

Education

There are a number of resources to help young people successfully graduate from high school and then move on to some form of post-secondary education and training. There are also second chance alternatives for those who have either dropped out of school or realized as adults that they need more training.

A variety of programs and services are available to supplement regular school programs in serving the educational needs of children, youth and adults in our communities. You may be limited in your ability to move forward due to lack of education. Further education may enhance your ability to participate more fully in church, society, or simply increase your understanding of life or enjoyment of it.

This resource will suggest programs and websites that can be used if help is needed. It is advantageous for adults, youth and families to obtain all the preparation for life possible. This section also includes information relating to Early Childhood Education and the resources that are available to help parents of preschool children prepare their children to succeed in school.

The Utah Area Presidency has assembled an education options tool that can be found by clicking the link:

<https://content.churchofjesuschrist.org/acp/bc/Utah%20Area/Education%20Initiative/2024-2025%20Educational%20Options%20Tool.pdf>

Early Education and Elementary through Junior High School

Waterford Upstart

Waterford Upstart Free Pre-Kindergarten Program is a proven, at-home learning program designed to prepare children to start kindergarten with confidence. Families receive everything they need, including access to fun and interactive software, expert coaching and support, and even a computer and internet in participating regions, all at no cost. Click here for more information <https://www.waterford.org/upstart>. When a child is enrolled, their parents are eligible to participate in on-line language courses.

School District Pre-School Programs

Many pre-school day care programs make significant efforts to prepare children to successfully enter kindergarten when they reach the appropriate age. Locally, the Davis

School District offers preschool programs. Click the link below to access more information and start the registration process.

<https://www.davis.k12.ut.us/page/early-childhood-programs>

Head Start Programs

The Head Start program is designed especially for children from low-income families and recognizes the language and educational preparation limitations faced by many of these children. Head Start is a federally funded program operated by Utah Community Action and other anti-poverty programs rather than a school-based program. Children under three years of age can participate in Early Start which includes their mothers who are taught skills of childcare. Some programs may be year-round. Parents should check and apply early, as there may be waitlists. Click here to find a program and additional information: <https://www.benefits.gov/benefit/1942>

Elementary Through Junior High

Each school should have counselors who are there to assist students in succeeding in school. School counselors have a wealth of information and parents should and reach out to the counselors for help in completing these important years of school.

Scholarships, College Preparation and High School Completion and Keys to Success Programs to Help Youth Successfully Complete High School

The youth programs offered include enrichment classes, high school makeup classes, extended day classes (before, after and summer activities), early childhood programs, and vocational skill training leading to job placement. For more information about youth education programs, search on-line naming the appropriate school district and “after school programs” or click here: [Utah Afterschool Network - Find an Afterschool Program](#)

Scholarships and Grants for High School Graduates

There are many scholarships and grants available for students who can’t otherwise afford to attend college. High school counselors can be an excellent resource in helping young people find scholarships and grants to assist them in attending college and other post-high school programs. Those seeking financial assistance should schedule appointments with their local high school counselors to see what is available to these students.

In addition, Ensign College (formerly LDS Business College) offers many scholarships for their students and has staff that can help your families’ students navigate entering college.

Website: <https://www.ensign.edu/scholarships>

Scholarships and Resources for Single Mothers

The Stella H. Oaks Foundation offers scholarships for single mothers (click the link for information: <https://www.stellahoaks.org>). There is also additional information on many scholarships and resources for single mothers looking to further their education (click here for this information: <https://www.stellahoaks.org/resources>).

Adult Education Programs

The adult programs offered in each school districts include English as a second language (ESL), General Education Development (GED) preparation classes and testing and adult high school completion and Adult Basic Education (for English speaking adults lacking sufficient basic competence) and Adult Secondary Education (additional instruction below the college level). The links below are to the Utah State Board of Education - Adult Education web page and Directory of Adult Education Programs (showing what is available in each school district and contact information).

<https://www.schools.utah.gov/adulteducation?mid=2654&tid=1>
[AdultEdProgramDirectory2025-2026](#)

Keys to Success

Originally in 48 high schools across the Wasatch front, Keys to Success has grown immensely in the past two decades and is now open to middle schools, high schools, and higher education institutions across the state of Utah. Along with this expansion, the program has evolved with the development of a mobile app along with the introduction of prizes and incentives to reward students for their steps towards college and career readiness. In 2021, the Keys to Success adult portal was launched to support adults in their own personal paths towards college and career readiness. See the "Keys to Success" website at <https://www.ktsutah.org>

Higher Education, BYU Pathways and Upskilling Employment

BYU Pathway Program

BYU Pathway Connect and BYU Pathway Worldwide provide students with a flexible and highly affordable college experience that will assist them in overcoming obstacles and moving forward with their educational goals. The Pathway websites will provide insight and answer your specific questions:

Pathway Connect – Pathway Connect, also known as Pathway, is a 21-week college preparatory course designed to assist students on their “path” to attaining an education. Offered at a significantly reduced cost, Pathway includes foundational academic and religion courses — completely online — that help students see increased success. No

ACT/SAT required for admission or even a high school diploma. Students choose from degrees in business, technology, health, communication, and other fields.

Website: <https://www.byupathway.edu/admissions>

BYU Pathway Worldwide - Online students have different needs than campus students. This is why BYU-Pathway Worldwide was created. Degrees are offered from BYU-Idaho and Ensign College completely online, while BYU-Pathway provides the resources and support to help students succeed, including wonderful mentors. There are multiple degree options, tuition is very low (thanks to contributions from the Church), scheduling is flexible and admissions are simplified.

Website: <https://www.byupathway.org/degrees>

Many Higher Education Opportunities in Utah

Encourage parents, young adults, and youth who are interested in higher education to explore all the options available in the State of Utah. Utah has many colleges and universities and there are many resources to assist them in paying for their education.

Website: <https://www.utah.gov/education/colleges.html>

Technical Programs and Upskilling Employment

Salt Lake Technical College (often referred to as Salt Lake Tech) and the School of Technical & Professional Specialties are distinct divisions within Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) designed to provide hands-on, competency-based, and industry-recognized career training. Other technical colleges, including Davis Technical College, train students with entry level vocational skills leading to job placement. These programs may also lead to a two-year associate degree at Salt Lake Community College or transferable credit to one of the State universities. A quick search on-line can give you more information and contact information to get started.

In Summer 2022, Salt Lake Community College announced that it had funds available to cover the full costs of short-term training courses and certificate programs for certain careers referred to as “Utah Works”.

Website: <https://www.slcc.edu/utahworks/>