



Press Release

Utah College of Applied Technology

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Tech Colleges Report Nearly 12% Increase in Students Enrolled

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah College of Applied Technology (UCAT) increased the number of students enrolled during the 2007-2008 school year by nearly 12 percent, according to its annual report released today.

The report, which summarizes UCAT's activities, enrollment and achievements, shows positive growth in both headcount and training hours. According to the report, membership hours (amount of time students are enrolled) in UCAT's eight regional applied technology college campuses increased 4.3 percent – the highest growth in UCAT's seven-year history.

Headcount also grew by 11.9 percent for students enrolled in regular state-funded programs. With Custom Fit, which provides training for Utah companies through UCAT campuses and affiliate institutions, UCAT programs served approximately 60,000 students.

“What's remarkable is that this level of enrollment occurred in a year of high employment, when workforce shortages often pressure people to forego training and go right to work,” said Utah College of Applied Technology President Richard L. White. “Looking to the future, approximately 65 percent of Utah's population will not earn a bachelor's degree. UCAT plays a critical role in helping citizens prepare for middle-skill jobs desperately needed by Utah's employers.”

Growth is brisk at some campuses. Student membership hours at UCAT's Mountainland Applied Technology College campus increased nearly 15 percent over the previous year. “We are witnessing dramatic growth in our region due to the increased awareness and accessibility of our workforce training programs,” said Campus President Clay Christensen.

The Ogden-Weber Applied Technology College launched a machinist marketing campaign driven and funded by employers, according to Campus President Collette Mercier. Machinist enrollment increased 42 percent, “one of several positive factors in our growth over the past year, including 41 percent higher enrollment in apprenticeship programs and more employers encouraging workers to finish their programs at the tech college.”

Thomas Bingham, Chair of the UCAT Board of Trustees, is pleased with the report. “I'm thrilled with the tremendous work our campuses are doing to meet the workforce needs of employers across the state. UCAT is a great investment that will continue to pay dividends.”

The Utah College of Applied Technology, created by the Utah State Legislature in 2001, consists of eight regional applied technology colleges throughout the state. UCAT specializes in open-entry, open-exit scheduling, competency-based training and directly supporting the needs of the state's employers and employees.

UCAT's complete 2008 annual report can be accessed at
<http://www.ucats.org/annualreport/UCAT%20Annual%20Report%202008.pdf>.

Utah College of Applied Technology 2007-08
 Student Membership Hours and Headcount

UCAT Campus	Membership Hours	Change from Last Year	Student Headcount	Change from Last Year
Bridgerland ATC	1,018,132	4.20%	7,510	7.76%
Davis ATC	1,098,181	(2.46%)	7,183	19.36%
Dixie ATC	204,041	5.01%	2,850	34.62%
Mountainland ATC	790,832	14.66%	5,557	7.20%
Ogden-Weber ATC	1,195,674	3.24%	9,049	5.27%
Salt Lake-Tooele ATC	265,873	5.77%	1,934	33.93%
Southwest ATC	334,098	24.18%	2,473	33.32%
Uintah Basin ATC	510,661	(3.23%)	5,007	0.74%
UCAT Totals	5,417,492	4.32%	41,563	11.87%

Custom Fit Training Program

Custom Fit Trainees	19,715
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(Includes UCAT campuses, CEU, SLCC, & Snow College, which provide Custom Fit regionally under UCAT oversight)

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