

HIGHER ED MATTERS

Utah System of Higher Education, February 2012

“Traditional colleges and universities continue to play an invaluable role in our society all the more so as the world changes... their functions are, for now, irreplaceable.”

— Clayton Christensen and Henry Eyring, *Chronicle of Higher Education*

COLLEGE IS WORTH IT!

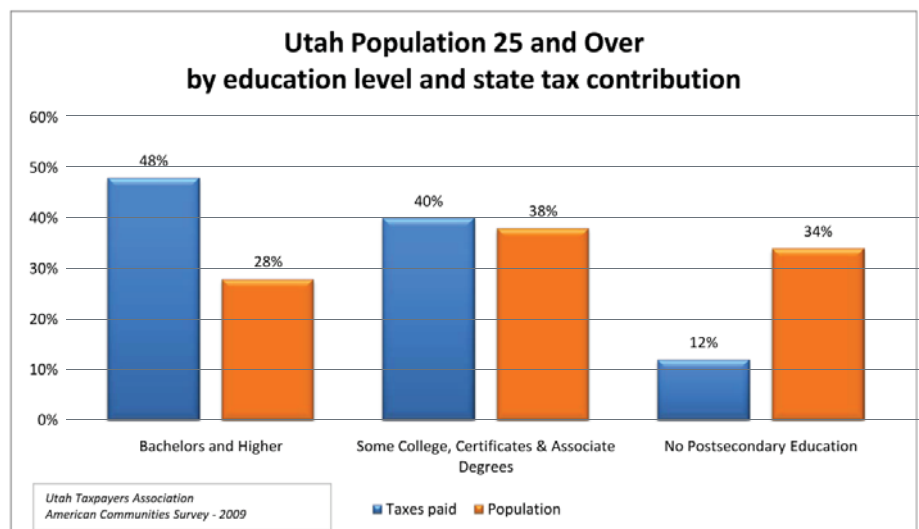
Higher education is an investment of both money and time, for students and the public. Data shows a significant return on investment for both the individual and the community as a whole.

Cost and Value— 86% of college graduates say that college has been a good investment for them personally.

Monetary Payoff— Adults who did not attend college believe that, on average, they are earning \$20,000 a year less as a result.

For Most, Missions Accomplished— Among survey respondents who graduated from a four-year college, 74% say their college education was very useful in helping them grow intellectually; 69% say it was very useful in helping them grow and mature as a person; and 55% say it was very useful in helping them prepare for a job or career.

Lifelong Worth— Over the course of a 40-year work life, college graduates on average earn nearly \$650,000 more than a typical high school graduate.



State tax collections are directly affected by college experience: 34% of Utahns without college pay only 12% of the state's taxes, while 28% of Utahns with a baccalaureate degree or higher account for nearly half.

High School Graduate:
\$770,000

Associate Degree:
\$980,000

Baccalaureate Degree:
\$1,400,000

Source: <http://pewsocialtrends.org/2011/05/15/is-college-worth-it>

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2012 Budget Priorities

In the state of Utah, more students are being educated with fewer funds. Current tax funds per student have dropped by \$1,555 since 2008. When tuition is added, funds per student are \$721 less. Utah consistently does “more with less,” however the time is now where public investment in Higher Education is essential.

To help achieve Utah’s “big goal” of 66% of the state’s population with a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2020, higher education officials have recommended key priorities for lawmakers this year:

Ongoing Budget Priorities: \$55,272,700

1. Compensation
Base Compensation + \$5 M for merit and retention
2. Mission Based Performance Funding
\$33,955,000
3. Excellence and Efficiency in Education
\$5,800,000
4. Operational Imperatives
\$2,567,700
5. USHE Programs (including scholarships)
\$7,950,000

Capital Development Priorities:

1. UU- Infrastructure, \$50,000,000
2. WSU- New Science Lab Building, \$60,000,000
3. Snow- Science Building, \$11,800,000
4. UVU- Classroom Building, \$50,000,000
5. SUU- New Business Building, \$8,000,000
6. USU (CEU)- Arts & Education Building, \$23,800,000
7. USU (Brigham City)- Academic Building, \$7,500,000
8. DSC- General Classroom Building, \$35,000,000

Systemwide Innovations: Paving the Way for the Future

Innovation happens every day at Utah’s eight public colleges and universities to help put our state on the map. From inspirational students to star faculty and staff, research projects to the arts and culture, our institutions are true innovators.

There are also innovations occurring on a systemwide level which help make a quality college experience successful, affordable and meaningful. Two examples of these innovations are:

Technology Intensive Concurrent Enrollment (TICE)

- Each meet a general education requirement
- Will be readily available to all USHE institutions to offer to high schools statewide
- Speeds the time to degree completion
- Assess student achievement of essential learning outcomes
- Are delivered in strongest “success” (hybrid) format-- in class and online
- Six core courses: ART 1010, ENGL 1010, CHEM 1110, MATH 1010, MATH 1030, PSY 1010
- Visit uen.org/concurrent for more information

Textbook Innovations

- In 2011, USHE adopted first ever Course Materials Affordability Policy (R465)
- Policy requires each USHE institution to minimize cost of course materials while maintaining quality
- Institutions also offer strategies to help students save on textbooks:
- Textbook rental programs
- Increased availability of eBooks
- Used textbooks
- Guaranteed buyback

