

# State Scholarships

Cassidy Stortz, Scholarships & State Programs Director  
March 2023



# Agenda

- Overview of State Financial Aid Programs
- 2023 Legislative Scholarships Update
- Deep Dive: Opportunity Scholarship



# Utah Institutions

## USHE Public Degree-Granting Institutions

- Salt Lake Community College\*
- Snow College\*
- Southern Utah University
- University of Utah
- Utah State University\*
- Utah Tech University (formerly DSU)
- Utah Valley University
- Weber State University

## USHE Public Technical Colleges

- Bridgerland Technical College
- Davis Technical College
- Dixie Technical College
- Mountainland Technical College
- Ogden-Weber Technical College
- Southwest Technical College
- Tooele Technical College
- Uintah Basin Technical College

## Private Non-Profit Utah Institutions\*\*

- Brigham Young University
- Ensign College
- Western Governors University
- Westminster College

\*Also offer technical education programs

\*\*Not an exhaustive list of private institutions in Utah

# Utah State Aid Programs



# Utah Promise Scholarship

- Recipient must be a Utah resident
- Need-based eligibility (determined by institution)
- FAFSA completion required
- Award can cover up to the cost of attendance
- Can be used for up to completion of bachelor's degree
- Contact institution financial aid office for more information



# Technical Education Scholarship



- Available to students who enroll in programs that lead to high-demand, high-wage jobs
- Awards can cover up to cost of tuition, fees, and books
- Can be used at 8 technical colleges, and Salt Lake Community College, Snow College, USU-Eastern, and USU-Moab
- FAFSA completion required
- Contact institution financial aid office for more information

# 2023 Scholarships Legislation

- [HB102](#) – Higher Education Residency Amendments
- [HB197](#) – Higher Education Financial Aid Amendments\*
- [HB278](#) – First Responder Mental Health Services Grant Program
- [HB318](#) – PRIME Pilot Program Amendments\*
- [SB128](#) – Karen Mayne Public Safety Officer Scholarship Program

\*more information on the next slide

# 2023 Legislation Continued

- [HB197](#) – extends the length of Promise grants to completion of bachelor's degree; expands the VetGap program to cover additional education-related expenses
- [HB318](#) – changes PRIME pilot to an ongoing program, creates a scholarship (up to \$500) for students who complete TRANSFORM general education certificate
  - TRANSFORM – completes five general education courses, each from a different GE category through Concurrent Enrollment OR completes a CTE program that is at least 300 hours or 6 courses



# Opportunity Scholarship

- Award may be used toward tuition and fees after other state aid is considered
- Students apply during senior year (November 15 – February 1)
- Simplified achievement-based requirements
  - Graduate from Utah high school with 3.3 cumulative GPA
  - Complete 3 Advanced Courses (AP/IB/CE)
    - 1 Language Arts, 1 Math, and 1 Science course
  - Complete FAFSA or approved alternative
- [www.opportunityscholarship.org](http://www.opportunityscholarship.org)



# New Opportunity Scholarship Application Process

Student completes online application (supplying basic demographic information and permissions)

System connects data:  
1. collects transcript info from uTRES  
2. confirms completion of FAFSA

Student receives notice of award status; Award information is shared with financial aid office

# Advanced Course Requirements – Concurrent Enrollment

- [USHE CE Master List](#)
- Advanced Language Arts
  - USBE course code must begin with 06
  - Ex: Eng 1010; Eng 2010; Comm 1010; Hum 1010
- Advanced Math
  - USBE course code must begin with 07
  - Ex: Math 1050; Math 1030; Math 1040; Math 1010\*
- Advanced Science
  - USBE course code must begin with 08
  - Ex: Chem 1010/1015; Bio 1010; ENVS 1010

# Paying for College

- Complete classes for college credit in high school
- Complete FAFSA starting October 1 for next school year\*
- Check school website for application dates
  - Check for priority deadlines
- Follow up with the financial aid office for other scholarship opportunities
- Ask high school and local businesses about scholarship opportunities
- Start saving for college with my529
- **Apply early!**

\*24/25 FAFSA delayed release is possible



# Resources

- [www.ushe.edu/initiatives/state-aid-programs/](http://www.ushe.edu/initiatives/state-aid-programs/)
- [www.opportunityscholarship.org](http://www.opportunityscholarship.org)
- [www.ktsutah.org](http://www.ktsutah.org)

Email: [scholarships@ushe.edu](mailto:scholarships@ushe.edu)