



LEGISLATIVE
FISCAL
ANALYST

Enrollment Growth and Performance Funding Models Outline

Joseph Fitzgerald
Finance Officer
January 22, 2026

Overview

- Introduction of Performance Funding and Enrollment Funding Revisions
- Detail of Performance Funding Metrics
- Detail of Enrollment Funding Formula



Part 1

Performance Funding

Currently Proposed New Metrics

Research Universities	Regional Universities and Community Colleges	Technical Colleges
Timely Completion	Timely Completion	
Strategically Important Awards	Strategically Important Awards	Strategically Important Awards
Institutional Efficiency	Institutional Efficiency	Institutional Efficiency
Research	First Year Coursework	Job Placement

Timely Completion

- Awards completed within 1.5 times “normal” completion time
 - Associate Degree: 3 years
 - Bachelor’s Degree: 6 years
- Only for degree-granting institutions due to short and varied lengths of technical certificates
- *Purpose:* Encourage institutions to help students complete

Strategically Important Awards

- Awards given in high-demand or strategically important fields
- Fields in Utah that demonstrate high workforce demand or strategic importance to the state
- *Purpose:* Prepare students for the modern workforce

Institutional Efficiency

- Number of degrees and certificates awarded per full-time equivalent student
- *Purpose:* Encourage institutions to help all students complete, regardless of whether they're new or returning, full- or part-time

Research

- Total research dollars expended
- Only for the University of Utah and Utah State University
- *Purpose:* Encourage research

First Year Coursework

- Students who complete 30 credits of coursework
- Only for the regional universities and community colleges
- Applies to all students regardless of age
- *Purpose:* Encourage open access institutions to work with students needing extra help adjusting to college

Job Placement

- Number of completers who gain employment
- Only for technical colleges since they have infrastructure in place to track
- *Purpose:* Ensure that students are getting jobs when completing

Format

- Target for each metric; once reached, maintenance expected
 - Example:
 - If timely completion were 75% of awards
 - Institution 1 at 44%
 - Institution 2 at 76%
 - Institution 3 at 73%
 - Institution 1 has incremental steps for improvement
 - Institution 2 can fluctuate but must remain above 75%
 - Institution 3 has steps for improvement, maintenance once above 75%
 - *Purpose:* Recognize high performers, acknowledge real barriers to unbounded improvement



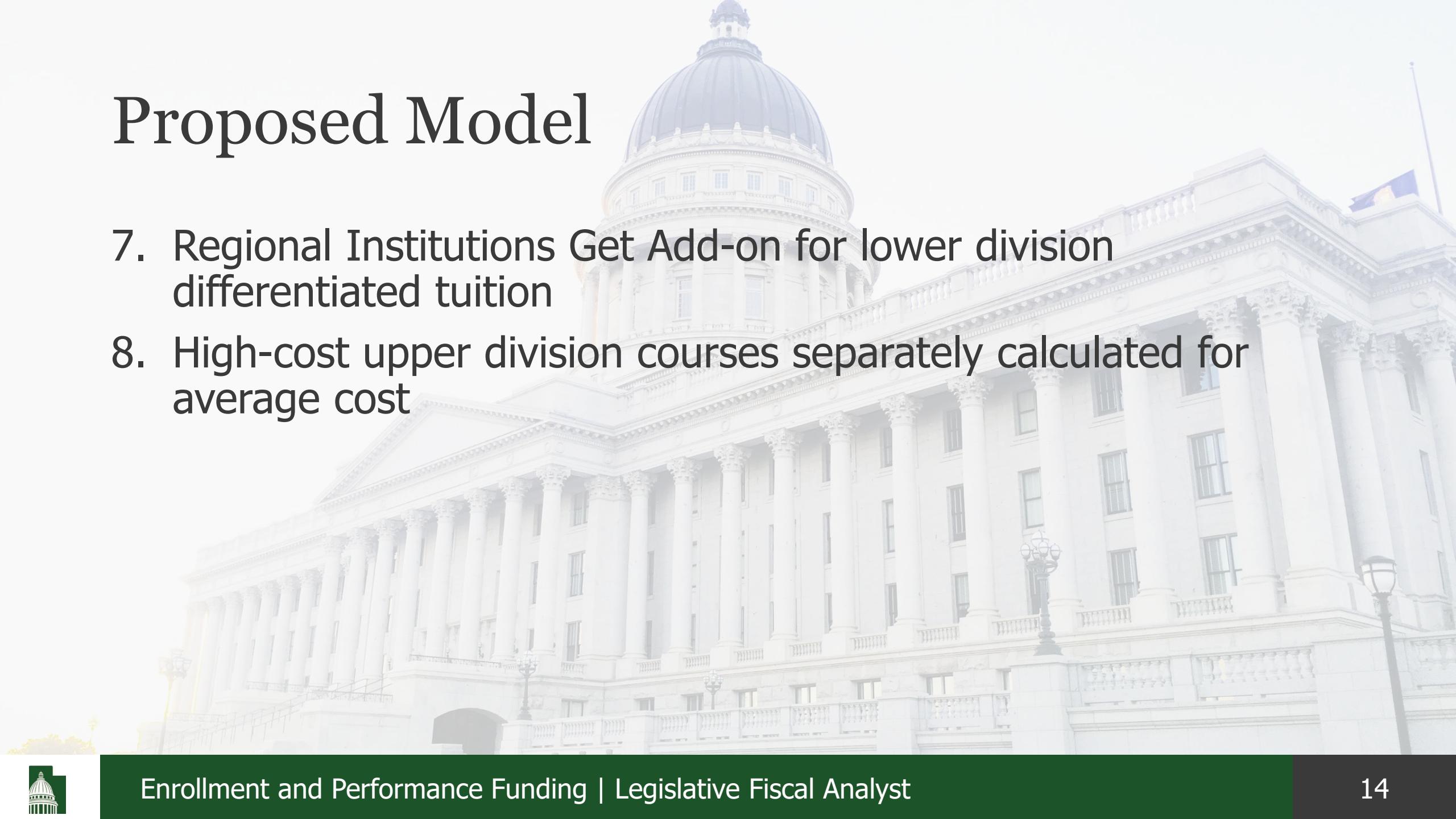
Part 2

Enrollment Funding

Proposed Model

1. Find the average per FTE direct instructional cost at each level of instruction.
2. Find the five-year rolling average FTE enrollment at each level of instruction at each institution.
3. Find the percentage change in five-year average FTE enrollment by instruction level.
4. If the percentage change in enrollment is equal to or greater than 1% up or down, multiply the average per FTE cost by the actual change in FTE.
5. Apply a cost sharing weight based on institution type.
6. Sum the amount by institution to get the total funding change.

Proposed Model

A large, ornate, neoclassical building with a prominent dome and columns, representing the Idaho State Capitol. The image is faded and serves as a background for the text.

7. Regional Institutions Get Add-on for lower division differentiated tuition
8. High-cost upper division courses separately calculated for average cost



Level of Instruction

- Technical Education
- Vocational Education
- Lower Division Undergraduate
- Upper Division Undergraduate
- High-Cost Upper Division Undergraduate
- Basic Graduate (Master's Degrees)
- Advanced Graduate (Doctorate Degrees)

Cost Sharing Weight

Average cost per FTE is a combination of tuition and state funding, so a cost sharing weight is applied:

- Research institutions: 50%
- Regional Universities: 60%
 - Cost-differential: 65%
- Community Colleges: 75%
- Technical Colleges: 90%



Additional Information

- Funding goes up with increased enrollments
- Funding goes down with decreased enrollments
- Loss at one instructional level can be offset by growth in another
- Adjusted appropriation is found by summing all the ups and downs

Funding Example – Utah State University

Instruction Level	20-24 Average FTE	21-25 Average FTE	Percent Change	Total Cost	State Share
Vocational Education	670.81	664.01	-1.01%	-\$42,850	-\$21,400
Lower Division	7,937.80	7,902.28	-0.45%	\$0	\$0
Upper Division	6,830.42	6,924.70	1.38%	\$858,574	\$429,300
High-Cost Upper Division	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Basic Graduate	1,460.54	1,477.54	1.16%	\$170,271	\$85,100
Advanced Graduate	303.38	297.53	-1.93%	-\$94,050	-\$47,000
				<i>Total</i>	<i>\$446,000</i>



Questions?



**LEGISLATIVE
FISCAL
ANALYST**