



# UTAH SCHOLARS INITIATIVE

ANNUAL REPORT  
2013-2014



# WELCOME



We have some great news to share with you in this year's Annual Report. In 2013-2014, our volunteers reached more than 29,000 students. We continue to hear from schools and districts that want our volunteers to talk to their students about preparing for college.

We also added key follow-up messaging with all of the students who register and piloted a more intense 10th grade program, using college students called Utah Scholars Coaches. See page 14 for more details.

As always, we rely on our fabulous volunteers to talk to students about setting goals and stepping up to higher education. Together, we're making a difference in how students think about, prepare for, and enroll in college.

**Christie Fox, PhD**  
Utah Scholars Director





“It got me excited to take classes to get ready for college.”

-Student, Treasure Mountain Junior High

# ABOUT UTAH SCHOLARS

The Utah Scholars Initiative (USI) is a high-impact, academic program intended to motivate students to complete a **defined curriculum** while in high school to better prepare them for college and future employment.

We focus on helping students understand the **academic preparation** needed to succeed in post-secondary education and the workforce.

We provide **communities and businesses** the opportunity to interact with local schools in a meaningful way.



Utah Scholars  
graduates receive a  
certificate and medallion to  
wear at high school  
graduation.



### 4 years/credits of English

Includes: Language Arts 9, 10, 11, 12 or Honors Language Arts, IB Language A, AP English, ENGL 1010 & 2010, if taken as concurrent enrollment.

Does not include: journalism, yearbook, speech, drama, creative writing.

### 4 years/credits of math

Includes: Math 1, 2, and 3, IB Math, AP Calculus, AP Statistics, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2. Students must take one class beyond Math 3 or Algebra 2.

Does not include: accounting, financial literacy, basic skills, computer programming.

### 3.5 years/credits of social science

Includes: geography, world & U.S. history, economics, government, and AP/IB versions of these courses.

### 3 years/credits of a lab-based science

Must take biology, chemistry, and physics. Students taking concurrent enrollment must complete both a college lecture and a college lab, and both must be reflected on the official college transcript. A college "lecture" combined with a high school "lab" is not sufficient.

Does not include: earth science.

### 2 years/credits of a world language

Must be the same world/classical language taken progressively in grades 9-12. Includes: American Sign Language, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Russian, Spanish. AP/IB versions of these courses.

### Other requirements:

Maintain a 3.0 GPA • Earn a "C" or higher in these courses • Submit an ACT score

# USI CURRICULUM

The USI Curriculum is based on national course recommendations that ensure students are prepared for life beyond high school.

The USI Curriculum gives students the foundation to be eligible to apply for scholarships and financial aid.

Students are introduced to the USI Curriculum in their 8th grade year by local community volunteers.

1

Students are better prepared for college level classes.

2

Students receive monthly messages about college preparation, college resources, and tips to stay on-track for college.

3

Student transcripts look better to college admissions and scholarship committees, and students may qualify for more scholarships.



“I liked knowing that I can start applying for scholarships now. I also liked knowing how much things cost.”

-Student, Midvale Middle School

## ALPINE

American Fork HS  
Lehi HS  
Lone Peak HS  
Mountain View HS  
Orem HS  
Pleasant Grove HS  
Timpanogos HS  
West Lake HS  
American Fork JH  
Canyon View JH  
Frontier MS  
Lakeridge JH  
Lehi JH  
Mountain Ridge JH  
Oak Canyon JH  
Orem JH  
Pleasant Grove JH  
Timberline MS  
Vista Heights MS  
Willowcreek MS

## CACHE\*\*

Mountain Crest HS\*\*  
Sky View HS\*\*  
North Cache Center\*\*  
South Cache Center\*\*

## CANYONS

Brighton HS  
Hillcrest HS  
Jordan HS  
Albion MS  
Butler MS  
Eastmont MS  
Midvale MS\*  
Mount Jordan MS  
Union MS

## DAVIS

Bountiful HS  
Clearfield HS  
Davis HS  
Layton HS  
Bountiful HS  
Clearfield HS  
Davis HS  
Layton HS  
Northridge HS  
Syracuse HS  
Viewmont HS  
Woods Cross HS  
Bountiful JH  
Centennial JH  
Centerville JH  
Central Davis JH  
Fairfield JH  
Farmington JH  
Kaysville JH  
Legacy JH

\*New schools 2013-14

\*\*New schools 2014-15

# USI PARTNER SCHOOLS

## GRANITE

Cottonwood HS  
Cyprus HS  
Granger HS  
Hunter HS  
Kearns HS  
Taylorsville HS  
Bennion JH  
Bonneville JH  
Brockbank JH  
Eisenhower JH  
Evergreen JH\*\*  
Granite Park JH  
Hunter JH  
Jefferson JH  
Kearns JH  
Kennedy JH  
Matheson JH  
Valley JH  
West Lake JH

## IRON\*\*

Canyon View HS\*  
Cedar HS\*  
Parowan HS\*  
Canyon View MS\*  
Cedar MS\*

## KANE

Kanab HS  
Kanab MS

## JORDAN

Bingham HS  
Copper Hills HS  
Herriman HS  
West Jordan HS  
Copper Mountain MS  
Elk Ridge MS  
Fort Herriman MS  
Joel P. Jensen MS  
South Jordan MS  
Sunset Ridge MS  
West Hills MS  
West Jordan MS

## NEBO\*\*

Maple Mountain HS\*\*  
Payson HS\*\*  
Salem Hills HS\*\*  
Spanish Fork HS\*\*  
Springville HS\*\*  
Diamond Fork JH\*\*  
Mapleton JH\*\*  
Mt. Nebo JH\*\*  
Payson JH\*\*  
Salem JH\*\*  
Spanish Fork JH\*\*  
Springville JH\*\*

## OGDEN

Ben Lomond HS  
Ogden HS  
Highland JH  
Mound Fort JH  
Mount Ogden JH

## PARK CITY

Park City HS  
Treasure Mountain JH

## PROVO

Provo HS  
Timpview HS  
Dixon MS  
Centennial MS

## SALT LAKE

East HS  
Highland HS  
West HS  
Bryant MS  
Clayton MS  
Glendale MS  
Hillside MS  
Northwest MS

## TOOELE

Dugway HS  
Grantsville HS  
Stansbury HS  
Tooele HS  
Wendover HS  
Clarke N. Johnsen JH  
Grantsville JH  
Tooele JH

## WASHINGTON

Desert Hills HS  
Dixie HS  
Enterprise HS  
Hurricane HS  
Pine View HS  
Snow Canyon HS  
Desert Hills MS  
Dixie MS  
Hurricane MS  
Pine View MS  
Snow Canyon MS

## NEW SCHOOLS



Every year, we add new schools to the Utah Scholars Initiative and expand our reach to 8th grade students. Iron County School District joined in 2014, and we look forward to launching the program in Nebo and Cache School Districts in 2014-2015. If your school or district wants to participate, contact us.

“I liked that the [presentation] made me feel that my future is important and that getting into college is important.”

-Student, Clayton Middle School

## USI SCHOOLS

# 133

District	#
Alpine	20
Canyons	9
Davis	24
Granite	18
Iron	5
Jordan	16
Kane	2
Ogden	5
Park City	2
Provo	4
Salt Lake	8
Tooele	8
Washington	12
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>133</b>

## USI ENROLLMENT GROWTH

# 194% ↑

District	2006-2011	2012	2013	TOTAL	% ↑
Alpine	787	1,876	3,149	5,812	68%
Canyons	225	349	748	1,322	114%
Davis	1,056	1,772	4,249	7,077	140%
Granite	281	566	3,549	4,396	527%
Iron	N/A	N/A	75	75	N/A
Jordan	208	124	1,622	1,954	1208%
Kane	N/A	0	1	1	N/A
Ogden	14	21	161	196	666%
Park City	20	5	192	217	3740%
Provo	12	14	38	64	171%
Salt Lake	48	149	282	479	89%
Tooele	12	414	1,032	1,458	149%
Washington	1,116	1,020	3,466	5,602	239%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3779</b>	<b>6,310</b>	<b>18,564</b>	<b>28,653</b>	

This chart reflects the number of students registered to be Utah Scholars.



# BY THE NUMBERS

## PRESENTATIONS GIVEN

# 831

District	2010	2011	2012	2013
Alpine	119	134	140	150
Canyons	33	62	54	45
Davis	151	155	160	162
Granite	89	69	118	125
Iron	N/A	N/A	N/A	22
Jordan	44	67	71	109
Kane	N/A	N/A	1	1
Ogden	28	31	30	27
Park City	10	12	11	12
Provo	31	33	30	36
Salt Lake	42	55	48	53
Tooele	N/A	33	44	39
Washington	44	45	55	50
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>831</b>

## STUDENTS REACHED

# 29,404

District	2010	2011	2012	2013
Alpine	4,853	4,418	5,479	5,568
Canyons	1,059	2,012	1,700	1,784
Davis	4,765	5,095	5,141	5,287
Granite	3,060	2,415	4,155	4,457
Iron	N/A	N/A	N/A	665
Jordan	1,430	2,064	2,190	4,228
Kane	N/A	N/A	100	62
Ogden	862	890	1,058	831
Park City	330	360	360	391
Provo	915	946	931	1,487
Salt Lake	1,273	1,559	1,438	1,472
Tooele	N/A	952	1,303	1,107
Washington	1,889	1,984	2,032	2,065
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>20,436</b>	<b>22,695</b>	<b>25,887</b>	<b>29,404</b>

# UTAH SCHOLARS GRADUATES

Students who qualify for Utah Scholars Recognition usually meet all the qualifications to apply for the Regents' Scholarship (see page 15).

Many of the Utah Scholars graduates qualify to receive scholarships to help them pay for their education.



## USI GRADUATES BY DISTRICT

**1,976**

School District	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	TOTAL
ALPINE	161	262	348	558	536	1865
CANYONS	27	86	131	22	210	476
DAVIS	40	118	174	322	393	1047
GRANITE	7	3	18	68	90	186
IRON	NA	NA	NA	NA	15	15
JORDAN	13	32	82	116	218	461
KANE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0
OGDEN	2	1	4	2	1	10
PARK CITY	20	44	40	35	45	184
PROVO	29	32	44	61	62	228
SALT LAKE	71	59	73	84	77	364
TOOELE	N/A	N/A	23	43	53	119
WASHINGTON	44	99	99	214	276	732
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>1525</b>	<b>1976</b>	<b>5,687</b>



**“[The Utah Scholars Presentation] showed how critical it is to start preparing now. It taught me things I would never have known.”**

**-Student, Sunset Junior High School**

## USI PARTNERS

American Fork Chamber of Commerce  
AmeriCorps VISTA  
AVID  
Bank of America  
Bank of American Fork  
Check City  
Cyprus Credit Union  
Dixie State University  
Echelon Inc.  
EnergySolutions, LLC  
Imagine Learning  
NCR  
Salt Lake Community College  
SentrX Animal Care  
Timpanogos Regional Hospital  
United Way of Salt Lake  
United Way of Utah County  
Utah State University - Tooele  
Utah Technology Council  
Utah Valley University  
Weber State University  
Wells Fargo  
Westminster College

## TOP VOLUNTEERS

### **DIANE BRADSHAW**

44 presentations given  
Direct Communications

### **GREGORY ROBERTS**

31 presentations given  
Salt Lake Community College

### **BERDJE BEZDJIAN**

22 presentations given  
Salt Lake Community College

### **SARAH JANE-PEDERSEN**

21 presentations given  
Salt Lake Community College

### **CLIFF HALL**

17 presentations given  
Cyprus Credit Union

### **CYNTHIA GAMBILL**

17 presentations given  
Corporate Alliance

### **VILATE VAN LEEUWEN**

17 presentations given  
Salt Lake Community College

# VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are heroes: they take time out of their work days to go into 8th grade classrooms to give the Utah Scholars presentation. Our amazing volunteers share their passion by helping students dream big about college. Utah's big college goal to have 66% of our population with a college credential by 2020 relies on people like our volunteers, who want to make a difference.

We recruit volunteers through a variety of ways.

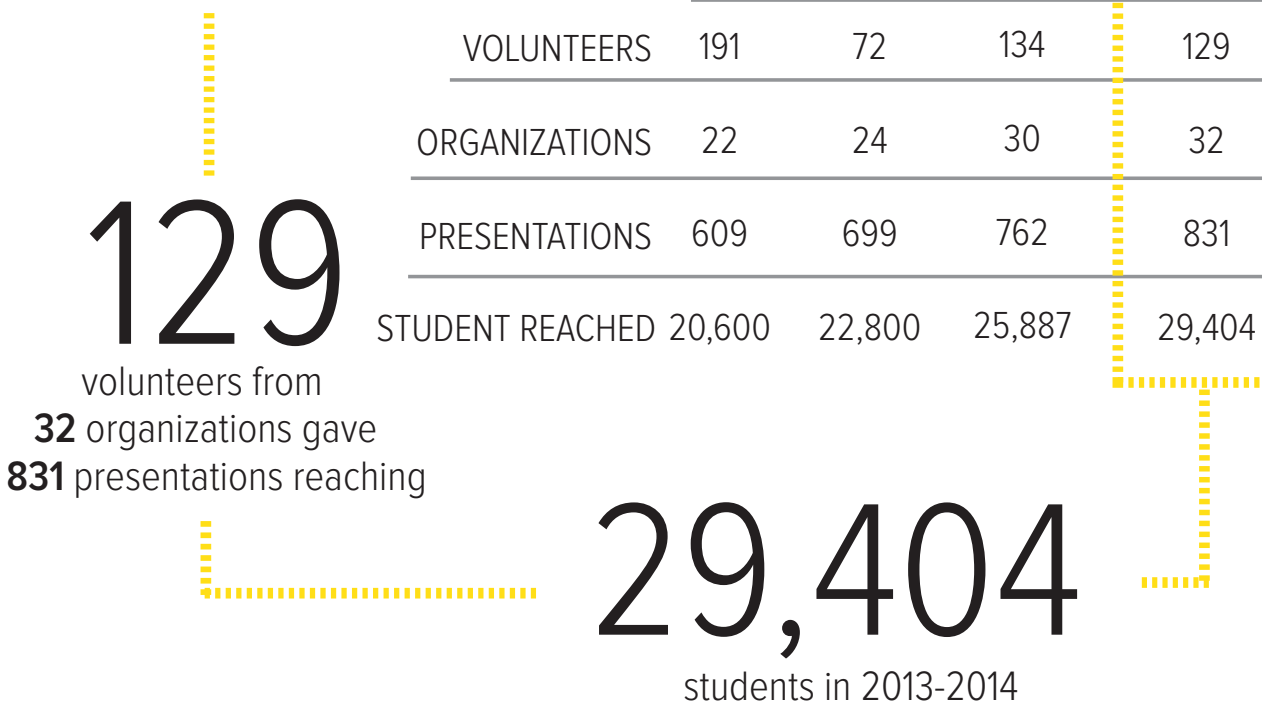
Corporate partnerships: Our corporate partners release employees from work to volunteer a few hours per week. Some

business partners choose a school nearby and agree to provide all of the presentations for that school, forming a strong and lasting relationship with that school.

New schools and their networks: We ask schools new to Utah Scholars to reach out to their networks, PTAs, and community councils to recruit volunteers for their schools. This key initiative allows us to expand our reach.

Word of mouth: We love it when our current volunteers bring a friend to training. We are always looking for new people who want to help students reach their college dreams.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE





# WHAT'S NEW

## NEW WEBSITE

Have you seen our updated website? Our new site matches our presentation and makes it easy for students and parents to sign up for the Utah Scholars newsletter.

Each month, students receive a newsletter full of grade-specific information on what to do now to be college ready. We also highlight a scholarship for students (yes, even 8th and 9th graders can apply for some scholarships!) and seniors get special information about college and scholarship deadlines and requirements.

Volunteers and schools will also be able to download the Utah Scholars presentation and other materials from the website.

## WELCOME TO ERIKA NORTON

We were so lucky this year that Erika Norton joined the Utah Scholars staff. Before she was hired on full-time she was a volunteer for USI.

Erika graduated from Utah State University with a bachelor's degree in anthropology. She has a passion for education and working with under-represented populations.

She has brought new energy, a positive attitude, and her outstanding presentation skills to the USI team.

## UTAH SCHOLARS COACHES AND SOPHOMORE PROGRAM

In 2014, Utah Scholars launched a new program, which places college students in 10th grade classrooms for weekly lessons written by the Utah Scholars staff.

The goal of the program is to increase college readiness and awareness for under-represented (first-generation, low-income, and minority) students who could achieve the Regents' Scholarship Base Award but who are not likely to apply for the scholarship and may need additional help applying to college and for financial aid.

Our first year was small but successful. We placed nine Coaches in five schools. More than 50 students received some Utah Scholars "coaching." In 2014 we will focus on four schools, and we are looking at models to increase student participation.



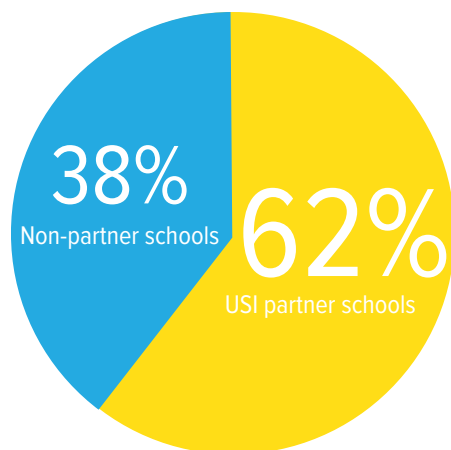
**“I loved seeing my students grow as the weeks progressed. It was such a rewarding experience”**

Cecilia Cardoza  
-Utah Scholars Coach

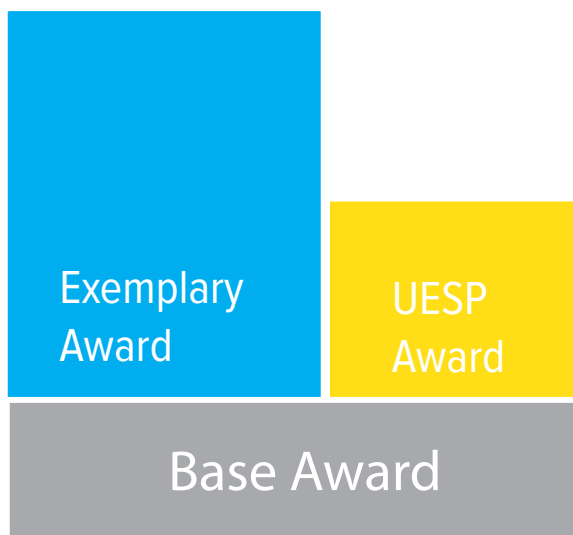
# REGENTS' SCHOLARSHIP

Our sister program, the Regents' Scholarship, provides a scholarship of up to \$6400 over two years to students. Students who successfully complete the Utah Scholars curriculum will have met the course requirements to apply for the scholarship. Nearly 4000 Utah seniors applied for the scholarship this year, the majority of whom came from Utah Scholars partner schools. For more information, visit [regentsscholarship.org](http://regentsscholarship.org).

**62%** of all applicants for Regents' Scholarship were Utah Scholars in 2014.



## AWARD INFORMATION



The Regents' Scholarship offers three awards. A student can earn a combination of awards: the Base award, Base & UESP, Base & Exemplary, or Base, Exemplary & UESP awards.

### BASE AWARD

- \$1,000 one-time award
- Complete the USI Curriculum
- Earn a "C" or higher in each of the core classes
- Earn a 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Submit an ACT score

### EXEMPLARY AWARD

- In 2014, \$1,250 per semester. May be renewed for four semesters.
- Complete the USI Curriculum
- Earn a "B" or higher in each of the core classes
- Earn a 3.5 cumulative GPA
- Earn a 26 or higher ACT score

### UESP AWARD

- Up to \$400 match
- Meet the BASE AWARD requirements
- Contribute \$100 or more annually to a Utah Educational Savings Plan during the ages of 14-17.

Award amounts are determined annually and are subject to legislative funding and the total number of qualified participants. Therefore, award amounts may be reduced, may vary from year to year, and are dependent on when the recipient is enrolled in college.

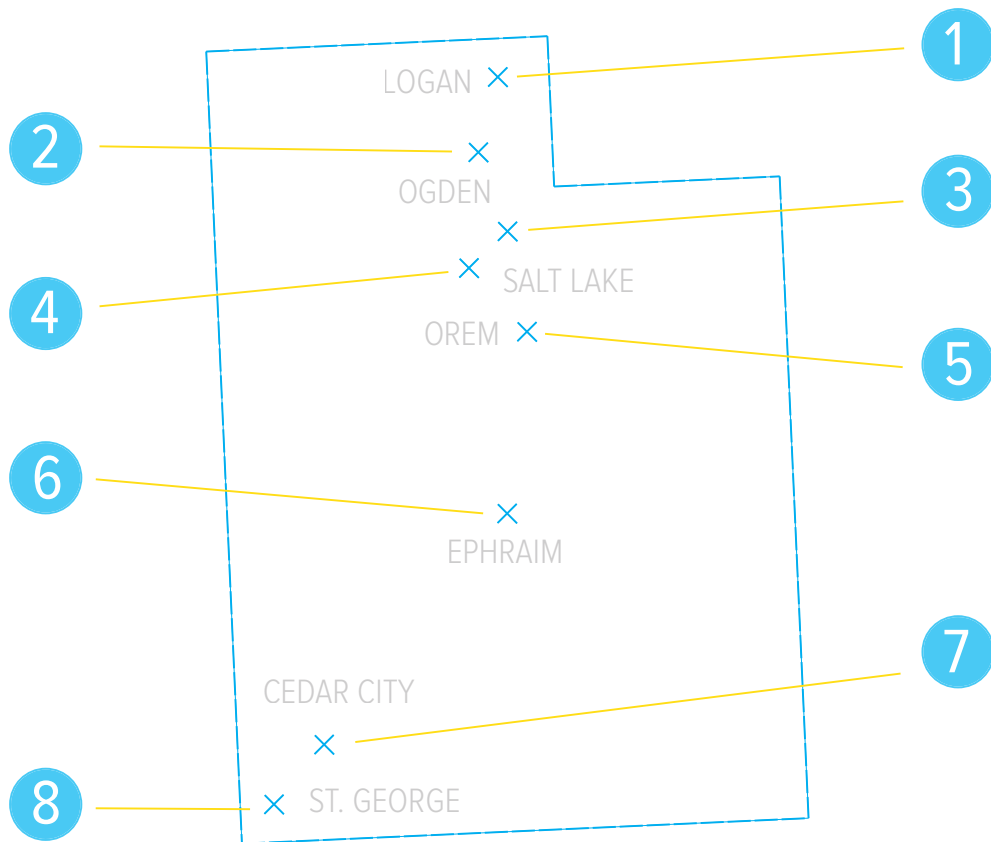




“I want to go to college because I want to earn my own living by earning a degree and gaining a career that I love to do. I think it will be tons of fun with all of the new experiences.”

Utah Scholars Sophomore Program Participant  
-Ben Lomond High School

# USHE INSTITUTIONS



**1** UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY  
Logan, UT

**5** UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY  
Orem, UT

**2** WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY  
Ogden, UT

**6** SNOW COLLEGE  
Ephraim, UT

**3** UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
Salt Lake City, UT

**7** SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY  
Cedar City, UT

**4** SALT LAKE COMMUNITY CLG  
Salt Lake City, UT

**8** DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY  
St. George, UT

For more info on the Utah System of Higher Education & affiliated institutions, visit  
[www.higheredutah.org](http://www.higheredutah.org).



“[The Utah Scholars Presentation] helped me to be even more motivated to go to college.”

-Student,  
Syracuse Junior High School

“I was able to see what actually happens after high school and how to prepare for college.”

-Student,  
Canyon View Middle School

## STAY CONNECTED



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@HigherEdUtah  
@StepUpUtah



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StepUpUtah



**VISIT**

UtahScholars.org  
HigherEdUtah.org  
StepUpUtah.com



# UTAH SCHOLARS

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