

## INSTITUTIONAL ROLES AND MISSIONS

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One of the Utah Board of Higher Education’s core responsibilities is to “establish, approve, and oversee each institution’s mission and role.” The Legislature establishes basic categories of roles, and the Board expands and clarifies those roles through policy. The statutory and expanded policy roles are listed below, along with statutory definitions, each institution’s mission, assigned service regions, and institutional partners.

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### STATUTORY DEFINITIONS

#### [53B-1-101.5](#)

**Academic education** means an educational program that is offered by a degree-granting institution. Academic education does not include technical education.

**Career and technical education** means an educational program that is designed to meet industry needs, leads to a certificate or a degree, and may qualify for funding under the Carl D. Perkins Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act.

**Degree-granting institution of higher education** or **degree-granting institution** means an institution of higher education described in [53B-1-102\(1\)\(a\)](#) as follows:

- The University of Utah
- Utah State University
- Weber State University
- Southern Utah University
- Snow College
- Utah Tech University
- Utah Valley University
- Salt Lake Community College

**Technical college** means an institution of higher education [53B-1-102\(1\)\(b\)](#) as follows:

- Bridgerland Technical College
- Davis Technical College
- Dixie Technical College
- Mountainland Technical College
- Ogden-Weber Technical College
- Southwest Technical College
- Tooele Technical College
- Uintah Basin Technical College

**Technical education** means career and technical education that leads to an institutional certificate or is short-term training. Technical education does not include general education.

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## ROLES AND MISSIONS

### RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

**Statutory Role (53B-16-101):** Provide undergraduate, graduate, and research programs.

**Policy Role (R312):** A research university's role is to provide undergraduate, graduate and research programs and to discover, create, and transmit knowledge through academic programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels with an emphasis on teaching, research, and outreach. Articulation agreements allow students to seamlessly transfer within the system. The research institutions contribute to the quality of life and economic development at the local, state, and national levels. Many research efforts generate grants and contracts that also expand economic development. Research Universities have a responsibility to provide access to students from all parts of the state.

#### *University of Utah*

**Mission (R312):** The University of Utah fosters student success by preparing students from diverse backgrounds for lives of impact as leaders and citizens. We generate and share new knowledge, discoveries, and innovations, and we engage local and global communities to promote education, health, and quality of life. These contributions, in addition to responsible stewardship of our intellectual, physical, and financial resources, ensure the long-term success and viability of the institution.

**Service Region (R315):** Salt Lake County, Summit County (Park City Only)

#### *Utah State University*

**Mission (R312):** The mission of Utah State University is to be one of the nation's premier student-centered land grant and space grant universities by fostering the principle that academics come first; by cultivating diversity of thought and culture; and by serving the public through learning, discovery, and engagement. Utah State University delivers associate's, bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees throughout its state-wide system as well as credit and non-credit technical education in the Southeastern region of the state. The institution also has a robust non-credit continuing education program.

**Service Region (R315):** Cache, Rich, Box Elder, Duchesne, Uintah, Daggett, Tooele, Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan.

**Technical College Partners (53B-2a-112):** Bridgerland Technical College, Tooele Technical College, Uintah Basin Technical College

### REGIONAL UNIVERSITY

**Statutory Role (53B-16-101):** Provide career and technical education, undergraduate associate and baccalaureate degrees, and select master's degree programs to fill regional demands.

**Policy Role (R312):** The regional university's role is to provide open-access academic and career and technical education, undergraduate associate and baccalaureate programs and select graduate degree programs to fill regional or state workforce demands. Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are designed to meet workforce needs, lead to a certificate or degree, and include general education coursework. Articulation agreements allow students to transfer seamlessly from institutions offering Technical Education to CTE and academic pathways. Regional universities emphasize teaching, scholarly, and creative achievements that complement pedagogy, learning, and community service. The institution is a leading contributor to the quality of life and economic development at the local and state levels. Student success is supported through developmental programs and services associated with a comprehensive community college.

### ***Weber State University***

**Mission (R312):** Weber State University provides transformative educational experiences for students of all identities and backgrounds through meaningful personal connections with faculty and staff in and out of the classroom. The university promotes student achievement, equity and inclusion, and vibrant community relationships through multiple credentials and degree pathways, experiential learning, research, civic engagement, and stewardship.

**Service Region (R315):** Weber, Morgan, Davis

**Technical College Partners (53B-2a-112):** Davis Technical College, Ogden-Weber Technical College

### ***Southern Utah University***

**Mission (R312):** In an increasingly science-based world, Southern Utah University provides scientific education in learning environments that encourage exploration, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication; preparing students and the community to be scientifically literate citizens.

**Service Region (R315):** Iron, Garfield, Beaver

**Technical College Partners (53B-2a-112):** Southwest Technical College

### ***Utah Valley University***

**Mission (R312):** Utah Valley University is an integrated university and community college that educates every student for success in work and life through excellence in engaged teaching, services, and scholarship.

**Service Region (R315):** Utah, Wasatch, Summit (Concurrent Enrollment only within Park City)

**Technical College Partners (53B-2a-112):** Mountainland Technical College

### ***Utah Tech University***

**Mission (R312):** Utah Tech University is an open, inclusive, comprehensive, polytechnic university featuring active and applied learning to advance students' knowledge and skills while fostering competent, resilient, lifelong learners to success in their careers and personal lives as creators, innovators, and responsible citizens.

**Service Region (R315):** Washington, Kane

**Technical College Partners (53B-2a-112):** Dixie Technical College

## **COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Statutory Role (53B-16-101):** Provide associate programs.

**Policy Role (R312):** The comprehensive community college's role is to provide affordable and open enrollment to community members, ensuring equitable access to higher education. Community colleges focus on teaching and applied learning environments, transmitting knowledge and skills which prepare students to enter the workforce or transfer seamlessly to stackable degree programs. Comprehensive community colleges provide education through:

- Academic and career and technical education culminating in certificates and associate degrees
- Developmental education
- Strong student services to support all functions

The institution emphasizes teaching, training, scholarly, professional, and creative achievement, and community service and contributes to the quality of life and economic development of the community and the state.

### ***Snow College***

**Mission (R312):** Snow College continues a tradition of excellence, encourages a culture of innovation, and cultivates an atmosphere of engagement to advance students in the achievement of their educational goals.

**Service Region (R315):** Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne, Piute, Millard, Juab

### ***Salt Lake Community College***

**Mission (R312):** Salt Lake Community College is your community college. We engage and support students in educational pathways leading to successful transfer and meaningful employment.

**Service Region (R315):** Salt Lake for certificate, applied associate and associate degrees

## DEGREE-GRANTING INSTITUTION WITH A TECHNICAL COLLEGE ROLE

### *Salt Lake Community College*

**Statutory Role (53B-16-209):** Provide technical education with an emphasis primarily on open-entry, open-exit programs at low cost to adult students and no tuition cost to secondary students that will result in appropriate licensing, certification, or other evidence of completion of training, and qualification for specific employment, with an emphasis on high demand, high wage, and high skill jobs in business and industry.

**Secondary Service Region:** Salt Lake

### *Snow College*

**Statutory Role (53B-16-205):** Provide, through the Snow College Richfield Campus, for open-entry, open-exit competency-based technical education programs, at a low cost tuition rate for adults and at no tuition cost to secondary students, that emphasize short-term job training or retraining for immediate placement in the job market.

**Secondary Service Region:** Juab School District, Millard School District, Tintic School District, North Sanpete School District, South Sanpete School District, Wayne School District, Piute School District, and Sevier School District

### *Utah State University*

**Statutory Role (53B-16-207):** Provide for open-entry, open-exit competency-based technical education programs, at a low-cost tuition rate for adults and at no tuition cost to secondary students, that emphasize short-term job training or retraining for immediate placement in the job market

**Secondary Service Region:** For Utah State University Eastern, the Carbon School District and the Emery School District; for Utah State University Blanding, the San Juan School District; and for Utah State University Moab, the Grand School District.

## TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**Statutory Role (53B-16-101):** Provide technical education.

**Policy Role:** Technical colleges meet the needs of Utah's employers for technically skilled workers and promote local and statewide economic development by providing market-driven technical education to secondary and post-secondary students. Programs lead to

institutional certificates and industry credentials, where applicable, but do not include general education. Technical colleges deliver competency-based instruction, allowing students to progress quickly and affordably with recognition of prior education, skill, and experience. Articulation agreements are in place with secondary education partners to reduce the duplication of course work for students. Pathway agreements with post-secondary college and university partners also provide opportunities for students to progress in their education.

Only technical colleges or statutorily authorized institutions may provide technical education without authorization from the Board.

### ***Bridgerland Technical College***

**Mission:** The mission of the Bridgerland Technical College is to deliver competency-based, employer-guided career and technical education to both secondary and post-secondary students through traditional and technology-enhanced methodologies. This hands-on technical education provides occupational education, skills training, and workforce development to support the educational and economic development of the Bear River Region.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Box Elder, Cache, Logan, Rich

**Regional Degree-granting Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Utah State University

### ***Davis Technical College***

**Mission:** We are a trusted learning community embracing technical education to promote student development and economic growth.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Davis, Morgan

**Regional Degree-granting Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Weber State University

### ***Dixie Technical College***

**Mission:** For students who want to improve their lives by improving their employability, Dixie Tech provides current, relevant industry-driven training in a professional and demanding environment, Dixie Tech certificates, and nationally recognized certifications or licensure, indicating competence and work readiness to potential employers.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Washington

**Regional Degree-granting Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Utah Tech University

### ***Mountainland Technical College***

**Mission:** To enhance the employability of individuals through market-driven career and technical education.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Alpine, Nebo, Provo, South Summit, North Summit, Wasatch, Park City

**Regional Post-Secondary Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Utah Valley University

### ***Ogden-Weber Technical College***

**Mission:** We build a prosperous community by creating a technically-skilled workforce one student at a time.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Ogden, Weber

**Regional Degree-granting Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Weber State University

### ***Southwest Technical College***

**Mission:** Southwest Technical College provides education and job skill training through individualized competency-based programs in response to the needs of students, employers and the communities we serve.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane

**Regional Post-Secondary Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Southern Utah University

### ***Tooele Technical College***

**Mission:** The Tooele Technical College provides rewarding, competency-based, affordable, and accessible career preparation for youth and adults to meet the needs of Utah employers.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Tooele

**Regional Degree-granting Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Utah State University

### ***Uintah Basin Technical College***

**Mission:** Uintah Basin Technical College provides technical education and training for secondary and adult students, to fulfill labor market needs, and promote economic development in the Uintah Basin.

**Secondary Service Region ([53B-2a-105](#)):** Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah

**Regional Degree-granting Partner ([53B-2a-112](#)):** Utah State University