

Skills Training

Why Skill Training?

For many, attending college, university, or trade school and gaining a certification, 2- or 4-year degree or beyond may be the best choice. But for others, acquiring the right skill and putting that to use will allow them to find a great job and be self-reliant. In some cases, taking the right class or getting the right certificate can make all the difference. Utah has many excellent jobs that do not require a college education.

Where do you start?

While there are many places you can go to find skill training, two sources stand out.

Development Counselors

These are licensed professionals employed by the Church who work closely with individuals to help them overcome barriers preventing their long-term self-reliance. They can provide coordination of educational and certified vocational training programs, on-the-job training opportunities and funding resources. Development Counselors are located at each Deseret Industries location (their focus is not on DI jobs). Contact your bishop as he can provide a referral electronically in the Leader and Clerk Resources webpage or the bishop may choose to call the Deseret Industries. You can learn more about Development Counseling Services by clicking this link:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/callings/welfare-self-reliance/services-and-programs?lang=eng>

State Workforce Services.

The Utah Department of Workforce Services has many programs designed to help people prepare for and enter the job market ready to succeed. They offer personalized career coaching and financial support through career counselors. They can help with a GED, licensing and certification, apprenticeships and more. They also have programs to help with childcare and can direct people in getting financial assistance as needed. You can learn more about Workforce Services Career and Education Assistance by clicking this link:

<https://jobs.utah.gov/jobseeker/career/index.html>

Many stakes have called Education Specialists and Education Mentors. Check with these specialists in the Stake to see if these individuals could be helpful in your efforts.

What about young people?

If there are youth in the ward who are unlikely to continue traditional education past high school, they can explore additional training opportunities. Many of these can be done while in high school and often at little or no additional cost, including at Davis Technical College. Any training programs completed prior to high school graduation are tuition free. These possibilities can be discussed with a high school counselor.

Where can I get help for underemployed individuals?

Sometimes all that is needed is help with the workplace success traits such as dependability, honesty and integrity, initiative and teamwork. In other cases, language proficiency may be the barrier. The Employment Resource Centers in each Deseret Industries can assist with these needs.

Don't let barriers stop those who truly desire to improve their skills.

Getting the necessary skills for a better job will seem daunting for many we serve. Time, money and family needs may stand in the way. Consulting the resources identified can help you overcome these challenges.