



UTAH SYSTEM OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TAB E

September 16, 2022

Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI)

At least five USHE colleges and universities—including the University of Utah, Weber State University, Utah Tech University, Utah Valley University, and Salt Lake Community College—are considering becoming a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI). Weber State University President Brad Mortensen will share how his institution is working toward becoming an HSI, with further considerations for the system.

Definitions

According to the [Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities](#), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) are [defined in Title V of the Higher Education Act](#) as not-for-profit institutions of higher learning with a full-time equivalent (FTE) undergraduate student enrollment of at least 25 percent Hispanic. Eligibility is monitored annually.

Title V eligibility (i.e., meeting the Federal definition of an HSI) is determined by the U.S. Department of Education as the first step in the application process for a Title V grant. To qualify as an HSI under Title V, a college or university should have (1) an FTE enrollment of undergraduate students of at least 25 percent Hispanic students and (2) not less than 50 percent of all students are eligible for need-based Title IV aid.

The [Department of Education](#) offers grants to institutions defined as HSIs, which can be used for many academic purposes serving all ethnicities at the institution, including:

- Faculty development
- Funds and administrative management
- Development and improvement of academic programs
- Endowment funds
- Curriculum development
- Scientific or laboratory equipment for teaching
- Renovation of instructional facilities
- Joint use of facilities
- Academic tutoring
- Counseling programs
- Student support services

Commissioner's Recommendation

This is an information item only; no action is required.