

Access

- SLCC believes higher education should be available to anyone who wishes to obtain it.
- The college-going rate in Salt Lake County has been decreasing over the past several years. This trend is disturbing because Utah needs a well-educated and skilled workforce to maintain its strong economic growth. SLCC's commitment to access helps Utah fulfill its workforce needs.
- College access is also important because in Utah college graduates earn 68% more than non-graduates. Higher education can provide people with opportunities to break the cycle of inter-generational poverty.
- We make college accessible by maintaining multiple campuses and by offering online classes.
 - We operate 12 locations, which ensures higher education is geographically available to more students. Our locations include: Taylorsville Redwood, South City, Miller, Jordan, West Valley, Meadowbrook, Library Square, Salt Lake Airport, Herriman, Westpointe, the Community Writing Center and a learning facility at the Utah State Prison.
 - Westpointe is our newest campus and a crown jewel for SLCC. We partnered with local industry to develop a state-of-the-art learning facility that provides training in key industries and trades.
 - Westpointe has encouraged more underrepresented populations to seek education and training. Since opening Westpointe, our Latino participation rate in trade education has increased from 11% to 19%, and our female participation rate in trade education has risen from 8% to 15%.
 - We also bring learning directly to students by offering more than 700 individual classes online.
 - Students can review lessons, interact with classmates and instructors, and approach assignments and exams with more flexibility. College resources like tutoring, coaching and advising are also available.
 - More than 10,000 students take online classes at SLCC, and some two-year degrees, including business and criminal justice, can be earned entirely online.
 - SLCC is committed to making higher education available to more communities. We are partnering with the University of Utah to one day build a single campus for both schools in Herriman. The campus will allow a student to attend SLCC and receive an associate's degree and then continue on to earn an undergraduate degree from the U – all at one location.
- We ensure education is available to all by embracing inclusivity, and as a result we have the most diverse student body in Utah. We promote equity and diversity through several organizations and programs, including:
 - **SLCC Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs**, which supports underrepresented students by offering coaching, workshops and cultural programming.
 - **Multicultural mentoring programs**, like Brother to Brother (designed to promote successful college completion among African American, Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander and other underrepresented students) and Amigos Mentores (helps Hispanic students reach their academic goals).

- **Student associations and unions** that assist underrepresented students. These include the Black Student Union, the Asian Student Association, Latinx Student Union, Rainbow Pride Club/Queer Student Association, American Indian Student Leadership and the Pacific Unity Association.
 - **Resources for undocumented students**, including the SLCC Dream Center, which supports college access through outreach, advising and scholarships.
 - **Disability Resource Center**, which helps make accommodations for eligible students including: adaptive equipment (smart pens, specialized keyboards, etc.), alternative for text materials (Braille, audio texts), assistive software (speech-to-text and screen-reading software), testing accommodations, adaptive furniture, sign language interpreters and note takers.
 - Efforts to provide access to underserved populations is paying off – our goal is to have our enrollment directly reflect the population of Salt Lake County. We measure enrollment equity through a minority student participation ratio. If the college has an equal proportion of minority populations as that of the surrounding community, the ratio equals 1:1. Currently, the ratio is .96:1.
- SLCC is proud to serve a large number of first-generation college students, with 56 percent of our students being first in their families to attend college, far outpacing Utah’s other state colleges and universities. Programs that promote educational access for these students include:
 - **TRIO** – The federally funded TRIO program assists Pell-eligible and first-gen students in graduating from SLCC and transferring to a four-year institution. The program offers individualized academic and transfer planning, financial planning for both school and life, and tutoring services. Peer mentorship is also available to help first-gen students learn skills to deal with the rigors of college.
 - **Partnerships for Accessing Higher Education (PACE)** – PACE guides high school students from underrepresented populations toward college through advising, academic support, job shadowing and, for those who complete the program, a guaranteed two-year scholarship to SLCC.
- SLCC engages in select outreach programs to offer higher education to more people, including:
 - **Prison Education Program (PEP)** – Since 2017, our program at the Utah State Prison has been a model for inclusive and transformative education in the lives of incarcerated students and is based on the idea that every human being deserves an education. Students in the program can earn an associate’s degree in general studies.
 - The program facilitates students’ re-entry into mainstream society and changes the way the incarcerated see themselves as individuals and as members of the larger community.
 - The PEP also saves taxpayer money. According to the Center for American Progress for every \$1 spent on prison education, \$4 to \$5 is saved on incarceration costs.
 - 612 students are currently enrolled in the program. In Spring 2020, the first 11 students will graduate with an Associate of Science degree in General Studies.
 - Those who participate in any type of education program while in prison are 43% less likely to recidivate.
 - We make college available to high school students through our concurrent enrollment program.
 - Concurrent enrollment allows students from participating Utah high schools to take classes that count toward a college degree for \$5 per credit. Credits are also transferable to other institutions.

- We offer 100+ concurrent enrollment classes to more than 8,500 high school students.
- Concurrent enrollment is a valuable tool for promoting college completion. Many students earn a significant number of college credits upon graduation from high school, and the pass rate for concurrent enrollment classes is 93%.

Affordability

- SLCC is one of Utah’s most affordable higher education institutions.
 - Our students are unique – 80 percent work while attending college, and we have many students with family responsibilities. Keeping costs low helps our students successfully meet all of their commitments while minimizing student loan debt.
 - Our affordable tuition and fees ensure that students seeking baccalaureate degrees can save \$10,000 by first earning their associate’s degree at SLCC and then transferring to one of the state’s universities.
- SLCC offers many programs to assist students who cannot afford college, including:
 - **SLCC Promise** – Since 2016, SLCC Promise has helped students cover the cost of tuition when federal grants fall short.
 - Some students may only receive a partial federal grant. SLCC Promise covers the remaining gap.
 - Currently, Promise is available to full-time students carrying 12 or more credit hours. Starting in fall 2020, qualifying students with 9 or more credit hours can participate in the program.
 - To date, SLCC Promise has awarded \$2.75 million to more than 2,000 students.
 - Our Financial Aid Office can help students complete the federal financial aid application. Once a student applies for aid, they are automatically considered for SLCC Promise.
 - **Open SLCC** – This initiative replaces textbooks with free, online educational resources.
 - Some students delay taking a class or take fewer classes due to the high cost of books. By reducing textbook costs, Open SLCC helps minimize delays in earning a degree or certificate.
 - A student can earn an associate’s degree in general studies at SLCC and pay no textbook costs. If this same student is eligible for SLCC Promise, they can earn their degree at virtually no cost.
 - Since its debut in 2014, Open SLCC has saved 133,000 students more than \$11 million in textbook costs.
 - Students needing assistance with the cost of books beyond what is available through Open SLCC may apply for book vouchers to use at the college bookstore.
 - **SLCC Scholarships** – 48 private scholarships are available to students through the SLCC Foundation.
 - Students only need to complete one application to be considered for any SLCC scholarship.
 - Students who receive scholarships are twice as likely to graduate from college.
- Other services provided by SLCC that help keep college affordable:
 - **On-campus Childcare** – Daycare centers are located at Taylorsville and South City.

- Currently, 39% of our Pell Grant recipients support dependents, and single parents make up 43% the school's student parent population. Having access to low-cost childcare is necessary for these students to be able to attend college.
- **Health and Counseling Centers** – The college operates three Health and Counseling Centers (located at Taylorsville, South City and Jordan) to encourage healthy bodies, minds and lives.
 - Health screenings, counseling, diagnosis and disease management services, immunizations and massage therapy sessions are available to all students for a \$15 fee per office visit.
- **Free Transportation** – Many of SLCC's campuses are accessible via transit. To help students manage transportation costs, we provide each student with a free pass good on all of Utah Transit Authority's regular services, including bus, TRAX and FrontRunner.