



August 11, 2025

Dr. Alan Smith
Interim President
Utah State University
1400 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-1400

Dear President Smith:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on July 8-11, 2025, concerning the Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of Utah State University.

Accreditation

Reaffirm Accreditation

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Finding Type 1: Spring 2024 Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review - Fulfilled

Commendations

The Commission commends Utah State University for:

1. The faculty and staff commitment to fostering engaged learning, supportive student relationships, and overall, a caring environment in which students can thrive.
2. Its successful service to a complex mission as a land grant institution as evidenced in the provision of outstanding resources and infrastructure and in the prioritization of student success for all students, regardless of their program of study or location.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Utah State University:

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Consistent with its mission and state legislation, and with a meaningful role for faculty - reformulate its General Education curriculum and establish a comprehensive General Education assessment plan that uses its results to improve student learning outcomes. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.6; 1.C.7)
- Recommendation 2: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Build upon the system of assessment of learning in its programs by implementing processes that increase consistent participation across academic units. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.5)
- Recommendation 3: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Widely publish, including on its website, disaggregated student achievement data that are institutionally meaningful indicators. Student achievement indicators should be benchmarked against peers. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.3)
- Recommendation 4: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Continue to develop its process for collecting and using meaningful data, particularly for those measures that inform continuous improvement of institutional effectiveness. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1)

Future Evaluations

- Ad Hoc Report Spring 2027
 - Recommendation 3: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Spring 2028
 - Recommendation 1: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness

- Recommendation 2: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Recommendation 4: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Spring 2031
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Spring 2032

NWCCU is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Ed Harri, at eharri@nwccu.org.

Sincerely,



Selena M. Grace
President

cc: Mr. Jeffrey Aird, Chief Data and Analytics Officer
Ms. Jacey Skinner, Chair, USU Board of Trustees
Dr. Gwendolyn Cash-James, Associate Vice Provost of Academic Affairs, Eastern Washington University
Mr. Geoffrey Landward, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education