## = Utar Fits All =

# Increasing Teacher Pay and Education Choice: The Perfect Combo

When it comes to education, the two most important ingredients for a child's success are parents and teachers. When our teachers are paid like the important professionals they are and when parents are given options to

tailor their child's education to their unique needs, Utah students have the best chance for success. By increasing teacher pay and funding choice in education, the legislature acknowledges the dedication and effort of

Utah's public school teachers and recognizes that we need education options as unique and varied as Utah's children.

### Financial Accountability

The UT-Fits Scholarship has built-in financial accountability. The scholarship has limits on how parents can spend the money to ensure it is used for its intended purpose - educating students! At the same time, it preserves parents' freedom to provide an education that fits their child's needs.

> Utah law states, "A student's parent is the primary person responsible for the education of the student, and the state is in a secondary and supportive role to the parent (53G-6-803)."

#### Options for rural students.

One-size doesn't fit all - and that's not just true in urban Utah. School choice solutions like the UT-Fits Scholarship give the students in rural communities opportunities for unique learning models and settings that fit their needs - opportunities that exist in places like Salt Lake City but are too often absent in Utah's rural counties.

#### Incentive for innovation.

Free market solutions only occur if there is incentive to do so. Currently, there is no financial incentive to create new education opportunities in rural communities. But there could be when rural families can access and direct their scholarship dollars. Demand breeds innovation.

Across the country, rural communities are benefiting from robust education choice systems.

For example, Florida is one of the leaders in education choice policies. Their rural communities are benefiting by having alternative options for those students that don't fit in the traditional model. Their education spending accounts also make launching innovative new schools easier.





### What is the UT-FITS Scholarship?

A scholarship that sends tax-dollars back to tax-paying families so they can give their child an education that fits their unique needs.

The scholarship will be roughly \$8,000 per student representing 57% of Utah's per-pupil spending. A parent can take that scholarship to any private school, use it to homeschool, or purchase educational tools like tutors, learning therapies, curriculum, online classes, books, software, field trips, and extracurricular activities. Purchases must fall under pre-approved categories. Parents, schools and approved vendors will access funds through a digital wallet.

### Who will qualify?

Every K-12 student in Utah!

