**Statewide Virtual Job Fairs**
The Department of Workforce Services held its first statewide virtual job fairs in April and June. These events were sponsored in conjunction with the Salt Lake Chamber and Economic Development Corporation of Utah (EDCuah) and were available to employers statewide with job openings. The events connected job seekers to current employment demands to ease the blow of COVID-19 and was held in a 100% virtual environment. For the April event, 840 job seekers and 61 employers attended the job fair. The June event had approximately 1,100 job seekers and 65 employers.

**On-site Recruitment**
Staff in the Price Employment Center helped facilitate an on-site recruitment for Harbor Freight. The two-day event was a huge success with over 100 job candidates interviewed. The discount tool and equipment retailer headquartered in California is in the process of hiring 20-30 staff for the Price store, creating a significant impact for the local economy. Social distancing guidelines were followed during the event.

**Remote Hiring Event**
Entrata, a Property Management Software Company located in Lindon, completed a hiring event for remote positions with the help of Workforce Services staff in Vernal. Entrata completed 40 interviews and hired 35 full-time remote positions. Entrata continues to have great success finding quality talent in the Uintah Basin and plans to continue hiring remote positions in rural Utah. With social distancing restrictions in place at the time, the department was unable to house the event, but worked with the Chamber of Commerce to move the interviews to their facility.

**Virtual Alumni Career Fair**
The Utah Association of Colleges and Employers and the Department of Workforce Services partnered to host the first-ever Virtual Utah Alumni Career Fair on May 12. This event connected 1,800 recent graduates and seasoned alumni from Utah and across the United States with 92 local and national employers with hundreds of current career opportunities. The Workforce Services virtual booth provided information and answered questions for the 120 people who visited.
Medical Innovations Pathways
Complying with social distancing protocols, a virtual graduation was held for the 12 students who participated in the Medical Innovations Pathway. The Medical Innovations Pathway program offers specialized courses and practical work experience to help students develop skills needed by Utah's most elite medical device and laboratory testing companies. Discussions on how this program may look in the future while still navigating the COVID-19 pandemic are ongoing.

Spring 2020 USOR Employer Workshop
In March the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation hosted a successful Employer Workshop on Hiring and Retaining Individuals with Disabilities. More than 65 business partners were in attendance from private and government entities. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, USOR had to cancel the Work Ability Career Preparation and Job Fair scheduled for April 14. However, USOR is preparing to host the fall workshops and job fair through a virtual platform.

Rural Workforce Network
The Rural Workforce Network is a partnership between the Salt Lake Chamber, Utah Department of Workforce Services and Economic Development Corporation of Utah. The COVID-19

USOR Business Relations Managers Tom Smith speaks to business partners at the last employer workshop.
The pandemic accelerated the shift to remote work. Many companies learned to telecommute virtually overnight and have proven that remote work works! As the economy recovers, and Wasatch Front companies again seek employees, rural Utah’s workforce can be matched to fill the gaps. The Rural Workforce Network’s goal is to fulfill this need. Employers are encouraged to post jobs on jobs.utah.gov that could be filled by a remote rural workforce using #ruraljobs in the description.

**Greater Cache Valley Economic Summit**

Workforce Services co-sponsored the Greater Cache Valley Economic Summit which focused on “The Economy Before and After COVID.” Sixty-five attendees participated in presentations on the impacts of the pandemic on jobs, the economy, education and more.

**New Business**

Trevco is one of America’s leading manufacturers of licensed apparel, home textiles and accessory items and is opening a manufacturing location in West Valley City. The company plans to hire 60 people by the end of the year and has been meeting with Workforce Services workforce development specialists to plan how to meet that need.

**HR Workshops**

Workforce Services helped sponsor the fourth workshop of a five-part series on retention tactics for 24 local employers that began in February. The workshop focused on motivation for employees and the importance of relationships in the workplace.

**Work Ability Internship Program**

The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation, in collaboration with the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget and Department of Human Resources Management, launched a new paid internship program with state agencies for persons with disabilities. The goal of the program is to provide meaningful employment experiences that allow interns to learn job skills while exploring career pathways with state employment. In addition to the paid work experience, each intern completing the program receives a letter of reference, resume assistance, and recommendations for future positions in state agencies. Since January USOR has hosted nine Work Ability Interns, and two of these individuals have obtained full-time employment within the Department of Workforce Services. USOR plans on hosting another group of interns this fall and expanding the program to other state agencies in 2021.
WHAT’S NEXT

- July 16: Mountainland Better Your Business Seminar, Online, 9-10:30 a.m.
- July 30: Statewide Virtual Job Fair, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Aug 26: University of Utah Student Job Fair, University of Utah A. Ray Olpin Student Union
- Sep 15: Virtual USOR Employer Workshop
- Sep 15: Millcreek Community Fall Job Fair, Millcreek City Hall, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Sep 15: Salt Lake Community College Fall Job Fair, Redwood Campus, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Sep 22: STEM Career and Internship Fair, University of Utah A. Ray Olpin Student Union, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Sep 29-30: STEMFest, Mountain America Expo Center, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Sep 29: University of Utah Career and Internship Fair, University of Utah A. Ray Olpin Student Union, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Please note: Upcoming events are subject to change due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing requirements.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES STATEWIDE

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HIRING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES STATEWIDE

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DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES