

1 **Technical Colleges Funding Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Christine F. Watkins**

Senate Sponsor:

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2 **LONG TITLE**3 **General Description:**4 This bill requires the inclusion of certain factors for certain funding formulas for technical  
5 colleges.6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

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

12 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

13 None

14 **Other Special Clauses:**

15 None

16 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**17 **AMENDS:**18 **53H-1-402**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session,  
19 Chapter 8

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20 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*21 Section 1. Section **53H-1-402** is amended to read:22 **53H-1-402 . Reports to and actions of the Higher Education Appropriations**23 **Subcommittee.**24 (1) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following recurring  
25 reports are due to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee:  
26 (a) the reports described in Sections 53H-1-502, 53H-1-503, and 53H-1-504;  
27 (b) the reports described in Section 53H-1-203 by the board on:  
28 (i) system wide responses to changing demographics and workforce; and  
29 (ii) the board's activities and performance against the board's goals and metrics;

31 (c) the report described in Section 53H-5-205;

32 (d) the report described in Section 53H-8-202 by the board on recommended

33 appropriations for higher education institutions and the board, including the report

34 described in Section 53H-11-406 by the board on the effects of offering nonresident

35 partial tuition scholarships;

36 (e) the report described in Section 53H-8-306 by the Department of Workforce Services

37 and the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity on targeted jobs;

38 (f) the reports described in Section 53H-8-303 by the board on performance;

39 (g) the report described in Section 53H-11-402 by the board on the Opportunity

40 Scholarship Program;

41 (h) the report described in 53H-13-309 regarding the talent advisory councils;

42 (i) the report described in Section 53H-11-414 by the board on the Utah Promise

43 Program;

44 (j) the report described in Section 53H-6-202 by the board on an institution

45 compensating a student athlete for the use of the student athlete's name, image, or

46 likeness;

47 (k) the report described in Section 53H-1-604 regarding the Higher Education and

48 Corrections Council; and

49 (l) the report described in Section 53E-10-308 by the State Board of Education and

50 board on student participation in the concurrent enrollment program.

51 (2) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following occasional

52 report is due to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee[:], the board's report

53 regarding each institution's strategic reinvestment plan described in Section 53H-8-210.

54 (3) In accordance with applicable provisions, the Higher Education Appropriations

55 Subcommittee shall complete the following:

56 (a) an appropriation recommendation described in Section 53H-1-504 regarding

57 compliance with Subsections 53H-1-504(5) and (14); and

58 (b) as required by Section 53H-8-304, the review of performance funding described in

59 Section 53H-8-304.

60 (4) In consultation with the board, the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee

61 shall study a re-design of[:]

62 [(a)] the performance funding model described in Chapter 8, Part 3, Performance

63 Funding, to better ensure:

64 [(t)] (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.