

Fiscal Highlights

Comprehensive Study of Career and Technical Education in Utah - Jill L. Curry

House Bill 337, Career and Technical Education Comprehensive Study (2015 General Session), created the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Board within the Department of Workforce Services and tasked it with conducting a comprehensive study of CTE in Utah. This study is detailed in Utah statute 35A-5-403 and includes an inventory of all CTE programs in Utah, a description of CTE funding in the state, and an assessment of Utah business and industry needs for employees with skills taught in CTE classes.

There are three agencies offering CTE in Utah: the Utah State Board of Education (USBE), the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE), and the Utah College of Applied Technology (UCAT). The USBE is focused on K-12 education. Career and technical education is ancillary, but important to the general education of K-12 students. The USHE offers formal higher education with career and technical education opportunities at its colleges and universities. The primary purpose of the UCAT is to provide career and technical education.

The revenue apportioned for career and technical education and provided to the USBE, USHE, and UCAT varies, but overall has increased over time in all three agencies as seen in tables 1, 2, and 3 below. From 2011 to 2015, state appropriations for each agency have grown at a rate of 5.0 percent (USBE), 5.2 percent (USHE) and 8.2 percent (UCAT) annually. Tuition and fees have increased by an annual rate of growth of 10.6 percent for USHE and 6.1 percent for UCAT.

Table 1. Utah State Board of Education CTE Revenue, 2011-2015

State			
Year	Appropriations	Local Match	Total
2015	\$68,764,547	\$72,137,948	\$140,902,495
2014	\$65,528,338	\$77,384,359	\$142,912,697
2013	\$63,615,592	\$72,371,742	\$135,987,334
2012	\$60,762,635	\$70,797,777	\$131,560,412
2011	\$59,303,692	\$69,014,520	\$128,318,212
Total	\$317,974,804	\$361,706,346	\$679,681,150

Table 2. Utah System of Higher Education CTE Revenue, 2011-2015

State			
Year	Appropriations	Tuition	Total
2015	\$89,824,308	\$80,428,191	\$170,252,499
2014	\$76,791,221	\$73,939,736	\$150,730,957
2013	\$73,429,125	\$69,799,786	\$143,228,911
2012	\$78,715,690	\$65,734,479	\$144,450,169
2011	\$73,435,799	\$53,733,549	\$127,169,348
Total	\$392,196,143	\$343,635,741	\$735,831,884

Table 3. Utah College of Applied Technology CTE Revenue, 2011-2015

State			
Year	Appropriations	Tuition	Total
2015	\$65,975,100	\$7,504,300	\$73,479,400
2014	\$57,830,600	\$7,376,100	\$65,206,700
2013	\$51,221,400	\$6,763,000	\$57,984,400
2012	\$47,895,800	\$6,390,400	\$54,286,200
2011	\$48,019,600	\$5,921,400	\$53,941,000
Total	\$270,942,500	\$33,955,200	\$304,897,700

The comprehensive study also inventoried the programs offered by each of the agencies. The three CTE agencies offered a wide variety of programs to meet the varied educational and occupational interests

of students with regard to both extent and area of specialization. Table 4 has the total number of unique CTE programs offered by each agency. Examples include commercial photography and robotics (USBE), ironworker technology and respiratory therapy (USHE), and machine tool technology and medical clinical assistant (UCAT). Programs across the CTE agencies offer different levels of education. All three agencies offer industry certifications and certificates and the USHE offers associate degrees in CTE-related fields.

Table 4. Unique CTE Programs by Agency, Fall 2016

Agency	Number of Unique Programs
USBE	56
USHE	166
UCAT	83