Higher Education Options

Four-Year Universities
A university is an institution that offers undergraduate and graduate degrees. Universities offer graduate programs leading to a master’s degree or a Ph.D. These institutions also may have a medical or law school for students wishing to pursue professional degrees. Some universities offer special programs where their students can earn both an undergraduate degree and a graduate degree in a reduced amount of time. Generally, universities have a more diverse offering of classes and programs than a college because of the larger number of enrolled students. Some examples of four-year universities are:

Public:  
- University of Utah
- Utah State University
- Weber State University
- Utah Valley University
- Southern Utah University
- Dixie State University

Private:  
- Brigham Young University

Colleges
A college is a smaller institution that typically offers undergraduate degrees. Some colleges, such as community colleges and junior colleges, may offer only two-year degrees. Many colleges offer bachelor’s degrees, and some colleges also have associate degrees. Some examples of colleges are:

- Westminster College
- College of Eastern Utah
- Snow College
- Salt Lake Community College

Trade Schools
A trade school, also known as a technical school or a vocational school, is an educational institution that exists to teach skills related to a specific job. Some examples of trade schools are:

- ITT Technical Institute
- Utah College of Massage Therapy
- Paul Mitchell Beauty School
- Utah School of Phlebotomy
- Sage Truck Driving School
- Skin Works School of Skin Care
Online Schools
An online college or university is an academic school that offers classes primarily or entirely through the use of an internet-connected computer, rather than attending college in a traditional campus setting. Many brick and mortar schools will also offer online class options. Some examples of online schools are:

- University of Phoenix
- Western Governors University

Certificate Programs
Certificate programs offer professional training in a specific field. More than half of the certificate programs take a year or less to complete, which makes them a quick way to gain crucial, practical job skills. These programs are offered primarily at community colleges, but the number of four-year universities offering them is increasing.

Some certificate programs at Salt Lake Community College:
- Home Inspector
- Wedding Planner
- Protection Officer
- Child Care

Community Education/Adult Education Programs
Community education offers opportunities for local citizens to explore education in diverse areas through local schools, agencies, and institutions. Some classes offered include: cooking, fitness, foreign languages, computer programs (such as PowerPoint or Excel), and parenting. Some examples of community education/adult education programs are:

- Granite Peaks Lifelong Learning
- Community Education through Canyons School District
- Jordan Family Education Center
- Murray Community Education
- Lifelong Learning at the University of Utah

Utah Parent Center
Family to Family Health Information and Education Center
Family to Family Network – A Program of DHS/DSPD
Phone: (801)272.1051 * Toll Free Utah: (800)468.1160 * Fax: (801)272.8907
Email: upcinfo@utahparentcenter.org * Website: www.utahparentcenter.org

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