



Utah Parent Center
Special needs, extraordinary potential

Higher Education Options

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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

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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

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Our mission is to help parents help their children with disabilities to live included, productive lives as members of the community.

We accomplish this through the provision of information, training, and peer support.

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