

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-25

\$15.4M

TOTAL SAVED

by Utah students through WICHE Student Access Programs.

\$11.7M

SAVED
through WUE

\$3.1M

SAVED
through WRGP

\$609,575

SAVED
through PSEP

WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE



Saves **UNDERGRADUATE** students on out-of-state tuition. They pay no more than 150% of in-state tuition at partner institutions across the West.

Top Utah WUE schools for out-of-state undergraduate students:

- ▶ **University of Utah (3,680)**
- ▶ **Utah Valley University (905)**
- ▶ **Southern Utah University (446)**

Top out-of-state WUE schools for Utah undergraduate students:

- ▶ **Mohave Community College, AZ (147)**
- ▶ **Colorado Mesa University (66)**
- ▶ **Western Wyoming Community College (58)**

WESTERN REGIONAL GRADUATE PROGRAM



Saves **GRADUATE** students on out-of-state certificate, master's, and doctoral programs. They pay no more than 150% of in-state tuition at partner institutions across the West.

Top Utah WRGP schools for out-of-state graduate students:

- ▶ **University of Utah (70)**
- ▶ **Utah State University (42)**
- ▶ **Weber State University (18)**

Top out-of-state WRGP schools for Utah graduate students:

- ▶ **University of Idaho (36)**
- ▶ **Idaho State University (23)**
- ▶ **University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (22)**

PROFESSIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM



Helps students pursuing careers in **10 HEALTH FIELDS**. They can enroll in programs in the WICHE region and receive substantial tuition support from their home state/territory.

31 Utah students paid reduced tuition for health care studies not offered by public institutions in their home state.

49% of Utah's PSEP graduates returned home to practice (2012-21). Students are not contractually required to return.

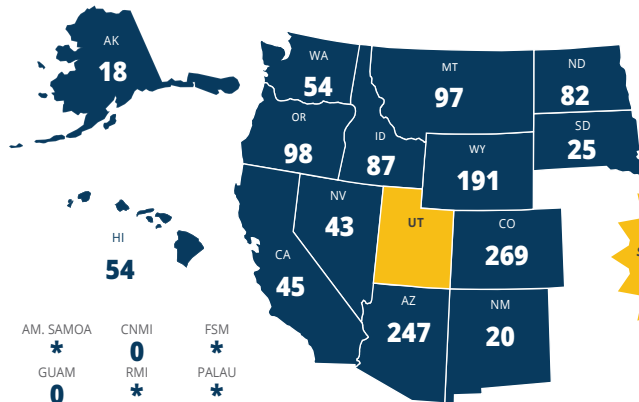
Utah's institutions and their local economies benefit, too.

This year, 40 PSEP students enrolled in programs located in Utah. Institutions received \$1M in support fees to reduce the students' tuition costs.

1,977% ROI gained on Utah's WICHE annual dues (\$169,000/FY 2025)

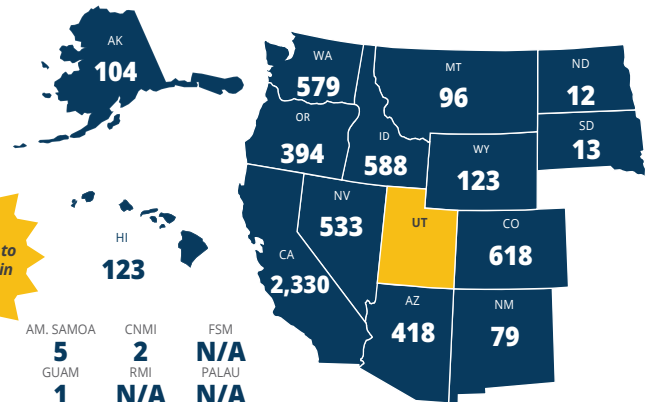
WUE

WUE STUDENTS **FROM** UTAH: **1,330**



6,018 WUE students chose to attend college in Utah

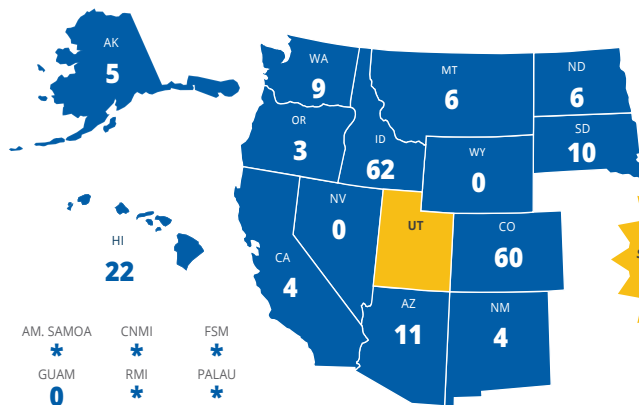
WUE STUDENTS **TO** UTAH: **6,018**



* Currently do not have any participating WUE schools.

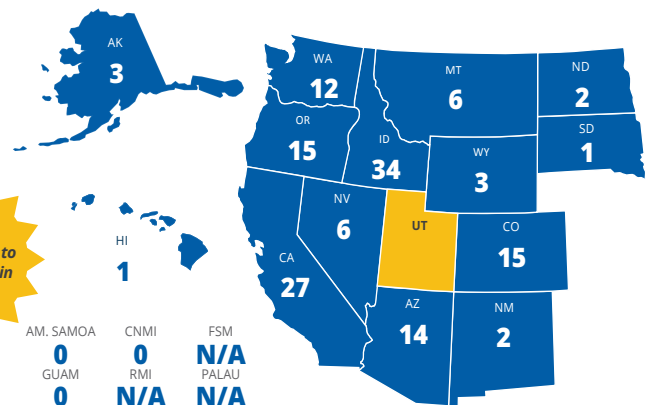
WRGP

WRGP STUDENTS **FROM** UTAH: **202**



141 WRGP students chose to attend college in Utah

WRGP STUDENTS **TO** UTAH: **141**



* Currently do not have any participating WRGP schools.

PSEP

FIELD	STUDENTS	FEES PAID
Optometry	21	\$432,075
Podiatry	10	\$177,500
TOTAL	31	\$609,575

PSEP students from Utah saved \$609,575 in tuition

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING



"PSEP made it possible for me to attend an excellent program near my home state. Staying in the West has allowed me to develop professional networks that will make it easier to find job opportunities close to home. This support has been an incredible gift for me and my family."

DEREK, Utah resident, Podiatry, Midwestern University, AZ

Regional collaboration

WICHE brings together senior academic leaders to foster dialogue about issues facing individual institutions through its leadership and professional development networks.

WESTERN ALLIANCE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC LEADERS – 2-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ Salt Lake Community College
- ▶ Snow College

Jason Pickavance, Salt Lake Community College, serves on the Alliance executive committee.

WESTERN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP FORUM – 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ Utah Technical University
- ▶ University of Utah
- ▶ Utah System of Higher Education
- ▶ Utah Valley University

David Connelly, Utah Valley University, serves on the Forum executive committee.

WESTERN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY is a yearlong professional development program for academic leaders aspiring to become chief academic officers in the WICHE region. Three cohort members from Utah institutions have participated in the Academy since its inception in 2015.

WICHE offers student health and technology contracts through a **COST-SAVINGS PROGRAM** with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) to colleges and universities, K-12 school districts, local and state municipalities, and nonprofit organizations with an education emphasis. Last year, entities that used these contracts saved 9% over what they otherwise would have outside this joint purchasing arrangement. The total savings in Utah was \$410,139.

Optimal behavioral health care

In partnership with Southern Utah University, the WICHE BHP is providing consulting services to the **UTAH PSYCHOLOGY INTERSHIP CONSORTIUM (UT-PIC)** to assist in its re-accreditation process and completing a self-study in preparation for its American Psychological Association (APA) accreditation site visit.

MOUNTAIN PLAINS RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (MP ROTAC) develops and shares resources, training, and technical assistance focused on opioid and stimulant misuse in rural areas in Region 8. This is funded through a multiyear grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

RURAL COMMUNITIES OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM (RCORP) is a multiyear initiative supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to identify treatment barriers and best practices for preventing and treating substance use disorder. In Utah, the RCORP program supports one grantee.

Sound public policy

Utah participates in the **STATE AUTHORIZATION RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT (SARA)** through WICHE. This voluntary agreement provides reciprocity for the state authorization of distance education. WICHE Commissioners have been strong advocates for protecting the state voice in important governance decisions affecting this agreement and staff continue to support participating states and improving student protections while bolstering access.

Created by the WICHE Commission in 1995, the **LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LAC)** works to strengthen state-level postsecondary policymaking across the West. Members are legislators appointed by each state, territory, or freely associated state in the WICHE region; they meet annually to explore emerging policy issues and develop strategies for interstate collaboration.

KNOCKING AT THE COLLEGE DOOR is the leading U.S. resource for projections of high school graduates. Released in December 2024, the newest edition is essential for postsecondary policymakers, planning and workforce efforts, and economic development. Visit wiche.edu/knocking to access reports, interactive dashboards, webinars, presentations, as well as state-level data.

CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS NETWORK Staff from the Utah System of Higher Education participate in regular collaborative calls with colleagues around the region.

DATA EXPERTS WICHE staff provide analysis on finance, financial aid, articulation and transfer, strategic planning, student demographics, and more, as well as host peer-to-peer calls of state, system, and institutional chief academic officers to identify areas of potential collaboration and resource sharing across the West.

DATA RESOURCES WICHE offers curated data and policy resources to support better-informed decision-making. WICHE's research projects and collaborations cover postsecondary completion, health workforce development, behavioral health in postsecondary education, open educational resources (OER), state finance, prior learning assessment, and more.

- ▶ **Tuition and Fees in the West** includes tuition, fees, and enrollment data about 350+ public institutions in the West.
- ▶ **Benchmarks: WICHE Region** presents information on the West's progress in improving access to, success in, and financing of higher education.
- ▶ Data on over 35 indicators in WICHE's **Regional Fact Book for Higher Education in the West**.

Innovative solutions

WCET – THE WICHE COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES is the leader in the practice, policy, and advocacy of digital learning in

higher education. Its growing membership includes institutions, higher education agencies and systems, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and corporations in all U.S. states and several Canadian provinces. WCET members include:

- ▶ Brigham Young University
- ▶ Salt Lake Community College
- ▶ Southern Utah University
- ▶ University of Utah
- ▶ Utah State University
- ▶ Utah System of Higher Education
- ▶ Weber State University
- ▶ Western Governors University

STATE AUTHORIZATION NETWORK (SAN) helps guide institutions through state regulations around online courses and programs. Utah has 25 members. See wcetsan.wiche.edu/member-institutions-organizations for a complete list.

WICHE has convened the **OERWEST NETWORK**, which is part of a nationwide collaborative to scale the development and adoption of free course materials. Open educational resources (OER) have shown promise in improving student outcomes, particularly for students whom the high cost of textbooks can be a barrier to postsecondary success.

Utah Commissioners



Patricia Jones
CEO, Women's
Leadership Institute



Ann Millner
WICHE Vice Chair,
Senator, Utah State
Legislature



Geoffrey Landward
Commissioner of
Higher Education,
Utah System of
Higher Education

Legislative Advisory Committee

Keith Grover
Senator, Utah State Legislature

Ann Millner
Senator, Oregon State Legislature

Michael McKell
Senator, Utah State Legislature

Karen Peterson
Representative, Utah State Legislature

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