



UTAH SYSTEM OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

March 22, 2024

2024-25 Board Guidelines for the Review and Recommendation of Tuition and General Fee Adjustments

The Utah Board of Higher Education sets tuition and general fee schedules for USHE institutions each spring. The Board asks institutional boards of trustees to review requests and recommend tuition and fee adjustments that are reasonable, justifiable, and ensure affordability for all Utah students.

Each institution's board of trustees chair or designee will present recommendations to the Board as part of tuition and fee deliberations.

Utah code 53B-7-101 requires the Board to recommend the minimum tuitions, resident and nonresident, for each institution which it considers necessary to implement the Board's budget recommendation. That same section of code also allows the Board to set tuition, fees, and charges for each institution at the levels the Board finds necessary to meet budget requirements. Board policy R-510 further establishes processes for annual Board tuition reviews, rate setting, and model approvals.

Annual Tuition Review

Each year, the Commissioner's staff prepares an annual tuition review and provides materials as a resource for the Board and institutional leadership. These materials includes budgeted expenses, current tuition and fee rates, peer comparisons, average student financial aid, inflation indices, median income, average net cost, instructional costs per student and award, tax vs tuition ratios, and inflation adjusted comparisons. The average cost of attendance is compared to the *Lumina rule of 10*, which estimates what a student can reasonably afford to contribute: 1) 10% of the discretionary income; 2) work 10 hours per week; and 3) savings for ten years. Degree-granting institutions' tuition and fee peer comparisons use the board-approved peers, Rocky Mountain states, and Western States, excluding California. Technical colleges lack regional or national peer comparisons; therefore, they are compared against each other.

Institution Matching Funds

Annual legislative appropriations to degree-granting institutions are typically set to support the cost of compensation increases and internal service fund rate increases at a 3/1 ratio, meaning that the state supports 75% of the expected costs, and degree-granting institutions must cover the remaining 25% share. Traditionally, that 25% share of institution 'matching funds' has been sourced through tuition increases.

In this year's proposed FY 2024-2025 budget recommendation, the preliminary estimate for increases in degree-granting institution compensation and mandatory costs would require approximately \$19.2 million in institution matching funds, which corresponds to a simple average tuition increase of 2.02%. Annual legislative appropriations to technical colleges fully cover the expected compensation increases and internal service fund rate increases; therefore, no institution match is required of technical colleges.

FY 2023-2024 Tuition Freeze

The Governor's FY 2023-2024 (current year) budget recommendation called for a tuition freeze for all USHE institutions, which was supported and adopted by the Legislature, the Board, and institutions. To mitigate the impact of the freeze for degree-granting institutions, the Legislature appropriated an additional 12.5% (half of the 25% match requirement) in state tax funds, with degree-granting institutions covering the other 12.5% internally. The only tuition schedules approved were for new graduate programs. General student fees were also frozen at current rates.

Degree Granting Tuition and Fees

Research universities have proposed tuition increases of 3.40% and 3.50% with fee increases of 1.63% and 1.64%. Regional universities proposed tuition increases range from 2.75% and 3.95% with fee increases from 1.64% and 7.98%. Community colleges proposed tuition increases are 3.50% and 4.00% with fee increases of 6.25% and 12.64%. Summaries of proposed uses of additional tuition beyond compensation and mandatory fee matches are included as attachments, with detailed explanations presented by institutions during the Board meeting.

Institution	Tuition and Fees	2023-24	Proposed 2024-25	\$ Change	% Change
Research Universities					
University of Utah	Tuition	\$9,103	\$9,422	\$319	3.50%
	Fees	\$1,184	\$1,203	\$19	1.63%
	Total	\$10,287	\$10,625	\$338	3.28%
Utah State University	Tuition	\$7,387	\$7,638	\$251	3.40%
	Fees	\$918	\$933	\$15	1.64%
	Total	\$8,305	\$8,571	\$266	3.21%
Regional Universities					
Weber State University	Tuition	\$5,471	\$5,621	\$150	2.75%
	Fees	\$920	\$936	\$16	1.77%
	Total	\$6,391	\$6,557	\$167	2.61%
Southern Utah University	Tuition	\$6,006	\$6,186	\$180	3.00%
	Fees	\$764	\$776	\$13	1.64%
	Total	\$6,770	\$6,962	\$193	2.85%
Utah Tech University	Tuition	\$5,267	\$5,451	\$184	3.50%
	Fees	\$808	\$872	\$64	7.98%
	Total	\$6,075	\$6,323	\$249	4.10%
Utah Valley University	Tuition	\$5,614	\$5,836	\$222	3.95%
	Fees	\$656	\$702	\$46	7.01%
	Total	\$6,270	\$6,538	\$268	4.27%

Community Colleges					
Snow College	Tuition	\$3,796	\$3,929	\$133	3.50%
	Fees	\$384	\$408	\$24	6.25%
	Total	\$4,180	\$4,337	\$157	3.75%
Salt Lake Community College	Tuition	\$3,778	\$3,929	\$151	4.00%
	Fees	\$479	\$539	\$61	12.64%
	Total	\$4,257	\$4,468	\$212	4.97%

Technical Education Tuition

The tuition rates for technical education at technical colleges and at degree-granting institutions which also have a technical college mission remain at the current rate without increase for the coming fiscal year 2024-25.

Institution	Tuition per Credit Hour		\$ Change	% Change
	2023-24	2024-25		
Utah State University – Tech Ed	\$95	\$95	\$0	0.00%
Snow College – Tech Ed	\$85	\$85	\$0	0.00%
Salt Lake Comm. College-SLTC	\$90	\$90	\$0	0.00%
Bridgerland Technical College	\$95	\$95	\$0	0.00%
Davis Technical College	\$95	\$95	\$0	0.00%
Dixie Technical College	\$105	\$105	\$0	0.00%
Mountainland Technical College	\$120	\$120	\$0	0.00%
Ogden-Weber Technical College	\$95	\$95	\$0	0.00%
Southwest Technical College	\$95	\$95	\$0	0.00%
Tooele Technical College	\$85	\$85	\$0	0.00%
Uintah Basin Technical College	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%

Technical Education Student Fees

Technical colleges do not typically charge general student fees. However, degree-granting institutions, which also have a technical college mission, do charge reduced fees for students in technical education programs. Requests for increases in general student fees and the corresponding impact on total tuition and fees is shown below.

Institution	General Student Fees		\$ Change	% Change
	2023-24	2024-25		
Utah State University – Tech Ed	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Snow College – Tech Ed	\$12.80	\$13.60	\$0.80	6.25%
Salt Lake Comm. College-SLTC	\$8.00	\$9.00	\$1.00	12.50%

Institution	Tuition (see above)	Student Fees (see above)	Total Tuition and Fees
Utah State University – Tech Ed	\$95.00	\$3.00	\$98.00
Snow College – Tech Ed	\$85.00	\$13.60	\$98.60
Salt Lake Community College-SLTC	\$90.00	\$9.00	\$99.00

Degree Granting Differential Tuition

The Board may authorize differential tuition schedules for programs on a case-by-case basis where increases are above or below the regular institutional tuition proposed increase. The policy further requires institutions to use increased revenues from the differential tuition rate to benefit the impacted program and to help support related campus services. Institutions requesting differential tuition schedules should consult with students in the program and consider the following:

- Student and workforce demand for the program
- Impact of differential tuition rates on student access and retention
- Tuition rates of comparable programs at other institutions
- Potential earnings capacity of program graduates
- Societal importance of the program

The following institutions request differential tuition for both new and existing undergraduate and graduate programs beginning academic year 2024-2025. Additional detail can be found in the attachments.

University of Utah

- School of Business undergraduate currently charges \$269.28 per hour for upper division courses, and requests a net neutral change to \$202.00 per hour for both lower and upper division courses. Funds will be used to support the cost of instruction and add value to the education experience.
- University of Utah – Executive Masters of Business Administration requests an increase from \$17,500 to \$18,800 (7.4%) per semester beginning 2024-2025, and \$20,200 (7.4%) per semester beginning 2025-2026. Funds will be used to support the cost of instruction and add value to the education experience.
- University of Utah – Professional/Online MBA currently charges \$1,350 per credit hour and requests an increase to \$1,450 (7.4%) per credit hour for first year students and \$1,558 (7.4%) per credit hour for second year students. Funds will be used to support the cost of instruction and add value to the education experience.

Weber State University

- Tech College General Education Partnerships requests a tuition rate of \$95 per credit hour comparable to Ogden-Weber and Davis Technical Colleges for selected General education and English courses, to enhance stackable completion pathways.
- Weber State University – Masters in Systems Engineering approved last year requests graduate differential tuition rates similar to other programs in the College of Engineering, Applied Science, and Technology of \$154.36 per hour. Funds will be used for engineering faculty positions.

- Weber State University – Masters in Data Science approved last year requests graduate differential tuition rates similar to other comparable programs at WSU of \$154.36 per hour. Funds will be used for faculty and staff positions.

Utah Tech University

- Master of Fine Arts requests graduate differential tuition of \$370 per credit hour for residents and \$800 per credit hour for non-residents. Funds will be used for faculty and operating expenses.
- Master of Healthcare Administration requests graduate differential tuition of \$520 per credit hour for residents and \$1,070 per credit hour for non-residents. Funds will be used for faculty and operating expenses.
- Master in Software Development requests graduate differential tuition of \$420 per credit hour for both resident and non-resident online students. Funds will be used for faculty and operating expenses.
- Master in User Experience Design requests graduate differential of \$420 per credit hour for both resident and non-resident students. Funds will be used for faculty, facilities, supplies, marketing, and institutional overhead.

Institution	Program	Course Level	Per	Amount
University of Utah	School of Business	Lower & Upper	Credit	\$202
	Executive MBA (2024-25)	Graduate	Semester	\$18,800
	Executive MBA (2025-26)	Graduate	Semester	\$20,200
	Professional/Online MBA (1 st Year)	Graduate	Credit	\$1,450
	Professional/Online MBA (2 st Year)	Graduate	Credit	\$1,558
Weber State University	Tech College Gen Ed Partnerships	Lower	Credit	\$95
	Master in Systems Engineering	Graduate	Credit	\$154.36
	Master in Data Science	Graduate	Credit	\$154.36
Utah Tech University	Master of Fine Arts	Graduate	Credit	\$370
	Master of Healthcare Administration	Graduate	Credit	\$520
	Master in Software Development	Graduate	Credit	\$420
	Master in User Experience Design	Graduate	Credit	\$420

Technical Education Differential Tuition

The differential tuition rates for technical education programs at technical colleges and at degree-granting institutions which also have a technical college mission remain at the current rate without increase for the coming fiscal year 2024-25.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends the Board review provided materials, institution proposals, and consider public comments when determining tuition, fee, and new differential program adjustments; and take action on all 2024-25 institution proposals.

Attachments

Tuition Proposals

Student Fee Proposals

Tech Ed Student Fee Proposals

USHE Annual Tuition Review

Tuition Increase Freeze Reductions Table

2024 Peer Tuition and Fees

Tuition and Fee Support Letters

Differential Tuition Proposals