules provided for herein have been examined by the Attorney General and Reporter of the State of Tennessee and are approved as to legality pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

Jonathan Skrmetti Attorney General and Reporter

Date

I further certify the following:

Department of State Use Only

Filed with the Department of State on:	8/28/2023

Effective on: 11/26/2023

Tre Hargett Secretary of State

RECEIVED

Aug 28 2023, 4:00 pm

Secretary of State Division of Publications

Public Hearing Comments

The Tennessee State Board of Education held a public rulemaking hearing on Rules 0520-01-02-.01, .09, .10, and .13 on January 30, 2023, at 500 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN and via Webex. No public comments were submitted at the hearing.

Regulatory Flexibility Addendum

Pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 4-5-401 through 4-5-404, prior to initiating the rule making process, all agencies shall conduct a review of whether a proposed rule or rule affects small business.

These rules do not affect small business.

Impact on Local Governments

Pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 4-5-220 and 4-5-228, "On any rule and regulation proposed to be promulgated, the proposing agency shall state in a simple declarative sentence, without additional comments on the merits or the policy of the rule or regulation, whether the rule or regulation may have a projected financial impact on local governments. The statement shall describe the financial impact in terms of increase in expenditures or decrease in revenues."

These rules have no fiscal impact on local governments beyond the authorizing legislation.

Additional Information Required by Joint Government Operations Committee

All agencies, upon filing a rule, must also submit the following pursuant to T.C.A. § 4-5-226(i)(1).

(A) A brief summary of the rule and a description of all relevant changes in previous regulations effectuated by such rule:

In the 2022 legislative session, Governor Lee proposed, and the Tennessee General Assembly passed the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) Act which will transition the state to a student-based K-12 funding approach starting in the 2023-24 school year.

Due to the passage of TISA, revisions to sections .01, .09, .10 and .13 of the District and School Operations Chapter were necessary to remove specific references to the Basic Education Program (BEP) from the rules and align language with TISA. A deadline for the Department to submit reports to the State Board regarding LEAs which fail to meet minimum budgetary standards was also added to the rules, along with other clerical edits.

(B) A citation to and brief description of any federal law or regulation or any state law or regulation mandating promulgation of such rule or establishing guidelines relevant thereto;

The Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) Act, Chapter 966 of the Public Acts of 2022.

(C) Identification of persons, organizations, corporations or governmental entities most directly affected by this rule, and whether those persons, organizations, corporations or governmental entities urge adoption or rejection of this rule;

These rules have a direct effect on the Department of Education and State Board of Education and both urge adoption. The rules also have a direct effect on local education agencies and public schools. The State Board did not receive any comments from these parties urging adoption or rejection of these rules.

(D) Identification of any opinions of the attorney general and reporter or any judicial ruling that directly relates to the rule or the necessity to promulgate the rule;

None.

(E) An estimate of the probable increase or decrease in state and local government revenues and expenditures, if any, resulting from the promulgation of this rule, and assumptions and reasoning upon which the estimate is based. An agency shall not state that the fiscal impact is minimal if the fiscal impact is more than two percent (2%) of the agency's annual budget or five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), whichever is less;

None beyond the authorizing legislation.

(F) Identification of the appropriate agency representative or representatives, possessing substantial knowledge and understanding of the rule;

Angie Sanders (State Board of Education)

Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Nathan James (State Board of Education)

Nathan.James@tn.gov

Robin Yeh (Department of Education)

Robin.Yeh@tn.gov

(G) Identification of the appropriate agency representative or representatives who will explain the rule at a scheduled meeting of the committees;

Angie Sanders (State Board of Education)

Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Nathan James (State Board of Education)

Nathan.James@tn.gov

Robin Yeh (Department of Education)

Robin.Yeh@tn.gov

(H) Office address, telephone number, and email address of the agency representative or representatives who will explain the rule at a scheduled meeting of the committees; and

Angie Sanders State Board of Education 500 James Robertson Parkway, 8th Floor Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 253-5707

Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Nathan James State Board of Education 500 James Robertson Parkway, 8th Floor Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 532-3528 Nathan.James@tn.gov

Robin Yeh
Department of Education
710 James Robertson Parkway, 9th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
(615) 445-9543
Robin.Yeh@tn.gov

(I) Any additional information relevant to the rule proposed for continuation that the committee requests.

None.

Style Definition: (a),(b),(c)

RULES OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHAPTER 0520-01-02 DISTRICT AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

0520-01-02-.01 APPROVAL OF LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES (LEAS).

- (1) A public school is the basic administrative unit of a state, county, city, or special district school system, consisting of one (1) or more grade groups, one (1) or more teachers to give instruction, and one (1) principal, which school shall be subject to the statutes of the State of Tennessee, and to the rules, regulations, and minimum standards of the State Board of Education (State Board).
- (2) The Department of Education (Department) shall make periodic inspections of the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) under its control. These inspections shall be made to determine the extent to which LEAs operate in compliance with State Board rules and regulations and to verify the information received on reports from local school officials. The Department shall develop and annually notify LEAs of the inspection criteria.
 - (a) Each LEA shall be classified as approved, conditionally approved, or non-approved based on the inspection of the Department. LEAs classified as conditionally approved by the Commissioner of Education shall receive a written explanation of the reasons for such classification and shall be afforded the opportunity to respond. The Commissioner's notification shall include a time by which corrective action shall be completed by the LEA. If such corrective action is not taken within the time specified, the LEA shall be classified as non-approved and the Commissioner shall impose sanctions on the LEA which may, in the Commissioner's discretion, include withholding part or all of funds generated by the state's K-12 funding formula Basic Education Program (BEP) funding to the non-approved LEA.
 - (b) The Department shall make an annual report to the State Board regarding each LEA's compliance with State Board rules and regulations. The report shall include the approval status of each LEA, deficiencies identified by the Department in the approval process, an assessment of action needed to attain approval, LEA response, and sanctions imposed upon LEAs which do not comply.
- (3) The Department shall maintain an internal audit function which shall assist the Department in the inspection of schools. Internal audit reports shall be presented to the Commissioner of Education and the State Board.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-3-306, and 49-3-353. Administrative History: Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed August 20, 1984; effective November 13, 1984. Amendment filed September 26, 1985; effective December 14, 1985. Amendment filed September 20, 1987; effective December 22, 1987. Amendment filed October 18, 1988; effective Junuary 29, 1989. New rule filed February 16, 1989; effective April 2, 1989. Amendment filed July 11, 1990; effective October 29, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Repeal and new rule filed December 5, 2011; effective May 30, 2012. Amendments filed August 20, 2020; effective November 18, 2020.

0520-01-02-.09 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION.

- (1) Alternative education is a non-traditional, short-term academic program or school designed to meet the student's educational, behavioral, and social needs. Alternative education includes alternative schools and alternative programs.
- (2) Alternative school means a short-term intervention program designed to provide educational services outside of the regular school program for students who have been suspended or expelled. Alternative schools are located in a separate facility from the regular school program.
- (3) Alternative program means a short-term intervention program designed to provide educational services outside of the regular school program for students who have been suspended or expelled. Alternative programs may be located within the regular school or be a self-contained program within a school. Alternative programs include, but are not limited to, night schools or in-school suspension.
- (4) Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-3402, local boards of education may establish alternative schools for students in grades one (1) through six (6) who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program.
- (5) Attendance in an alternative school or alternative program shall be voluntary for students in grades one through six (1-6) who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program, unless the local board of education adopts a policy mandating attendance in either instance.
- (6) A local board of education shall establish at least one (1) alternative school for students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) who have been suspended or expelled. Attendance in an alternative school or program is mandatory for students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who have been suspended for more than ten (10) days or expelled from the regular school program if space and staff are available. Space and staff availability shall be determined by the LEA at the time the disciplinary decision is rendered.
 - (a) Attendance in an alternative school or alternative program is not mandatory for students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who have been expelled from the regular school program for committing a zero-tolerance offense. However, this does not prohibit a director of schools, or a director's designee, from assigning a student who has been expelled from the regular school program for committing a zero-tolerance offense to an alternative school or alternative program.
- (7) Students in pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten shall not be assigned to an alternative school or program.
- (8) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy regarding alternative education that is aligned to this rule and the State Board's Alternative Education Policy 2.302.
- (9) Requirements for alternative education:
 - (a) The instruction shall proceed as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instruction al program in the student's regular school. Instruction shall be based on the academic standards adopted by the State Board.
 - (b) All course work and credits earned shall be transferred and recorded in the student's home school, which shall grant credit earned and progress thereon as if earned in the home school.

(Rule 0520-01-02-.09, continued)

- (c) Students shall participate in all required state assessments at sites determined by school officials and in accordance with established guidelines regarding student grade levels and eligibility. State assessment results shall be reported in the LEA where the student was enrolled prior to his or her placement in the alternative school.
- (d) Each alternative school or program shall comply with class size requirements established in T.C.A. § 49-1-104 and instructional and planning time requirements established by the State Board. Nothing shall prohibit an LEA from establishing a lower class size ratio in an alternative school or program.
- (e) The minimum length of the school day for alternative schools and programs shall be six and one-half (61/2) hours.
- (f) LEAs shall monitor and regularly evaluate the academic progress of each student enrolled in an alternative school.
- (g) Students are subject to all rules pertaining to the alternative school or alternative program.
 - The director of schools, or the director's designee, may remove a student from the alternative school or alternative program if the director, or the director's designee, determines that:
 - The student has violated the rules of the alternative school or alternative program; or
 - (ii) The student is not benefiting from the student's assignment to the alternative school or alternative program, and all interventions available to help the student to succeed in the alternative school or alternative program have been exhausted unsuccessfully.
 - A student's removal from the alternative school or alternative program shall not constitute grounds for extending the length of original suspension or expulsion.
 - The director of schools, or the director's designee, shall make the final decision on removal.
- (h) If a student has an active Individualized Education Program (IEP), a 504 plan, or is suspected of having a disability, all state and federal laws and rules relating to students with disabilities and special education shall be followed.
- (i) Prior to the assignment of a student to an alternative school or program, the LEA shall provide written notice, which includes the reason for the student's placement, to the student's parent or guardian. Reasons for placement in an alternative school must be documented. End of year reports must be made to the regular school for each student.
- (j) Each teacher providing instruction to students in an alternative education school or program shall be licensed to teach in Tennessee and shall meet the qualifications to teach in compliance with the rules and regulations of the State Board.
- (k) Alternative schools shall have an appropriately licensed administrator assigned to supervise the school.
- (I) Support services such as counseling and psychological services must be accessible.

(Rule 0520-01-02-.09, continued)

- (m) Each LEA shall develop and implement formal transition plans for the integration of students from a traditional school to an alternative school or from an alternative school back to a traditional school. Transition plans shall be targeted to improve communication between a traditional school and an alternative school staff and should address any barriers that would prohibit students from successfully transitioning. Transition plans shall include aligning of curricula, in-take procedures for students returning to traditional school, professional development opportunities for traditional and alternative school staff, educational and behavioral supports, follow-up for students returning to traditional school, and the development of graduation and postsecondary goals.
- (n) All alternative school classrooms shall have working two-way communication systems that make it possible for teachers or other employees to notify a principal, supervisor, or other administrator that there is an emergency.
- (o) It is the responsibility of the superintendent director of schools to ensure that all alternative school teachers and other employees have been trained to use the two-way communication system and are notified of emergency procedures prior to the beginning of classes for any school year and when changes are made in the emergency procedures and/or personnel. Such emergency procedures shall be linked to the school and school system emergency preparedness plan.
- (p) LEAs shall submit an annual alternative education survey to the Department that provides the following information:
 - 1. Alternative schools or programs currently in operation in the LEA;
 - 2. Number and grade level of students served;
 - 3. Primary reason for student assignment;
 - 4. Number of faculty and staff; and
 - 5. Information required by T.C.A. § 49-6-3405.

(10) Funding:

(a) Students attending an alternative school shall continue to earn <u>funding through the</u> <u>state's K-12 education funding formula Basic-Education Program (BEP) funding</u> for the LEA in which the student is enrolled.

(11) Facilities:

- (a) A local board of education may not contract or otherwise affiliate with an alternative school program which requires an order of a court as a precondition of placement in such alternative school.
- (b) A local board of education may contract with independent contractors to provide alternative school facilities and other appropriate services consistent with T.C.A. § 49-2-202
- (c) A local board of education may establish its own facility.
- (d) Two or more boards may join together and establish an alternative school attended by students from any such LEA.

(Rule 0520-01-02-.09, continued)

(e) Through a mutually accepted agreement with another local board of education, a board may send its suspended or expelled students to an alternative school already existing in another LFA.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-6-3401, 49-6-3402, and 49-6-3405 and Public Chapter 535 of the Acts of the 97th General Assembly, Section 41. Administrative History: Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed February 28, 1978; effective March 30, 1978. Amendment filed January 9, 1979; effective February 23, 1979. Amendment filed April 14, 1980; effective May 28, 1980. Amendment filed June 28, 1984; effective September 11, 1984. Amendment filed January 2, 1986; effective April 15, 1986. Amendment filed May 28, 1986; effective June 27, 1986. Amendment filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed June 24, 1992; effective September 28, 1992. Amendment filed April 18, 1997; effective August 28, 1997. Amendment filed April 27, 1998; effective August 28, 1998. Amendments filed August 20, 2020; effective November 18, 2020.

0520-01-02-.10 HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION.

- (1) Definitions, As used in this rule:
 - (a) "Homebound Instruction Period" means the number of school days that the medical homebound instruction program shall be provided to the student.
 - (b) "Individualized Education Program (IEP) team" means a group of individuals described in 34 C.F.R. § 300.321 that is responsible for developing, reviewing, and/or revising an IEP for a child with a disability.
 - (c) "Medical Condition" means a physical or mental condition, illness, or disorder that prevents a student from attending regular classes and is certified in writing by the student's treating physician.
 - (d) "Medical Homebound Instruction Program" means an instruction program provided at home, hospital, or other related locations to all students, including students with disabilities, who are enrolled in a public school but are unable to attend regular classes due to a medical condition.
 - (e) "Regular Classes" means the classes to which the student has been assigned by the school where the student is enrolled.
 - (f) "Review Team" means Local Education Agency ("LEA") staff and/or school staff, including the student's 504 team or IEP team if applicable, who are familiar with the health and educational needs of the student for whom a medical homebound instruction program is being requested.
 - "Student" means a child enrolled in a Tennessee public school in grades kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12).
 - (h) "Treating Physician" means a person who is licensed under T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 6; T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 9; T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 11; or T.C.A. § 63-23-105 or similar statute in another jurisdiction and who is the professional treating the student for the medical condition requiring medical homebound instruction.
- (2) Medical Homebound Qualification and Placement.
 - (a) Each LEA shall establish a medical homebound instruction program for each student enrolled in the LEA who qualifies. A student qualifies for a medical homebound instruction program if the student's treating physician certifies in writing that the student has a medical condition that prevents the student from attending regular classes. A

(Rule 0520-01-02-,12, continued)

student is prevented from attending regular classes if the student will miss more than ten (10) consecutive instructional days over the period of the school year due to the medical condition. An LEA may also create a policy that allows students who miss an aggregate number of instructional days over the period of the school year due to a medical condition to be eligible for a medical homebound instruction program.

- (b) Once a student has qualified for a medical homebound instruction program, the homebound instruction period shall be determined by the student's review team on a case-by-case basis and shall take into consideration the recommendations of the student's treating physician, if available. Educational decisions regarding the student's medical homebound instruction program shall be determined by the student's review team on a case-by-case basis.
- (c) Decisions regarding students with disabilities who require instruction in the home, hospital, or related site pursuant to an IEP team's determination that the home, hospital, or related site is the child's least restrictive environment are governed by the requirements set forth in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (34 C.F.R. § 300.39; 34 C.F.R. § 300.115) and State Board Rule 0520-01-09-.07 regarding educational homebound placements.
- (3) Medical Homebound Instructional Requirements.
 - (a) A medical homebound instruction program shall consist of a minimum of three (3) hours of instruction per week while school is in session for the homebound instruction period determined by the student's review team.
 - (b) For students receiving special education and related services, the frequency and duration of instruction necessary to provide a free appropriate public education for a student with a disability during a medical homebound instruction program placement shall be determined by the student's IEP team, but shall not be less than the minimum of three (3) hours per week.
 - (c) The student's review team shall consider the student's grade level, academic status, physical abilities, individual academic needs, homebound instruction period, and similar factors when determining the amount of instructional time per week provided to the student under a medical homebound instruction program.
 - (d) The minimum of three (3) hours of instruction per week shall not include travel to and from the student or preparation time. Homebound instruction is measured by the amount of time that the student and the homebound teacher are working together; or, if a student is enrolled in an LEA's virtual program, homebound instruction is only the actual time that the student is engaging in instruction via the virtual program.
 - (e) Homebound instruction shall be provided by a teacher holding a valid Tennessee teacher license as provided in T.C.A. Title 49, Chapter 5.
 - (f) An adult, other than the homebound teacher/instructor, shall be present during the homebound instruction period.
 - (g) The LEA may provide the homebound instruction program by sending a teacher to the student's home, hospital, or related site, by contracting with a hospital or related site to provide educational services to the student in compliance with this rule, or via the LEA's own online or virtual program, if the review team deems it appropriate for the student. The LEA shall verify that the student has all the necessary equipment, access, and training for working via the internet at no additional cost to the student.

(Rule 0520-01-02-.12, continued)

- (4) Recertification for Medical Homebound.
 - (a) A medical homebound instruction program for longer than the initial medical homebound instruction period shall only be provided to a student who is recertified in writing by his or her treating physician as having a medical condition that, in the student's treating physician's judgment, continues to prevent the student from returning to regular classes.
 - (b) The initial medical homebound instruction period and any additional medical homebound instruction period shall be for the number of school days certified by the student's review team.
 - (c) Recertification must be obtained upon the expiration of each additional medical homebound instruction period if medical homebound instruction is to be continued beyond the initial medical homebound instruction period.
- (5) Reentry.
 - (a) Prior to the expiration of the medical homebound instruction period, the review team shall develop a transition plan for the student's reentry into the school environment.
- (6) Attendance and Funding.
 - (a) LEAs are responsible for ensuring the provision of medical homebound instruction to students enrolled in the LEA. Such students shall not be counted absent from school and shall continue to earn funding through the state's K-12 education funding formulaBasic Education Program (BEP) funding for the LEA in which the student is enrolled.
 - (b) IDEA Part B funds may be expended only for instruction of students with disabilities who are placed in a homebound instruction program.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-10-1101, 49-10-1102, and 49-10-1103; 34 C.F.R. § 300.39; and 34 C.F.R. § 300.115. Administrative History: Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed June 10, 1974; effective July 10, 1974. Amendment filed June 30, 1975; effective July 30, 1975. Amendment filed July 15, 1976; effective August 16, 1976. Amendment filed February 28, 1978; effective March 30, 1978. Amendment filed January 9, 1979; effective February 23, 1979. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Repeal and new rule filed May 20, 2019; effective August 18, 2019. Amendments filed April 7, 2021; effective July 6, 2021.

0520-01-02-.13 FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS.

- (1) Data Collection.
 - (a) The Commissioner of Education (Commissioner), in consultation with the Comptroller of the Treasury, shall prescribe a system of school fiscal accounting for all school systems LEAs which ensures that the expenditure of funds is properly accounted for and safeguarded in accordance with current law and State Board of Education rules, regulations, and minimum standards. The Commissioner shall require such reports from school systems. LEAs as are required by federal or state law, State Board of Education rules, or as are otherwise necessary for ensuring fiscal accountability standards.
 - (b) To ensure proper financial reporting of revenue and expenditures for all public school purposes, the system of school fiscal accounting shall include a standard chart of accounts and audit procedures. The standard chart of accounts shall be the basis for the Annual Public School Budget Document <u>(Budget Document)</u>, which shall contain the

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account codes necessary to ensure the capability for meaningful comparisons of school systems. At a minimum, the Budget Document shall be designed to facilitate year-to-year and agency-to-agency comparison, as well as adequately indicating the sources and uses of all funds received by each LEA, include separate account codes for all classroom and non-classroom components of the Basic Education Program (BEP), or for accounts which may be compiled into BEP components, and sufficient revenue account codes to differentiate between federal, state and local revenue.

- (c) The report of actual expenditures shall be the Annual Public School Financial Report

 (Financial Report) and shall include sufficient information to allow an eystem LEA by system LEA comparison of budgeted and actual expenditures for BEP funding within the classroom and non-classroom areas. The Financial Report shall, at a minimum, be designed to facilitate year-to-year and agency-to-agency comparison, as well as adequately indicating the sources and uses of all funds received by each LEA contain account codes identifiable as BEP program components, or accounts which may be compiled into BEP components, and shall differentiate between federal, state and local revenue when reporting actual revenue for the prior year and estimated revenue for budget purposes.
- (d) The Department of Education shall establish procedures for collecting and verifying required data inputsaverage daily memberships for use in determining BEP allocations through the state's K-12 education funding formula.
- (2) Reports & Documents,
 - (a) Within thirty (30) days <u>afteref</u> the beginning of each <u>school fiscal</u> year, each <u>school system LEA</u> shall submit to the Commissioner <u>of Education</u>, on a form provided by the Department of Education, a complete and certified copy of its entire school budget for the current <u>school</u> year.
 - (b) On or before August October 1 of each year, each school system EA shall submit to the Commissioner a correct and accurate financial report of public school revenues and expenditures for the school year ending on June 30. The Commissioner of Education shall require such reports and maintain such documents as will allow a comparison of BEP the state's K-12 education funding allocations with actual expenditures for each school system.
 - (c) The Commissioner shall provide to the State Board of Education on or before October 1 of each year a report of ADM for each school system LEA for the previous school year.
 - (d) The Department of Education shall prepare and report to the State Board of Education shall approve estimated final BEP allocations of the state's K-12 education funding formula for each school systemLEA prior to the start of the school year no less than 90 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year.
 - (e) Modifications, revisions, or corrections to estimated BEP payments to LEAs will be made by the Department of Education and approved by the State Board of Education.
- (3) Review and Verification.
 - (a) The budget submitted by each school system LEA will be reviewed by the Department of Education to ensure that state funds are not being used to supplant local funds and that each school system has appropriated funds sufficient to fund its local share of the state's K-12 education funding formula BEP.

(Rule 0520-01-02-.13, continued)

- (b) Revenue derived from local sources must equal or exceed prior year actual revenues excluding capital outlay and debt service, and adjusted for decline in average daily membership (ADM).
- (c) The Department of Education shall verify that <u>funds generated in the state's K-12 education funding formula BEP funds are being budgeted for eligible expenses, inclusive of any legal requirements that restrict <u>fund usage</u>, and that BEP funds earned in the classroom components, as <u>defined</u> by the State Board of <u>Education</u>, are budgeted for <u>use in the classroom</u>. The Commissioner shall advise the State Board of <u>Education</u> of all eyetems <u>LEAs</u> which fail to meet these minimum standards <u>by January 15 of each year</u>.</u>
- (d) Each school systemLEA shall provide to the Commissioner of Education or a designated representative copies of all school systemLEA related audit reports, including those made by governmental or independent public accountants.
- (e) The Department of Education shall conduct review and follow-up procedures to ensure that audit exceptions are evaluated and appropriate actions are taken. The Commissioner shall notify the State Board of Education of any material and significant findings which reflect on the ability of the LEA to provide a quality education or which indicate that progress toward satisfactory resolution is not being made.

(4) Audit.

- (a) An Internal Audit Section will be maintained in the Department of Education for the purpose of testing and evaluating school system_EA administrative and accounting controls, compliance, and financial and program accountability for state and federally funded programs, and for compliance with State Board of Education rules, regulations, and minimum standards. The Internal Audit Section shall make such full and limited scope audits as it deems necessary under the circumstances, and special audits as requested by responsible government officials. The audits will be performed in accordance with standards for the professional practice of internal auditing and with generally accepted governmental auditing standards.
- (b) To provide reasonable assurance that attendance and financial reports are reliable and accurate, the Internal Audit Section shall conduct audit procedures for the review and testing of the attendance accounting system. The Internal Audit Section shall review such programs as necessary to provide reasonable assurance that funds are properly accounted for and safeguarded in accordance with current law, applicable federal standards, and State Board of Education—rules, regulations, and minimum standards. Audits shall include evaluating program objectives, grant performance and accountability to determine that each LEA has a system in place to ensure compliance with program regulations and quidelines.
- (c) The Commissioner of Education shall be advised of all audits, including a summary of the scope of the audit, the findings, recommendations, management comments, and conclusions including a determination as to the adequacy of corrective action planned or implemented. The State Board—of Education, SuperintendentDirector of Schools, and representatives of the Comptroller's Office shall be provided copies of all audits conducted.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-210, and 49-1-302, 49-3-316, and Public Chapter 966 of the Public Acts of 2022. Administrative History: Original rule filed November 3, 1993; effective March 30, 1994. Amendment filed June 30, 1995; effective October 27, 1995. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.