



UTAH SYSTEM OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION

# MEMORANDUM

TAB H

May 21, 2021

## Technical Education Credit Policy

During their meeting in November 2020, the Technical Education Board Committee discussed a strategic initiative to transition technical education institutions offering instruction in clock-hours to credit-hours.

The Committee created a task force to evaluate and verify that such a transition would accomplish three objectives:

- Provide for a common currency among the 16 USHE institutions.
- Remove attendance requirements currently imposed on clock-hour institutions by the U.S. Department of Education impacting the ability of these institutions to equitably deliver hybrid and distance education instruction to all students.
- Ensure such a transition will not compromise flexible enrollment and student progression practices currently provided through competency-based education.

Task force subcommittees met with and received guidance from the U.S. Department of Education and the Council on Occupational Education, the body that accredits the technical colleges. The subcommittee presented their findings to the task force, confirming the transition of clock-hour institutions to credit would address all three objectives. The task force recommended that USHE proceed with the initiative. The Technical Education Committee concurs.

### **Commissioner's Recommendation**

The Commissioner recommends the Board move forward with the development of policy to support the transition of USHE institutions from clock-hours to credit hours.