Talent Ready Utah grants were created in direct response to industry's need for a skilled workforce to fill high-skill, high-wage jobs. Using the Unemployment Insurance penalty and interest fund, Workforce Services has been administering Talent Ready Utah grants for all levels of education to prepare the current workforce and build a talent pipeline for in-demand jobs.

Since 2009, more than $16 million has funded 102 projects that:

- Increase the number of individuals earning industry-recognized credentials
- Develop career pathways with multiple entry and exit points for students and adults along the post-secondary education continuum
- Create systemic change by establishing processes and programs that better connect education, the workforce and employers.

Projects funded include a wide variety, from greenhouses at an elementary school to teach children about engineering and design, renewable energy, agriculture and entrepreneurship, to media campaigns promoting manufacturing as a viable career option for millennials. Most notably, Talent Ready Utah grants made possible the development of the Utah Aerospace, Medical Innovations, Diesel Tech, IT and Architecture, Engineering & Construction (AEC) Pathways.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: UTAH TECH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (UTAP) — POWERED BY APPRENTI

With Utah’s strong economic growth and low unemployment rate, the unmet demand for a skilled IT workforce and talent pipeline continues to grow. Recently, Weber State University partnered with the nationally recognized Apprenti program to develop IT apprenticeships. Apprenti currently offers Registered Apprenticeships in 14 occupations and matches job seekers with an employer and a training program where they put what they’re learning into practice. Utah’s first cohort completed classroom training in November and has begun the on-the-job portion of the program. To become a hiring partner go to: apprenticareers.org/hire/
GET TO KNOW UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

PROVIDES TEMPORARY CASH BENEFITS
for Utahns who are unemployed through no fault of their own while they seek other work.

GOAL:
Help individuals bridge the gap between jobs and become re-employed as soon as possible.

WE HELP EMPLOYERS claim a tax credit of up to 90% on their federal unemployment tax when they file their state unemployment tax on time.

EMPLOYER OVERVIEW
Unemployment Insurance collects state unemployment insurance contributions from Utah employers, which are deposited into the Utah Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund. This trust fund is used to pay unemployment insurance benefits for eligible workers. Through careful management of employer contributions, Utah has one of the healthiest Unemployment Compensation Trust Funds in the nation.

By contributing to the trust fund, employers are ensuring Utah’s workforce continues to be strong—even during economic downturns. This was seen during and after the last recession as Utah was one of only 15 states that did not have to borrow funds to continue paying benefits allowing Utah to more quickly lower employer contribution/tax rates and recover.

2020 TAX RATES
The Utah employer contribution rate is calculated annually by the Unemployment Insurance division. In 2020, more than 78% of Utah’s employers qualified for the minimum contribution rate of approximately $36 per employee per year. Read More.

HOW WE HELP EMPLOYERS
• Register employers and collect information
• Determine if employer accounts are subject to unemployment contributions
• Collect employer contributions and overpayments for unemployment benefits
• Respond to requests on job separations and wage audits
• Post jobs and report new hires online
• Monitor compliance and provide training
• Identify worker misclassification

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Utah’s Unemployment Insurance Program, visit jobs.utah.gov/ui.

APPLY ONLINE
At jobs.utah.gov, workers can apply for unemployment benefits, file weekly claims, conduct an active work search, sign up for workshops and report any work performed.