

**Technical Colleges Funding Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Christine F. Watkins**

Senate Sponsor:

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**LONG TITLE****General Description:**

This bill requires the inclusion of certain factors for certain funding formulas for technical colleges.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- requires the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee to ensure the inclusion of certain factors in certain funding formulas for technical colleges; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53H-1-402**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session,  
Chapter 8

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53H-1-402** is amended to read:

**53H-1-402 . Reports to and actions of the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee.**

(1) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following recurring reports are due to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee:

- (a) the reports described in Sections 53H-1-502, 53H-1-503, and 53H-1-504;
- (b) the reports described in Section 53H-1-203 by the board on:
  - (i) system wide responses to changing demographics and workforce; and
  - (ii) the board's activities and performance against the board's goals and metrics;

- (c) the report described in Section 53H-5-205;
- (d) the report described in Section 53H-8-202 by the board on recommended appropriations for higher education institutions and the board, including the report described in Section 53H-11-406 by the board on the effects of offering nonresident partial tuition scholarships;
- (e) the report described in Section 53H-8-306 by the Department of Workforce Services and the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity on targeted jobs;
- (f) the reports described in Section 53H-8-303 by the board on performance;
- (g) the report described in Section 53H-11-402 by the board on the Opportunity Scholarship Program;
- (h) the report described in 53H-13-309 regarding the talent advisory councils;
- (i) the report described in Section 53H-11-414 by the board on the Utah Promise Program;
- (j) the report described in Section 53H-6-202 by the board on an institution compensating a student athlete for the use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness;
- (k) the report described in Section 53H-1-604 regarding the Higher Education and Corrections Council; and
- (l) the report described in Section 53E-10-308 by the State Board of Education and board on student participation in the concurrent enrollment program.
- (2) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following occasional report is due to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee<sup>[+]</sup>, the board's report regarding each institution's strategic reinvestment plan described in Section 53H-8-210.
- (3) In accordance with applicable provisions, the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee shall complete the following:
- (a) an appropriation recommendation described in Section 53H-1-504 regarding compliance with Subsections 53H-1-504(5) and (14); and
- (b) as required by Section 53H-8-304, the review of performance funding described in Section 53H-8-304.
- (4) In consultation with the board, the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee shall study a re-design of<sup>[+]</sup>
- ~~(a)~~ the performance funding model described in Chapter 8, Part 3, Performance Funding, to better ensure:
- ~~(i)~~ (a) institutional alignment with the statewide system of higher education and the

65 institution's mission within the statewide system; and  
66 [(ii)] (b) investment in meeting localized and statewide workforce demands and securing  
67 post-graduation employment outcomes[; and] .

68 [(b)] (5) [~~enrollment-based funding, including,~~] Beginning May 6, 2026, the Higher  
69 Education Appropriations Subcommittee shall ensure that all non-statutory performance  
70 and growth funding formulas that contribute to appropriations for technical colleges[;  
71 funding distribution models that]:

72 [(i)] (a) include equivalent funding value for secondary and adult students; and

73 [(ii)] (b) reflect the full responsibility of the technical college's statutorily-required  
74 services.

75 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

76 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.