



Utah Board of Higher Education Statutory Responsibilities and Authorities

The Utah Legislature established the Utah Board of Higher Education on July 1, 2020, and enacted specific and comprehensive responsibilities and authorities. Below are the Board's responsibilities and authorities, as stated in [Utah Code 53B-1-402](#).

The Utah Board of Higher Education is:

- the governing Board of Utah's public institutions of higher education, which controls, manages, and supervises the Utah System of Higher Education.

The Utah Board of Higher Education shall:

- establish and promote a state-level vision and goals for higher education that emphasize System priorities, including:
 - quality;
 - affordability;
 - educational opportunity, access, equity, and completion;
 - workforce alignment and preparation for high-quality jobs; and
 - economic growth;
- establish policies and practices that advance the vision and goals;
- establish metrics to demonstrate and monitor:
 - performance related to the goals; and
 - performance on measures of operational efficiency;
- collect and analyze data, including economic data, demographic data, and data related to the metrics;
- coordinate data collection across institutions;
- establish, approve, and oversee each institution's mission and role, in accordance with [Utah Code 53B-16-101](#);
- assess an institution's performance in accomplishing the institution's mission and role;
- participate in the establishment and review of programs of instruction, in accordance with [Utah Code 53B-16-102](#);
- perform duties related to an institution of higher education president, including:
 - appointing an institution of higher education president, in accordance with Utah Code [53B-2-102](#) and [53B-2a-107](#);
 - providing support and guidance to an institution of higher education president; and

- evaluating an institution of higher education president based on institutional performance and progress toward systemwide priorities;
- create and implement a strategic financial plan for higher education, by:
 - establishing a comprehensive budget and financial priorities for academic education and technical education;
 - allocating statewide resources to institutions;
 - setting tuition for each institution;
 - administering state financial aid programs;
 - administering performance funding, in accordance with Utah Code [53B-7-7](#); and
 - developing a strategic capital facility plan and prioritization process, in accordance with Utah Code [53B-2a-117](#) and [53B-2a-118](#) (commonly referred to as SB 102);
- create a seamless, articulated education system for Utah students that responds to changing demographics and workforce needs, by:
 - providing for statewide prior learning assessment, in accordance with Utah Code [53B-16-110](#);
 - establishing and maintaining clear pathways for articulation and transfer, in accordance with Utah Code [53B-16-105](#);
 - establishing degree program requirement guidelines, including credit hour limits;
 - aligning general education requirements across degree-granting institutions;
 - coordinating and incentivizing collaboration and partnerships between institutions in delivering programs;
 - coordinating distance delivery of programs; and
 - coordinating work-based learning;
- coordinate with the public education system:
 - regarding public education programs that provide postsecondary credit or certificates; and
 - to ensure that an institution of higher education providing technical education serves secondary students in the public education system;
- delegate to an institution's board of trustees certain duties related to institution governance including:
 - guidance and support for the institution president;
 - effective administration;
 - the institution's responsibility for contributing to progress toward achieving systemwide goals; and
 - other responsibilities determined by the Board;
- delegate to an institution of higher education president management of the institution of higher education;
- maximize efficiency throughout the Utah System of Higher Education by identifying and establishing shared administrative services;
- develop strategies for providing higher education, including career and technical education, in rural areas;
- manage and facilitate a process for initiating, prioritizing, and implementing education reform initiatives; and
- provide ongoing quality review of institutions.