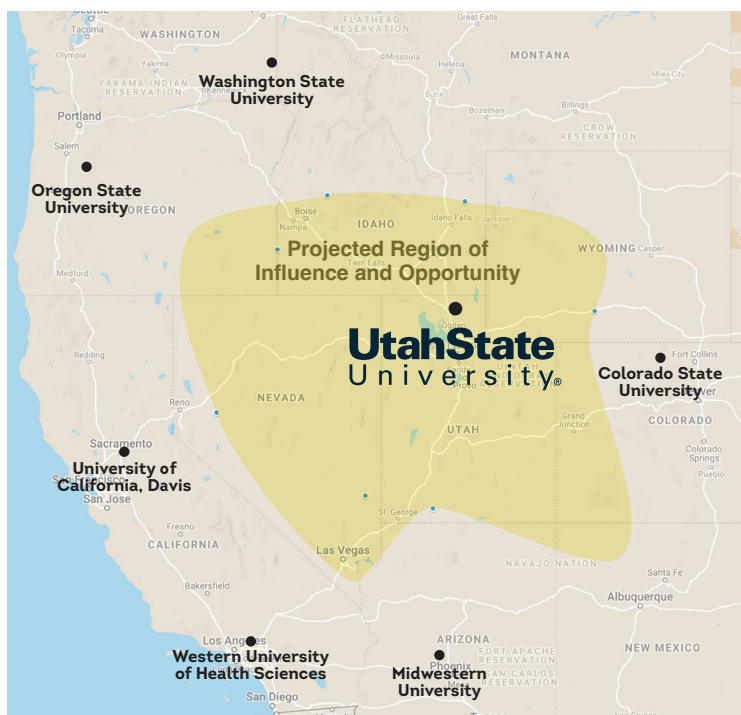


Proposal for a Utah State University College of Veterinary Medicine

Utah State University proposes the development of an accredited college of veterinary medicine that will grant doctor of veterinary medicine degrees and better serve people, animals, industry, and public health throughout Utah.



Northern Utah is uniquely poised to become a **premier life and bio-science tech hub**, creating synergies across the state with research and industry that result in economic opportunity in medical device testing, biosciences, and biomedical industries.

There is currently no school of veterinary medicine in the Intermountain West (Utah, Idaho, Nevada, Wyoming, and Montana). The State of Utah is positioned to capitalize on the **economic and educational opportunities of a new College of Veterinary Medicine**. Utah State University has operated a shared veterinary school program, created by the Utah State Legislature in 2011, for a decade. It has the experience and expertise to successfully evolve the current foundational program into a significant economic generator for the entire State of Utah.

Agriculture in Utah is a **\$1.82 billion industry**. **Animal ag is \$1.28 billion** of this, with 25 of the state's 29 counties reporting livestock as the dominant facet of their agricultural economy. (2020 USDA-NASS Report)



Impacts



Keep Dollars in Utah: The new school will capture the **\$16.3 million** in tuition that is currently leaving the state.



Jobs Creation: The new school will address the shortage of veterinarians in Utah. Currently, Utah has **15% fewer veterinarians per capita** than the national average to serve its rapidly growing population — the 42nd lowest in the nation.



Public Health Support: Animal health is public health. The National Institutes of Health reports that **61% of human pathogens originate in animals**. This is true of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that caused the COVID pandemic, brucellosis, hantavirus, Lyme disease, West Nile virus, and rabies. The college's faculty will build collaborations with colleagues in human medicine and bolster Utah's bioscience and biomedical industries.



Food Security: The new school will provide additional expertise in ag and animal science to more adequately **protect Utah's food and crop** sources.



Return on Investment: Every **\$20M invested by states** in veterinary schools of medicine realized a **return of \$48 million** in research dollars alone. (JAVMA.241.7.869)

USU-Based and Serving the State

USU's veterinary medicine students and core faculty will be based at USU's Logan campus, but fourth-year students — under the direct supervision of qualified medical professionals — will complete clinical training at animal hospitals, veterinary clinics, other animal care facilities, and state agencies throughout Utah.



This distributed model of veterinary medical training has important benefits:



Cost-efficiency because USU does not build and operate a veterinary hospital



The college will compliment, but not compete with, existing veterinary medical practices in Utah



Admissions will remain competitive, and the proposed USU College of Veterinary Medicine will admit 80 students per year. The majority of those students must be Utah residents.



In its 10-year collaboration with the Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, students admitted to USU's program have come with bachelor's degrees from all of Utah's institutions of higher education.



Skilled medical professionals will be placed in communities throughout the state

Utah State University's Request

An **\$80 million**, one-time investment to support construction of a dedicated veterinary medicine education facility, curriculum development, and staffing.

Ongoing annual investment of **\$21.4 million**. (Note: The current program annually receives \$3.4 million of state funding. A new 4-year program requires an additional \$18 million annually)



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