

Attachment 1: Passed Bills

HOUSE BILLS		
<i>*High-impact bills are highlighted in yellow</i>		
Bill	Impacts on Higher Education	Near-Term Action Items
<u>HB 1</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHER EDUCATION BASE BUDGET</p> <p>Appropriates to the Board (line 1454) \$60,452,700 for the degree-granting institution cut and strategic reinvestment exercise outlined in <u>HB 265</u>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BOARD</p> <p>If a degree-granting institution’s HB 265 strategic reinvestment plan is approved by the Board, Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee, and Executive Appropriations Committee (earliest: September 2025), disburse the funding described in lines 1454-1464 of the bill accordingly.</p>
<u>HB 40</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOL SAFETY AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Adds the Commissioner or Commissioner’s designee to the School Security Task Force membership.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER</p> <p>Participate on the School Security Task Force or select a designee.</p>
<u>HB 131</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">TALENT READY UTAH PROGRAM AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Clarifies the allowed membership of an advisory council and types of talent initiatives to include engineering and computer technology.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TRU</p> <p>Create the engineering and computer technology advisory council.</p>
<u>HB 142</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">SERVICE MEMBER AND VETERAN AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Removes the residency requirement for in-state tuition at USHE institutions for active military members, veterans, and their families.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE</p> <p>Amend Board Policy <u>R513: Tuition Waivers and Reductions</u>, accordingly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INSTITUTIONS</p> <p>Review financial aid policies, practices, processes, and individual residency</p>

		statuses, and amend as necessary to ensure compliance with this law.
HB 260	FIRST CREDENTIAL PROGRAM See memo	See memo
HB 265	HIGHER EDUCATION STRATEGIC REINVESTMENT See memo	See memo
HB 269	PRIVACY PROTECTIONS IN SEX-DESIGNATED AREAS Requires that a degree-granting institution that provides student housing may only rent to, assign, or otherwise place an individual in a dwelling unit within student housing that is sex-designated if the individual's sex corresponds with the sex designation of the dwelling unit. If an accusation is made that an individual was incorrectly assigned to a dwelling unit, the individual in question may use, as evidence as defense against the allegation, the individual's unamended birth certificate that corresponds with the sex designation of the dwelling unit. The requirements of this bill do not apply to an intersex individual. This bill does not apply to student housing dwelling units that are designated as unisex or single occupancy. Nothing in this section prohibits a degree-granting institution from offering a student housing dwelling unit that is not sex-designated if the institution only assigns or places an individual in the dwelling unit who seeks a dwelling unit that is not sex-designated.	BOARD, COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE Make policies or provide guidance regarding institution's student housing; include guidance for complying with the bill and address practices to ensure individual privacy within institutional student housing. INSTITUTIONS Adjust student housing policies and practices as necessary to comport with the bill and USHE guidance.
HB 390	RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION For student-organized clubs that are recognized by the institution or seeking recognition from the institution, prevents the institution from denying the student club any benefit or privilege that is available to any other student club, or discriminating against the student club, because of:	INSTITUTIONS Ensure institutional policies and practices comport with this bill.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The club’s religious, political, or ideological identity/affiliation; • A student club’s or its member’s engagement in protected expressive activity, or; • A requirement that a leader of the student organization affirms or adheres to the sincerely held beliefs of the student organization, complies with a standard of conduct the student organization establishes, or furthers the mission, purpose, or standards of conduct of the student organization. 	
<p><u>HB 447</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">STATEWIDE CATALYST CAMPUS MODEL</p> <p><i>CATALYST GRANT PROGRAM:</i> Establishes a grant program (through \$65M ongoing from the public education stabilization fund) for LEAs to create or expand catalyst centers. Requires USBE to administer the grant program.</p> <p><i>COLLABORATION WITH HIGHER EDUCATION:</i> Requires that an LEA applying for the grant shall outline steps to establish or enhance partnerships with technical colleges and degree-granting institutions to support postsecondary transition for students. Requires the grant director at USBE to prioritize an LEA that collaborates with local postsecondary institutions and industry. Provides that the grant director may collaborate with USHE and the First Credential Oversight Committee. Allows an LEA to propose a catalyst center collocated on the campus of a higher education institution if the application includes evidence of an agreement between the LEA and the institution. Provides that an LEA that receives a grant may coordinate and collaborate with UBHE or an individual institution of higher education.</p> <p><i>TRU RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MARKETING AND OUTREACH:</i> Requires Talent Ready Utah and ULEAD at USBE to collaborate with USBE to develop and execute a marketing and outreach plan for the Catalyst</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE</p> <p>As requested, coordinate with an LEA that receives a grant.</p> <p>As requested, coordinate with the grant director at USBE as they develop and administer the grant program.</p> <p>TRU: With ULEAD, execute a marketing and outreach plan for the grant program and submit an annual report to USBE outlining the number of LEAs reached through marketing efforts, a description of outreach activities and events conducted, and feedback from LEAs regarding program accessibility and clarity.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INSTITUTIONS</p> <p>Continue to foster partnerships with LEAs in the institution’s service region as they apply for grants and implement plans under this section. As requested, coordinate with an LEA that receives a grant.</p>

	<p>Center Grant Program. Requires TRU and ULEAD to submit an annual report to USBE outlining the number of LEAs reached through marketing efforts, a description of outreach activities and events conducted, and feedback from LEAs regarding program accessibility and clarity.</p>	
<p><u>HB 479</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">STUDENT ATHLETE REVISIONS</p> <p><i>Abusive Coaching Policies:</i> Requires a degree-granting institution to create a policy regarding abusive coaching practices (see bill for definitions and parameters). Requires the institution's board of trustees to review and adopt these policies no later than November 7, 2025. Requires the board of trustees to submit their policy to the Utah Board of Higher Education (for information purposes, UBHE does not approve). Requires the institution to submit its policy to the Education Interim Committee by its November interim meeting.</p> <p>Requires an institution to establish procedures to notify an individual of the receipt of an abusive coaching complaint within five business days after the submission of the complaint, and initiate an investigation of the complaint no later than 30 days after the receipt of a complaint. Require an institution to ensure the investigation is as thorough and expeditious as possible and, where appropriate, act immediately to stop a program under an athletic department until the institution is able to restore an environment that is not harmful.</p> <p><i>Name, Image, and Likeness:</i> Establishes that an institution of higher education may compensate a student athlete directly for the use of the student's name image and likeness (NIL). Specifies that compensation cannot come from student fees or funds appropriated by the legislature.</p> <p>Clarifies that a student athlete is not an employee of the institution by virtue of participating in collegiate athletics or receiving NIL payments from an institution.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">INSTITUTIONS</p> <p>By November 7, 2025, ensure the institution has an abusive coaching policy and practices that comport with this bill.</p> <p>Submit abusive coaching policy to the Board and Education Interim no later than the November interim meetings.</p> <p>Update any institutional policies that may conflict with this bill's provisions around NIL payments or may preclude institutions from making NIL payments to athletes as permitted under this law.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BOARD, COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE</p> <p>Beginning in FY 2028 and every five years thereafter, conduct an audit of each institution's NIL payments to athletes and submit a written report to Education Interim and HEAS.</p>

	<p>Requires the Board, starting in FY 2028, to conduct an audit every five years of each degree-granting institution regarding the money the institution expends to directly compensate athletes for NIL. The Board must submit a written report about these audits to Education Interim and the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee.</p> <p>For both students and institutions, provides protections from certain potential adverse actions from athletics entities.</p>	
<p><u>HB 530</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">UTAH INNOVATION LAB MODIFICATIONS</p> <p>Reorganizes the Utah Innovation Lab into the Nucleus Institute. Provides for an executive director of the Nucleus Institute (appointed by the Commissioner) and requires the formation of a Nucleus Institute board of directors (consisting of the executive director as chair, director of Talent Ready Utah, and five individuals with relevant experience jointly appointed by the Commissioner, Nucleus Institute executive director, and TRU director). Amends the governance structure of the Utah Innovation Fund and requires a five-person investment committee for the fund (appointed by the Nucleus Institute board). Outlines the duties of the Nucleus Institute board and executive director, and the Utah Innovation Fund committee. Requires that UBHE will provide the Nucleus Institute, by agreement and with reasonable charges or fees, administrative support, office facilities, and space.</p> <p>Requires the Nucleus Institute, in coordination with UBHE and the Commissioner, to promote efficiency and support of the USHE commercialization efforts.</p> <p>Specifies requirements around auditing of the Utah Innovation Fund.</p> <p>Specifies that the Nucleus Institute and the Utah Innovation Fund are not subject to GRAMA.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER</p> <p>Appoint the executive director of the Nucleus Institute.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER, NUCLEUS INSTITUTE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND TRU DIRECTOR</p> <p>Jointly appoint the Nucleus Institute board of directors.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NUCLEUS INSTITUTE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p> <p>Chair the board of directors</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TRU DIRECTOR</p> <p>Participate on Nucleus Institute Board.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NUCLEUS INSTITUTE BOARD</p> <p>Appoint the Utah Innovation Fund investment committee.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE, BOARD</p> <p>Enter into an agreement with the Nucleus Institute to provide administrative support, office facilities, and space for the institute.</p>

SENATE BILLS

**High-impact bills are highlighted in yellow*

Bill	Impacts on Higher Education	Near-Term Action Items
<p><u>SB 17</u></p>	<p align="center">SERVICES FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES</p> <p>Provides in-state residency for tuition purposes at an institution of higher education for a US Department of Defense employee and the employee’s family.</p>	<p align="center">COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE</p> <p>Amend Board Policy R513: Tuition Waivers and Reductions accordingly.</p> <p align="center">INSTITUTIONS</p> <p>Review financial aid policies, practices, processes, and individual residency statuses, and amend as necessary to ensure compliance with this law.</p>
<p><u>SB 129</u></p>	<p align="center">HIGHER EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AREAS</p> <p>Authorizes degree-granting institutions to designate one development area consisting of property owned by the institution. Requires the institution’s board of trustees to obtain approval from UBHE on the proposed geographic area.</p> <p>Requires that a board of trustees member may not participate in the development action if the member or a family member owns an interest in, is directly affiliated with, or is an employee or officer of a private firm, company, or other entity that is likely to participate in or receive a direct financial benefit from the development agreement.</p> <p>Requires the treasurer of the county in which the leased property is located to collect privilege tax from the lessee and distribute 80% of the privilege tax revenue to the eligible university.</p>	<p align="center">INSTITUTIONAL BOARDS OF TRUSTEES</p> <p>Obtain approval from the Board on proposed geographic area of development area.</p> <p>Provide notice of public meeting before adopting a designation resolution.</p> <p>Deliver a copy of the designation resolution within 30 days of adoption to the clerk of the municipality and the assessor, treasurer, or auditor of the county.</p> <p>Upon adoption of the resolution, establish a separate fund related to the development area.</p> <p>Following the adoption of a designated resolution, submit an annual written summary report to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee by September 30.</p> <p align="center">BOARD</p>

		Review proposals regarding geographic area submitted by the institutional boards of trustees.
SB 198	<p align="center">FEDERAL GUIDANCE LETTER AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Requires a state agency to publish federal guidance letter information on the state agency’s website and the Utah Open Data Portal Website and transmit copies of the federal guidance letter to the Legislative Management Committee and chairs of the legislature’s Federalism Commission within 15 days of receiving the guidance.</p> <p>When/if a state agency receives notice that a federal guidance letter it published to the website and submitted to the legislature has been rescinded, the state agency must publish to the same websites written communication indicating the federal guidance letter has been rescinded and a disclaimed linked to the federal guidance letter notifying the public of the rescission. This information must also be transmitted to the legislatures Management Committee and legislature's Federalism Commission. These requirements also must be performed within 15 days of getting notice from the federal government of the rescission.</p> <p>“Federal guidance letter” does not include peer to peer communication and written communications between a federal agency and a state agency regarding a specific entity.</p>	<p align="center">COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE</p> <p>Create a page on ushe.edu to serve as a repository of links to federal guidance letters. Post federal guidance letters to this page and transmit the letters to the appropriate legislative entities in compliance with this bill.</p>
SB 154	<p align="center">LEGISLATIVE AUDIT AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Clarifies that, as directed by the Legislative Audit Subcommittee, the office may review and monitor the System, Board, and USHE institutions, identify areas for greater efficiencies and effectiveness, and establish a list of high-risk programs and operations. Clarifies that the System, Board, and institutions shall provide materials and information necessary to conduct such audits.</p>	<p align="center">BOARD, COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE, AND INSTITUTIONS</p> <p>Continue to cooperate with OLAG during audits.</p>
SB 277	<p align="center">GOVERNMENT RECORDS MANAGEMENT AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Creates the Government Records Office within the Division of Archives and Records Service</p>	<p>No immediate action needed; information item only.</p>

	and replaces the State Records Committee with the director of the Office, who is an attorney with knowledge and experience related to GRAMA.	
<u>SB 282</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHER EDUCATION HIRING AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Requires a USHE presidential search committee to review prospective candidates and forward three finalists to the Board. Exempts the search committee from the Open and Public Meetings Act.</p> <p>Removes the previous statutory requirement that presidential finalists be publicly named. Retains the requirement that the Board take final action on appointing a president in an open meeting. Retains the Board’s authority to decline to hire from the recommended list of finalists and reconstitute a new search committee or direct the search committee to begin the search again.</p> <p>Codifies requirements around confidentiality for presidential search committee members.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE, BOARD</p> <p>Update Board Policy <u>R203: Presidential Search Committee Requirements and Board’s Selection of Presidents</u> to reflect these new statutory changes.</p>
<u>SB 330</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">COSMETOLOGY MODIFICATIONS</p> <p>Restructures the licensing standards for certain professions under the Cosmetology and Associated Professions Licensing Act.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BOARD, COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE</p> <p>Consider engaging a curriculum alignment group to assess appropriate curricular responses to these statutory changes.</p>
<u>SB 334</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">CENTER FOR CIVIC EXCELLENCE AT UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY</p> <p>Establishes the Center for Civic Excellence as a pilot program responsible for providing general education at Utah State University. The Center is responsible for developing curriculum and for governing faculty over general education curriculum. Specifies the maximum number of credits and the nature of general education coursework that must be offered under the pilot program.</p> <p>Requires that the Center be housed in the office of the USU provost and provides for a vice provost to oversee the Center, who shall appoint faculty to the Center’s curriculum committee, oversee the Center’s general</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>Operationalize the Center for Civic Excellence pilot in accordance with the bill.</p> <p>Submit an annual report regarding the Center’s activities to the provost, president, and Commissioner.</p> <p>Report to the Education Interim Committee by July 1, 2029, on the implementation and activities of the Center.</p> <p>Report, before July 1, 2029, pilot program educational outcomes, impacts, and recommendations to the Board.</p>

	<p>education development, recruit and approve appointments of affiliate instructors who will hold exclusive responsibility for teaching general education courses, approve syllabi from affiliate instructors, develop and manage performance expectations of affiliate instructors, and manage and review the approval of petitions for exceptions for general education requirements.</p> <p>Requires the vice provost leading the Center to submit an annual report to the USU provost, USU president, and the Commissioner.</p> <p>Requires the Commissioner to annually report on the Center to Education Interim.</p> <p>Requires the Center to report to the Education Interim Committee by July 1, 2029, on the implementation and activities of the Center.</p> <p>Requires the Center to report, before July 1, 2029, pilot program educational outcomes, impacts, and recommendations for the Board to consider, in consultation with various institutional stakeholders and experts, in developing a core of Systemwide general education courses.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER</p> <p>Annually report to the Education Interim Committee on the Center's activities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BOARD</p> <p>Consider program outcomes to develop a proposed core of system-wide general education courses in consultation with academic experts, pedagogical specialists, and institutional stakeholders.</p>
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