

USU STARS! GEAR UP
Resources for Students & Families

Preparing for College in High School

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EMMA ECCLES JONES
COLLEGE *of* EDUCATION
and HUMAN SERVICES

UtahStateUniversity®



Prepare For College

Take the right classes in high school

You can go to college no matter which classes you take in high school. But, the best prepared students take the right mix of these five core subjects. Taking the right classes and getting good grades can help you with college admissions, getting scholarships, and earning better grades in college.

- English** (4 credits)
- Math** (4 credits)
Math I, II, and III, plus one class beyond Math III
- Social Science** (3 credits)
- Science** (4 credits)
Lab-based, specifically biology, chemistry, and physics
- Language** (2 credits)
of the same language

Scholarship Tips:

Taking certain classes in high school may help you qualify for special scholarships. The Regents' Scholarship encourages Utah high school students starting in 9th grade to prepare for college by taking courses that help them be college ready. Be sure to check www.regentsscholarship.org early and often for the most up-to-date information.

College by Degrees

Most jobs today require college education beyond high school. Think of college as one year, two years, four years, or more: college certificates can be earned in one year or less, associate degrees in two years, bachelor's degrees in four years, and graduate degrees in more than four years.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Provides foundational skills for success in life, college, and the workplace.

CERTIFICATES & OTHER CREDENTIALS

1
year

Provides basic preparation for specific jobs and careers.

CNA
Pharmacy Tech
Welder

Apprenticeships
Licenses
Professional Certifications

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

2
years

Provides preparation for a job or a bachelor's degree.

Dental Hygienist
Vet Tech
Nurse

Associate of Applied Science
Associate of Science
Associate of Arts

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

4
years

Provides education for a career or for graduate study.

Accountant
Engineer
Teacher

Bachelor of Science
Bachelor of Arts

GRADUATE DEGREE

+1-6
years

Provides advanced preparation in a variety of careers that require education beyond a bachelor's degree.

Doctor
Lawyer
Social Worker

Master's degrees
Doctoral degrees
Graduate Certificates

Types of Colleges

Institutions of higher learning serve different purposes and fall into different categories. Depending on your future career plans, some colleges may be a better fit than others for you.

Vocational or Technical Schools (1-2 years)

These schools offer specific career-oriented programs that last from a few months to a couple of years. Most are specialized and offer intense training in one specific skill area. They may be a separate institution or may be part of a larger community college or university.

Community Colleges (2-4 years)

These colleges offer certificates and associate degrees at a lower cost than universities. They offer a wide variety of courses from job training programs to general education that make it easier to transfer to a four-year university to continue your education.

Regional Campuses (2-4 years)

These colleges or universities are located throughout the state. They offer courses leading to an undergraduate degree, as well as associate and career-oriented programs such as certificates.

Colleges or Universities* (4+ years)

These institutions are larger and typically separated into specialized colleges and graduate programs in business, engineering, medicine, law, agriculture, nursing, and the arts. They offer advanced degrees.

Specialized Schools* (varies)

This type of institution provides a limited number of training programs in specific areas such as nursing, art, or business. Make sure that any school you apply to is accredited so that credits may be transferred to other institutions, and that your credentials will attract potential employers.

* Public vs Private Colleges

Public colleges and universities are owned and supported by the State of Utah. Private, not-for-profit colleges and universities are not owned by the state but are regionally accredited.

Utah Colleges & Universities

College Names:

	CERTIFICATE	ASSOCIATE DEGREE	BACHELOR'S DEGREE	GRADUATE DEGREE
<i>Bridgerland Technical College</i>	X			
<i>Brigham Young University*</i>			X	X
<i>Davis Technical College</i>	X			
<i>Dixie State University</i>	X	X	X	X
<i>Dixie Technical College</i>	X			
<i>LDS Business College*</i>	X	X		
<i>Mountainland Technical College</i>	X			
<i>Ogden Technical College</i>	X			
<i>Salt Lake Community College</i>	X	X		
<i>Snow College</i>	X	X	X	
<i>Southern Utah University</i>	X	X	X	X
<i>Southwest Technical College</i>	X			
<i>Tooele Technical College</i>	X			
<i>Uintah Basin Technical College</i>	X			
<i>University of Utah</i>			X	X
<i>USU Eastern & Statewide</i>	X	X	X	X
<i>Utah State University</i>	X	X	X	X
<i>Utah Valley University</i>	X	X	X	X
<i>Weber State University</i>	X	X	X	X
<i>Westminster College*</i>			X	X

*Private Colleges

Earn College Credit in High School

Right now, as you work toward high school graduation, you could also be earning college credits. Here are three ways to earn college credit in high school. This is a great way to get a head start on your college education, plus it'll save you time and money.

To get started, talk with your counselor to see which classes your high school offers and make sure you're earning credit that counts for either general education or toward your major at the college you plan to attend.

	Concurrent Enrollment (CE)	Advanced Placement (AP)	International Baccalaureate (IB)
What is it?	CE classes earn high school and college credit at the same time.	AP classes are writing and research intensive and emphasize study and test-taking skills.	IB classes are writing and research-intensive. IB students also perform community service and write an extended essay.
Where is it available?	Available at most Utah high schools	Available at most Utah high schools	Only offered at certain Utah high schools
College credit earned through:	Passing the class	Exam Score	Exam Score
Cost:* <i>*estimates as costs may vary by high school and year</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$15-20 per class (\$5 per credit) • One-time application fee (varies by college) • Possible book costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$93 per exam • Possible book costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$116 per exam • Possible book costs
What college credit will I earn?	Many CE classes fulfill general education requirements. CE also offers introductory classes in college level career and technical education.	Varies with each college—check with your college's academic advisor	Varies with each college—check with your college's academic advisor

Taking college credits in high school will challenge you. As you do so, you will build a college transcript. This means that your grades and scores will follow you throughout your education.