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**UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

[schools.utah.gov](http://schools.utah.gov)

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For Immediate Release

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## Utah Students to Participate Today in Virtual Healthcare Interactive

**SALT LAKE CITY**—On Monday, February 13, 2012 Utah Career and Technical Education (CTE) high school students across the state will participate in a [Virtual Healthcare Interactive](#) (VHI) live broadcast, in partnership with the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) and Intermountain Healthcare. The two-hour event begins with students watching a pre-recorded Artificial Heart/LVAD surgery followed by a live chat with physicians using real time technology.

There will be 11 broadcast sites with approximately 300 students participating from 11 school districts and 32 high schools, including those within technology centers. The participating school districts are: Cache, Canyons, Granite, Iron, Jordan, Kane, Nebo, Park City, Sevier, Tooele, and Wasatch. The participating high schools/technology centers are: Brighton, Canyons Technical Center, Granite Technical Institute, Jordan Applied Technology Center, Lake Powell, North Sevier, Park City, Payson, Sky View, Southwest Applied Technology Center, Tooele Community Learning Center, and Wasatch.

The Virtual Healthcare Interactive is an annual event that engages students through technology and allows hospitals to bring students into their environment with limited liability exposure and minimal interruption to the hospital.

USOE Health Science Education Specialist Tara Bell says, “Because of HIPAA and other hospital regulations, it is very hard for students to do job shadows and internships in a hospital setting.

With Virtual Healthcare Interactive, students not only learn about the different careers involved in patient care, they get to virtually step into an operating room. VHI allows for opportunities that students would not normally have through the pre-event activities, the pre-event site visit, and the live event.”

According to the Utah Department of Workforce Services, healthcare support occupations will see the fastest annual average growth rate in Utah through 2018. Healthcare and Social Assistance employs 12.5 of every 100 non-government workers (or workers in private industry) in Utah.

**Who:** 300 high school students from 11 school districts and 32 high schools and physicians from Intermountain Healthcare

**What:** Broadcast of a pre-recorded Artificial Heart/LVAD surgery with a live chat between students and physicians.

**Where:** 11 broadcast sites throughout the state will link to the Utah State Office of Education via EdNet. Media are invited to attend at either of the following sites (note: patient will be at the Jordan site):

- 1. Granite Technical Institute (GTI)**  
2500 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115  
Phone 385-646-4350  
**CONTACT: JULIE BAGLEY, CTE Specialist**  
[jibagley@graniteschools.org](mailto:jibagley@graniteschools.org)
  
- 2. Jordan Applied Technology Center (JATC)**  
9301 South Wights Fort Road  
West Jordan, UT 84088  
Phone 801-256-5905  
**CONTACT: Sue Hall, CTE Specialist**  
[shall@jatc-wj.org](mailto:shall@jatc-wj.org)

**When:** 11:20 a.m., Monday, February 13, 2012

**More information:** [http://www.schools.utah.gov/cte/hs\\_vhi.html](http://www.schools.utah.gov/cte/hs_vhi.html)