

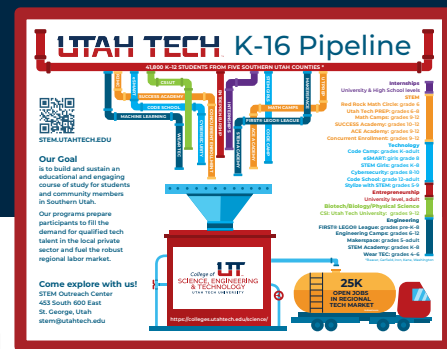
## Request for funding

Last year, 11,000+ K-12 students in Southern Utah participated in STEM activities provided through the Utah Tech University K-12 STEM Outreach Center. However, with 41,800 K-12 students in our five Southern Utah counties, we are falling short of the demand for transformational STEM experiences. As we look ahead, we are requesting **\$125,000 (\$100,000 UT, \$25,000 SUU – to achieve parity with \$75,000 in 2020 legislative STEM outreach funding awarded to SUU)** in ongoing funding to:

- 1 establish the Utah Tech STEM Outreach center as a hub for STEM Education by expanding STEM experiences, providing state licensure courses and professional development, build industry partnerships, and transformative experiences for high school students,
- 2 expand our STEM programming in our rural communities at Utah Tech satellite sites in Kanab, Water Canyon, Hurricane, and Enterprise, and
- 3 establish and maintain a system of STEM lending libraries with resources and curriculum that aligns to the state core standards to be made available to community members and educators in Washington County and at our satellite sites.

## STEM Workforce Development and College Readiness

STEM outreach efforts at Utah Tech began in response to the need for skilled workers in high-tech, high-demand career fields. Our STEM experiences have sought to build college-readiness, foster a strong STEM identity, and create a sense of community for those who participate. We have now seen our participants attending University and electing for STEM degrees. Building on the lessons we've learned and the success of our participants, we are looking to expand our outreach efforts to establish Utah Tech University as a hub of STEM education in Southern Utah. We know that we must expand to provide resources, training, and curriculum for all within our sphere of impact - students (rural, traditional, and homeschooled), parents, educators, community leaders, industry partners, and University faculty and staff. As we listen and build together, we can provide the experiences that will foster the necessary skills of critical thinking, complex problem solving, and creativity. These skills will provide our youth with the confidence to achieve STEM degrees, put them on a path of upward mobility, and sustain and grow the economy of Southern Utah and its developing STEM industries.



“The STEM outreach participation I did at Utah Tech when I was young had a huge impact on me when deciding on what I wanted to do in college and as a career. Those programs opened my eyes to avenues I wouldn’t have known existed and gave me confidence in myself that I could pursue my passions in STEM, particularly in technology. I was exposed to many different sides of math, science, and technology that I wouldn’t have known about if it weren’t for the STEM outreach / STEM pipeline. I was able to try many different branches of science and really learn what I enjoyed. I am now working on my degree in Computer Science, and I can place all the blame on those STEM programs I attended as a young girl. **Without them, I wouldn’t have had the courage and confidence I do now to pursue my degree.**”

– Eliza Goodwin, Utah Tech Computer Science Major