

Effects on Programs, Degrees and Certificates

The list below includes programs proposed to be discontinued as part of USU's strategic reinvestment plan.

These are proposed only and must be reviewed and approved by the Utah Board of Higher Education and legislative committees.

HB 265 Requirements

In creating USU's strategic reinvestment plan under HB 265, USU must discontinue certain academic programs, degrees, and certificates. The new law and guidance from the Utah System of Higher Education call out specific criteria for use in evaluating programs: enrollment data, completion and timeliness, professional outcomes, workforce demands, program costs, and alignment with USU's role in the state system of higher education.

Decisions to discontinue educational activities have been based on an iterative, data-informed process with specific focus on the criteria in HB 265, contextual information offered through the deans and USU community input, and USU's anticipated strategic direction for reinvestment.

Visit www.usu.edu/president/reinvestment for a timeline for the development of USU's strategic reinvestment plan.

University Teach-Out Protocol

Most students who are in a program proposed to be cut will be able to finish. HB 265 allows USU to teach out students in the affected programs over the next two years to minimize the impact, and the university has an existing protocol for teaching out programs when they are discontinued.

For all discontinued programs, the required coursework will be taught for a timeline that is 50% of their program duration. For example, a bachelor's program will have a two-year teach-out timeline, and an associate degree program will have a one-year teach-out timeline. Therefore, students who have completed approximately 50% or more of their course requirements will have an opportunity to finish.

During this time, the university will offer the necessary courses and academic support to ensure eligible students can finish their programs.

For students who have completed less than 50% of the program, academic advisors are working closely with them to explore related majors or alternative pathways that align with their academic and career goals. The university is committed to ensuring every student is supported in finding a clear path to graduation.

Students who have any questions about the impacts of potential cuts should reach out to their [academic advisor](#).

Related Links:

- [USHE Guidance](#)
- [HB 265: Higher Education Strategic Reinvestment](#)
- [HB 1: Higher Education Base Budget](#)
- [USU Reinvestment Planning](#)

Program/Credential Name	Credential Affected	Current College
Announced on April 29, 2025		
International Agribusiness Emphasis in Agribusiness Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Skilled and Technical Sciences Education Emphasis in Technology and Engineering Education Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Applied Climatology Emphasis in Soils and Sustainable Land Systems Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Applied Associate of Science Degree in Business/Commerce	Applied Associate Degree	College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Theatre Design & Technology Technical Direction Emphasis in Theatre Arts Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	Caine College of Arts
Managerial Economics Emphasis in Economics Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Economic Theory Emphasis in Economics Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Business Economics Emphasis in Economics Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Financial Economics Emphasis in Economics Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Quantitative Economic History Emphasis in Economics Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Prelaw Emphasis in Economics Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Master of Science in Financial Economics	Master's Degree	Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Speech Language Pathology Emphasis in Communicative Disorders Bachelor's Degree (Not to be confused with the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Certificate which is still available)	Emphasis	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Ethics Emphasis in Philosophy Bachelor's Degree	Concentration	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Literature Emphasis in the English Teaching Composite Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
American Studies Emphasis in the English Teaching Composite Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
American Studies Bachelor's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Spanish Teaching Emphasis in Spanish Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
French Teaching Emphasis in French Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
German Teaching Emphasis in German Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Chemistry Education Emphasis in Chemistry Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Science
GeoWorkforce Emphasis in Geology Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	College of Science
Announced on April 18, 2025		
Agriculture Communication Bachelor's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
ASL Interpreting Track in the Communicative Disorders Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Deaf Education - BA	Bachelor's Degree	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Community and Public Health Emphasis in Health Education and Promotion Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis within Health Ed	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Elementary Education and Deaf Education Bachelor's Degree (Not to be confused with USU's Bachelor's in Elementary Education, which will continue)	Bachelor's Degree	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Environmental Engineering Bachelor's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	College of Engineering
Family Finance Emphasis in the Human Development and Family Studies Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis within Human Development and Family Studies	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Family Life Studies Bachelor's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Master of Fitness Promotion	Master's Degree	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - Graduate Certificate	Graduate Certificate	SJ Quinney College of Natural Resources
Physical Education Teaching Emphasis in Kinesiology Bachelor's Degree	Emphasis in Kinesiology	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Transition Education and Services - Post-Bachelor's Certificate	Graduate Certificate	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Data Science and Research Methodology Specialization in the Psychology PhD program	Ph.D. Specialization	EEJ College of Education and Human Services
Associate of Arts in Theatre (Price campus)	Associate Degree	Caine College of Arts

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