

Utah Rural Leadership Academy

Overview

Utah Rural Leadership Academy (URLA) facilitates powerful exercises and instruction designed to assist emerging and established leaders in Utah's rural communities. The objective of the Academy is to equip county leaders with administrative and leadership skills through relevant learning activities and educational programming. Key relationship building will be combined with content to assist in keeping counties operating vibrantly, responding to demand, and preparing for the future. Learning modules will include, but are not limited to: efficient meeting leadership, convening power, inclusion and conflict management, effective influencing and negotiating, contracts, project management, and communicating across boundaries.

The URLA will be a partnership between Utah Association of Counties (UAC), and Governor's Rural Partnership Board (GRPB), and Southern Utah University (SUU). Each year, a cohort of participants will be developed consisting of rural county leaders selected by UAC, SUU and GRPB. The annual cohort launch will begin each year with an orientation/retreat held in conjunction with the Utah Rural Summit. The year-long Leadership Academy work will be delivered in tracks with in-person training, online programming, and a capstone project. Successful completion of the URLA will result in a graduation recognition during the annual Utah Rural Summit. As an added benefit to participants, an Institutional Certificate and six Professional Development credits may be awarded through Southern Utah University. These credits may be applied to undergraduate or graduate degrees at SUU.

This request for one-time appropriation will be utilized as a pilot program for three years, 2021-2023.

Timeline

Application & Selection

June - August

Orientation & Retreat

October

Utah Rural Summit - Leadership Academy

Track 1

January	February	March
In Person - 1 Day	Online - 2 Hours	Remote Practicum Work

Track 2

April	May	June
In Person - 1 Day	Online - 2 Hours	Remote Practicum Work

Track 3

July	August	September
In Person - 1 Day	Online - 2 Hours	Remote Practicum Work

Graduation

October

Utah Rural Summit - Certificate Recognition

Participants

Utah Association of Counties

Utah Association of Counties will work with rural counties to identify 25 participants who are in county leadership positions.

Rural Partnership Board

Governor's Rural Partnership Board will work with rural communities to identify up to 5 participants.

Utah Center for Rural Life

Utah Center for Rural Life will identify 5 individuals engaged in rural regional leadership.