Financial Aid

The Board of Higher Education oversaw the distribution of $20.1 million to 10,313 students who received awards from 11 state aid programs in fiscal year 2022. These state aid programs were created and funded by the Legislature and are summarized in the report below.

Though this report is focused on programs funded by the state, the Commissioner’s Office also administered five programs primarily funded by the federal government for thousands of students in fiscal 2022. Additionally, institutions administer legislatively-created waivers and institution-specific scholarships and grants.

Since the beginning of 2022, the Legislature changed the Talent Development Incentive Loan and the Public Safety Office Career Advancement Reimbursement programs to grant programs, merged the Higher Education Success Stipend Program (HESSP) with the Utah Promise Grant, transformed the Regents’ Scholarship into the streamlined Opportunity Scholarship, and created four new grant programs. Additionally, the Board of Higher Education approved a consolidation of ongoing and one-time funding from the retired New Century program with the Utah Promise Grant, increasing ongoing funding by more than 50 percent to this need-based grant.

In 2022, the Board of Higher Education created the USHE Employee Scholarship and collaborated with industry to create a Promise Partner Scholarship. Including these two new programs, the Commissioner’s Office currently administers 22 financial aid programs that are primarily funded by state and federal governments.
STATE AID SUMMARY

DESCRIPTION: This document summarizes 11 state aid programs administered in FY 2022. Program summaries, demographic information, eligibility requirements, and additional information for each program can be found in the individual program summaries.

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Aid Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AWARDS: 10,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISBURSED: $20,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE AWARD: $1,950</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Gender

Race/Ethnicity
**Adult Learner Grant**

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** “To provide financial assistance for adult learners pursuing an online degree in a field of industry need.” (Board Rule R765-616-1)

**AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

- **Program Statistics**
  - **AWARDS:** 702
  - **DISBURSED:** $968,000
  - **AVERAGE AWARD:** $1,380

**AWARD REQUIREMENTS:**
- 26 years old or older
- Enroll in eligible online program
- Utah resident
- Complete FAFSA & qualify for a Pell Grant
- Priority given to students from to rural areas, low-income or underserved backgrounds, or who are pursuing degree aligned to four- or five-star jobs

**ELIGIBLE USES:** Up to cost of attendance

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Based on available funding

**ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS***:
- Public, degree granting institutions
- Public, technical colleges
- Private, non-profit Utah institutions

**AWARD DURATION:** Completion of degree

*Institutions must offer an eligible program.*
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: A statewide grant program that expands access to higher education opportunities to all Utahns by providing financial assistance to students who demonstrate financial need. The Legislature combined the HESSP with the Utah Promise Grant in FY 2023.

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

AWARDS:
- 2,033

DISBURSED:
- $1,866,000

AVERAGE AWARD:
- $918

AWARD REQUIREMENTS:
- Utah resident or qualify for resident tuition
- Complete a FAFSA
- Demonstrate financial need

ELIGIBLE USES: Up to cost of attendance

AWARD AMOUNT: Based on available funding, up to $5,000

ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS:
- Public, degree granting institutions
- Public, technical colleges
- Private, non-profit Utah institutions

AWARD DURATION: Up to completion of bachelor degree
New Century Scholarship

**Program Description:** "The New Century Scholarship encourages students to accelerate their education by earning an associate degree in high school from an institution within the USHE." (Board Rule R765-604-1). **New awards to this program were discontinued in FY 2023.**

### Awards and Disbursements

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<thead>
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**Awards** in blue, **Disbursed** in orange.

### Demographic Information

#### Gender:
- Male
- Female

#### Race / Ethnicity:
- White
- Latinx/Hispanic
- Asian
- Black
- Pacific Islander
- Two or More
- Unspecified

### Award Requirements:
- Complete the requirements for associate degree with a minimum of a 3.0 college GPA before high school graduation
- Maintain a minimum of a 3.5 GPA in H.S.
- Graduate from a Utah high school or, if homeschooled, receive an ACT score of at least 26
- Complete a FAFSA or opt out

### Award Amount:
Based on available funding

### Eligible Institutions:
- Public, degree granting institutions (4-year)
- Private, non-profit Utah institutions (4-year)

### Award Duration:
The least of four semesters, 60 credit hours, or first bachelor degree

### Eligible Uses:
Tuition and fees
Public Safety Officer Career Advancement Reimbursement

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: “A state-funded tuition reimbursement program for certified peace officers enrolled in criminal justice related programs at a credit-granting institution in the Utah System of Higher Education.” This reimbursement program transitioned to a grant program in FY 2023.

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Demographic Information*

*Gender and race/ethnicity are not available for this program year.

Award Requirements:

- Be a certified peace officer at a Utah agency for at least three consecutive years prior to application and one year after completion of coursework
- Enroll in an approved criminal justice related degree program
- Earn credit for reimbursed courses

Eligible Uses: Tuition and fees

Award Amount: 50% tuition and fees up to $5,000/year

Eligible Institutions: Public, degree granting institutions

Award Duration: Up to eight academic years

Program Statistics

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Awards & Disbursement

Academic Programs

- Criminal Justice
- MPA
- Agribusiness
- Business Administration
- Criminology
- Emergency Services Management
- General Education
- Psychology
- Sociology

Awards & Disbursement

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Awards & Disbursement

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Program Statistics

- AWARDS: 4,870
- DISBURSED: $8,700,000
- AVERAGE AWARD: $1,880

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: “The Regents’ Scholarship encourages students to complete [recommended] curriculum... to provide better access to higher education opportunities.” (Board Rule R765-609C-1). New awards for this program were discontinued in FY 2023.

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

AWARD REQUIREMENTS:
- Complete core courses in English, math, social studies, science, and a world language
- Graduate from a Utah high school with a minimum of a 3.3 GPA
- Earn a composite ACT score of at least 22
- Complete a FAFSA

ELIGIBLE USES: Tuition and fees

AWARD AMOUNT: Based on available funding

ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS:
- Public, degree granting institutions
- Public, technical colleges
- Private, non-profit Utah institutions

AWARD DURATION: The least of four semesters, 60 credit hours, or first bachelor degree
**Talent Development Incentive Loan Program**

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** “to recruit and train individuals to work in certain jobs that have a high demand for new employees and offer high wages.” (Utah Code 53B-10-202(1)) This program was converted to a grant program in FY 2023.

**AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

<table>
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**DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

**AWARD REQUIREMENTS:**
- Enroll at a USHE degree granting institution
- Declare pursuit of qualifying degree and intention to work in Utah
- Complete a FAFSA

**ELIGIBLE USES:** Tuition, fees, and books

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Based on available funding

**ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS:** Public, degree granting institutions that offer eligible programs

**AWARD DURATION:** Completion of degree
Technical Education Scholarship

**Program Statistics**

- **AWARDS:** 746
- **DISBURSED:** $950,000
- **AVERAGE AWARD:** $1,300

**Program Description:**
Provides financial assistance to students pursuing technical education in designated high-demand industries.

**Awards and Disbursements**

**Awards & Disbursement**

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**Demographic Information**

- **Gender**
  - Male
  - Female
  - Not Specified

- **Race / Ethnicity**
  - White
  - Latinx/Hispanic
  - Asian
  - Black
  - Native American
  - Two or More

**Award Requirements:**
- Enroll in a designated high-demand technical education program
- Complete a FAFSA
- Priority to individuals from underserved populations

**Eligible Uses:** Tuition, fees, and books

**Award Amount:** Based on available funding

**Eligible Institutions:** USHE technical colleges and technical education programs

**Award Duration:** Up to three academic years
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: To recruit and support students who are interested in serving as public educators in Utah and who enroll in an approved education program.

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (USHE institutions only)

AWARD REQUIREMENTS:
- Declare intention to earn a degree in an approved teacher education or speech language pathology program
- Declare intention to teaching in Utah after graduation
- Complete a FAFSA
- Priority given to first generation students and those who intend to teach in a high-need area in the state

AWARD AMOUNT: Based on available funding

ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS:
- Public, degree granting institutions that offer eligible programs
- Private, non-profit Utah institutions that offer eligible programs

AWARD DURATION: Up to four consecutive years

ELIGIBLE USES: Tuition, fees, and books
**Utah Promise Grant**

**Program Statistics**
- AWARDS: 1,780
- DISBURSED: $2,260,000
- AVERAGE AWARD: $1,270

**Program Description:** A statewide grant program that expands access to higher education opportunities to all Utahns by providing financial assistance to students who demonstrate financial need. The Legislature combined HESSP with the Utah Promise Grant in FY 2023.

**Awards and Disbursements**

**Gender**
- Male
- Female
- Not Specified

**Race / Ethnicity**
- White
- Latinx/Hispanic
- Asian
- American
- Black
- Native American
- Pacific Islander
- Two or More

**Award Requirements:**
- Utah resident or qualify for resident tuition
- Complete a FAFSA
- Demonstrate financial need

**Eligible Uses**: Tuition and fees

**Award Amount**: Based on available funding

**Eligible Institutions**:
- Public, degree granting institutions
- Public, technical colleges

**Award Duration**: Up to completion of first associate degree, four semesters, or 60 credit hours at institutions that do not offer associate degrees

*Modifications in the 2023 Legislative General Session expanded eligible uses to the cost of attendance and extended the award duration to up to the completion of a bachelor degree or 120 attempted credit hours. Also, students can use the Utah Promise Grant at all 16 USHE institutions and accredited private, nonprofit institutions.*
VETERANS TUITION GAP PROGRAM

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** Serves veterans who have exhausted federal veteran education benefits and are in the final year of their program to complete their first bachelor’s degree.

**AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

- **AWARDS:** 23
- **DISBURSED:** $81,000
- **AVERAGE AWARD:** $3,500

**DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

Demographic data is not available for this program.

**AWARD REQUIREMENTS:**
- Utah resident or qualify for resident tuition
- Military veteran
- In final year of first bachelor degree at eligible institution
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Exhausted federal veteran education benefits
- Complete a FAFSA

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Based on available funding

**ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS:**
- Public, degree granting institutions (4-year)
- Private, non-profit Utah institutions (4-year)

**AWARD DURATION:** One rolling calendar year

**ELIGIBLE USES:** Tuition, fees, books
WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: “A regional exchange program for students pursuing certain professional healthcare degrees (that are not offered in their home state) at participating universities in other WICHE states and territories.” (Board Rule R765-628-3(1))

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

AWARDS:
- 32

DISBURSED:
- $582,000

AVERAGE AWARD:
- $18,200

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

AWARD REQUIREMENTS:
- At least five years consecutive Utah residency
- Enroll in an eligible program at a regional WICHE program (podiatry or optometry)
- Commit to practice in Utah upon completion

ELIGIBLE USES: Tuition and fees

AWARD AMOUNT: Based on available funding

ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS: Visit WICHE website

AWARD DURATION: Completion of program (up to four academic years)