



State and Federal Updates

October 2, 2026



UTAH
SYSTEM OF
HIGHER
EDUCATION

State Updates

September Legislative Interim Session

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Higher Education-Related Agenda Items

Executive Appropriations Committee

- Year two degree-granting strategic reinvestment plans

Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee

- Nucleus Institute

Education Interim Committee

- Institutional neutrality and student clubs

Federal Updates

Congressional Appropriations Update

- Federal FY 27 began October 1
- Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) on September 1 that extends through December 11:
 - Averted a government shutdown at the onset of FY 27
 - Generally maintains federal discretionary funding at FY 26 levels
 - Blocks implementation of White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) proposed rule regarding federal agency senior political appointees' power to review and revoke grants

International Student Visas

- September 14: A federal judge blocked implementation of the Department of Homeland Security's final rule from earlier this year regarding F-1 and J-1 visas
- Overview of the final rule:
 - Would limit F-1 and J-1 visas to a fixed period tied to the length of the student's program, limited to no more than four years
 - International students needing longer to complete their program would have to apply for an extension of stay
- Litigation remains ongoing