


College and Career Pathways: After High School

Have you wondered what options are available to your student after high school?

Utah's goal is for all students to graduate from high school ready for college, careers and life, to pursue the future of their choosing. Ninety-five percent of new jobs created since the Great Recession (2008) require a college education, yet only half of Utah's population has a college degree or high-quality certificate. "Most students will need to earn a post-secondary credential...to achieve a family-sustaining wage in today's economy."

Take some time to check out these postsecondary pathways.

Depending on the student's career plans, some colleges may be a better fit than others. Many Utah colleges are open enrollment, meaning all you need is a high school diploma to enroll (no GPA or ACT requirements). Below is a list of universities, colleges and technical colleges in Utah. **Be sure to talk with teachers and school counselors about these options.**

Technical Colleges In Utah	Community Colleges In Utah
<p>WHAT IS IT? Technical colleges offer shorter certificate programs (including stackable credentials*) designed to qualify students to work in a variety of occupational fields. Technical colleges can allow students to quickly start a job with a living wage in a high demand skill or trade. A technical college may be a separate institution or may be part of a larger community college or university. These certificate programs can be earned during or after high school.</p>	<p>WHAT IS IT? Community colleges offer certificates, stackable credentials* and associate degrees at a lower cost than most universities. They often have smaller class sizes as well. Community colleges offer job training programs that can get students quickly into the workforce, general education and major courses that can later transfer to a university for a bachelor degree.</p>
<p>Bridgerland Technical College btech.edu 435-753-6780</p>	<p>Ensign College ensign.edu 801-524-8100</p>
<p>Dixie Technical College dixietech.edu 435-674-8400</p>	<p>Salt Lake Community College slcc.edu 801-957-3391</p>
<p>Ogden-Weber Technical College otech.edu 801-627-8300</p>	<p>Snow College snow.edu 435-283-7000</p>
<p>Tooele Technical College tooeletech.edu 435-248-1800</p>	
<p>Mountainland Technical College mtec.edu 801-753-6282</p>	
<p>Davis Technical College davistech.edu 801-593-2500</p>	
<p>Southwest Technical College stech.edu 435-586-2899</p>	
<p>Uintah Basin Technical College ubtech.edu 435-722-6900</p>	

* Stackable credentials build competencies through shorter, more affordable courses/certificates that help students progress through a career (steppingstones to further education).

Regional Universities in Utah	Research Universities in Utah
<p>WHAT IS IT? Regional universities offer associate, bachelor and master degrees. Some regional universities offer career and technical education programs such as certificates and associate degrees.</p>	<p>WHAT IS IT? Private and state research universities generate research and produce graduate students. They offer the same programs/degrees as many other types of colleges; their ultimate goal is to examine specialized fields of study and offer graduate degrees.</p>
<p>Dixie State University dixie.edu 435-652-7500</p>	<p>Brigham Young University byu.edu 801-422-4636</p>
<p>Southern Utah University suu.edu 435-586-7700</p>	<p>University of Utah utah.edu 801-581-7200</p>
<p>Utah Valley University uvu.edu 801-863-8000</p>	<p>Utah State University usu.edu 435-797-1000</p>
<p>Weber State University weber.edu 801-626-6000</p>	<p>Westminster College westminstercollege.edu 801-832-2200</p>

¹ Utah System of Higher Education. (2019). Utah System of Higher Education 2018 annual report. Retrieved from https://ushe.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2018_USHE-Annual-Report.pdf

² Bromberg, M. & Theokas, C. (2016, March 31). Meandering toward graduation: Transcript outcomes of high school graduates. Retrieved March 24, 2021, from <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED566663>

Definitions of Types of Credentials/Degrees

Open Enrollment: Most Utah’s colleges are open enrollment, meaning all you need is a high school diploma to enroll.

Certificate/Technical Degree:

The programs at technical college/trade school provide practical, specific skills to begin a career, upon completion of the program or necessary certification. Students can begin this process in high school.

Associate Degree: An associate degree is a foundational degree that can help students achieve academic and professional goals in less time than it takes to earn a bachelor degree. It aims to give students the basic technical and academic knowledge and transferable skills they need to go on to employment or further study in their chosen field. Transfer credits from a two-year associate program can count toward general education, core, and elective classes for the four-year degree.

Bachelor Degree: A bachelor degree is an undergraduate degree where learners study a specific subject, such as economics, biology, or communications. This degree will equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to pursue various careers. Many students enroll in bachelor programs directly after high school. It typically takes four years of full-time study to complete - encompassing 120 semester credits or around 40 college courses.

Master Degree: A master degree is postgraduate academic studies for individuals with a bachelor degree. It typically focuses on a specific field of study or area of professional practice.

Doctorate Degree: A doctorate degree is an advanced graduate or professional degree that demonstrates mastery in a particular subject area. They are the highest possible degrees available in their field.

(Continued)

Types of Credentials/Degrees Offered at Each Institution

Name of Utah College	Open Enrollment	Certificates	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Master Degree	Doctorate (PhD)
Bridgerland Technology College	■	■				
Brigham Young University (Private)				■	■	■
Davis Technical College	■	■				
Dixie State University	■	■	■	■	■	
Dixie Technical College	■	■				
Ensign Business College (Private)		■	■			
Mountainland Technical College	■	■				
Ogden Technical College	■	■				
Salt Lake Community College	■	■	■			
Snow College**	■	■	■	■		
Southern Utah University	■	■	■	■	■	
Southwest Technical College	■	■				
Tooele Technical College	■	■				
Uintah Basin Technical College	■	■				
University of Utah				■	■	■
Utah State University—Logan		■	■	■	■	■
Utah State University—Regional Campuses	■	■	■	■	■	■
Utah Valley University	■	■	■	■	■	
Weber State University*	■	■	■	■	■	■
Westminster College *(Private)				■	■	■

*Doctorate of Nursing is the only doctorate coursework offered at Weber State University and Westminster College.

**Snow College awards two Bachelor degrees: Bachelor of Music with an emphasis in Commercial Music and Bachelor of Software Engineering."

The Utah College Guide is an excellent resource in preparing students for college and covers all major aspects—planning, paying and choosing the right college (published by Utah Higher Education Association—USHE). https://ushe.edu/wp-content/uploads/pdf/k-12/college_guide-english.pdf