



# *UASD Membership Benefits and Services*

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## **Membership Services**

Being informed and trained on new and changing statutory and regulatory provisions is critical to the successful governance of any district. *Because of new legislation, by May of 2011, all districts that assess impact fees will be required to be in full compliance with the impact fee law. All small districts will be required to use the Utah Public Notice Website in order to be in compliance with the Open Meetings Law. Most districts will be required to post all of their detailed financial information on the Utah Transparency Website.* **How can district boards and management stay informed and trained on the ever-increasing requirements of government service? *UASD provides the information channels and training opportunities that will help you to be in compliance!***

There is an ever-increasing need for comprehensive governance training for the board members of local and special service districts (districts). State statutes governing districts require annual training of board members and management relating to a variety of issues, including the Open Meetings law and GRAMA requirements. The *Pocket Guide for Board Members* provides answers to key issues. It serves as an important resource, and is available to board members and management as a UASD member.

An understanding of changes to the Ethics law is most important, particularly in light of penalties that have been added or increased in relation to Ethics and Open Meetings laws.

The employment of best management practices has been and continues to be a focus of legislators, as well as the Legislative Auditor General. The training provided by the UASD addresses these important issues and fulfills the training requirements enumerated in statute.

Membership Services include:

- On-site training
- Model policies and procedures
- Web site members-only section
- Resource library
- Newsletter
- Problem-solving assistance
- Public-relations assistance

**OVER**



## **Legislative Services & Governmental Relations**

UASD is the only voice on Capitol Hill that is representing and fighting for all Utah districts, regardless of the services provided, or their affiliation with other organizations.

The UASD reviews and monitors every bill that is introduced into legislation for its potential impact on Utah's districts. This represents a continual effort throughout the year, including the full-time legislative session as well as the interim legislative session. Any bills requiring action are quickly brought to the attention of the UASD Legislative Committee and Board of Directors in order to determine the Association's position on each respective issue. These bills then become the focus of Association lobbying efforts to achieve an outcome favorable to districts.

The UASD is involved in collaborative efforts with all local government service providers, such as the Utah League of Cities and Towns, and the Utah Association of Counties. These relationships create an effective consortium in addressing common issues faced by districts.

Legislative Services and Governmental Relations include the following items:

### **Legislative Services**

- Direct access to the Legislature
- Constant monitoring of the legislative process
- Monitoring of state rule making
- Participation in coalitions
- Education of Legislators
- Coordination with affiliated organizations
- Comprehensive weekly legislative update during the general legislative session
- Representation and updates as needed during the interim legislative session

### **Governmental Relations**

- Liaison with State agencies
- Advocacy with State departments
- Constituent affairs
- Information and education on audit issues
- Referrals for funding sources