
Issue Brief – Student Success

NUMBER USHE-03

SUMMARY

As several of the performance measures indicate, many students are not completing the coursework necessary to obtain a degree from one of the institutions, while other students are taking more hours than necessary to graduate. A shortage in the areas of counseling, advising, and the number of required courses offered have been identified as at least part of the cause of these problems. Additional funding in higher education will enable students to become more focused and more aware of graduation requirements and better able to schedule the necessary courses.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Student Success Initiative is to help more students complete the necessary coursework, in a timely manner, to graduate from one of the USHE institutions.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Each institution has identified specific areas of concern. These are outlined below:

University of Utah - \$542,100 – for additional advisers, additional faculty for bottleneck courses, a writing program and an on-line college-readiness program.

Utah State University - \$357,000 – for additional advisers, academic support, e.g. tutoring, additional faculty to alleviate bottleneck courses, and additional resources for students with disabilities.

Weber State University - \$242,900 – for 24/7 IT support, additional advisers, help with financial assistance, increased tutoring, and additional faculty to alleviate bottleneck courses.

Southern Utah University - \$95,600 – for additional counselors and advisers, and to increase student work-study opportunities.

Snow College – \$52,000 – for “Start Smart” mentoring, advising, and an orientation program for new students.

Dixie State College - \$83,600 – to Reduce adjunct faculty in favor of full-time faculty.

College of Eastern Utah - \$50,000 – for a dean of students and additional faculty to alleviate bottleneck courses.

Utah Valley State College - \$289,100 – for additional academic advisers, additional math tutors, and additional faculty to alleviate bottleneck courses.

Salt Lake Community College - \$287,700 – for additional faculty to alleviate bottleneck courses, an assessment adviser, a certified interpreter, and additional student services.

The total recommended amount is \$2,000,000.