

Mission and Role Statement

Utah State University

The academic advantages of a large university, together with the friendliness of a small college, are offered at Utah State University. With a student body of more than 23,000, USU recognizes that the needs of the individual are of major importance, and many programs have been established to give the student the optimum of individual attention.

With 43 departments in seven academic colleges, more than 200 undergraduate options, a School of Graduate Studies, University Extension, and several research programs, Utah State University offers an excellent opportunity for students to study a wide range of subjects.

USU was founded in 1888 as part of the public educational system of Utah and operates under the constitution and laws of the state. It belongs to the family of institutions known as land-grant universities, which had their origin in 1862. The institution was originally called the Agricultural College of Utah, later becoming Utah State Agricultural College. The state legislature designated the name change to Utah State University in 1957.

An 18-member State Board of Regents governs the Utah state system of higher education. This board has the responsibility for state-wide master planning for higher education, assignment of roles to the several institutions in the state system, and control of operating and capital budgets for the institutions. USU has a 10-member Board of Trustees which is responsible for implementing the assigned roles, including the appointment of personnel and the enactment of rules and governing regulations.

USU is governed by the State Board of Regents and accredited by Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, American Psychological Association, American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, American Music Therapy Association, AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, Utah State Board of Education—Teacher Education Program, Council on Rehabilitation Education, Accrediting Board of Engineering and Technology, American Society of Landscape Architects, Commission on Accreditation—Council on Social Work Education, American Chemical Society, Society of American Foresters, National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission, Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), American Dietetic Association, Foundation for Interior Design Education Research, National Association of Schools of Music, Utah State Board of Vocational Education, and the Society for Range Management. USU is a land-grant and space-grant university, as well as a Carnegie Foundation “Doctoral University—High Research” institution. Credit earned at USU is fully transferable to other universities and colleges in the United States of America.

University Mission Statement

Utah State University is one of the nation's premier student-centered land-grant and space-grant universities. We foster the principle that academics come first; we cultivate diversity of thought and culture; and we serve the public through learning, discovery, and engagement.

University Vision Statement

Utah State University, as a state-wide multi-campus system, will be internationally recognized for its exceptional learning opportunities and world-class research. We strive to achieve the highest level of excellence in learning, discovery, and engagement in an environment of trust and respect. We endeavor to expand educational access to a diverse community. We seek to enhance the quality of life for individuals and communities, by promoting arts and cultural programming, by working toward environmental sustainability, and by developing the technologies of tomorrow to drive economic development in Utah, as well as in the global marketplace.

University Core Values

Utah State University is committed to providing environments of opportunity that value:

Learning and Discovery. Utah State University is a thriving intellectual community achieving excellence in the pursuit of knowledge, both through learning and inquiry. We believe that innovations in teaching and research provide students with opportunities for developing critical thinking skills and promote outstanding scholastic and creative achievement that will help ensure future success.

Individual Development. We accept each learner as unique and full of promise for intellectual and personal growth. We foster individual success and self-determination, and believe that educating the whole person builds character, promotes active involvement in the world, and produces better citizens.

Leadership. At all levels of the University, we value leadership built on trust, integrity, and civility.

Diversity. Appreciation of diversity of thought and expression is the foundation of a vibrant intellectual environment. We respect all persons, their differences, and the community they form.

Outreach and Access. As the State's land-grant University, we are committed to reaching across all communities and offering opportunities to all citizens. We value the connections that benefit and improve the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities, and that invigorate the University.