

Utah State Office of Education
R372A150014

Project Title: Enhancing Utah Data Alliance College and Career and Evaluation and Research Capabilities through Web Technology

Project Description: The Utah State Office of Education (USOE) expresses an interest in participating in the Institute of Education Sciences' Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems grant (CFDA Number 84.372A). The two priorities upon which USOE intends to focus are College and Career, and Evaluation and Research.

The Utah State Office of Education will be the agency responsible for the direction and implementation of the grant. The Utah Data Alliance (UDA) is the multi-agency collaborative partnership that designed and now maintains the UDA data warehouse. The UDA has accomplished much in linking K-12, postsecondary, and workforce records.

The College and Career Priority focus is to develop feedback reports for institutions and stakeholders on the state of Utah students' outcomes and examine the factors that influence college and career readiness among Utah residents. Outcomes in this priority include: providing feedback to district and school leaders on selected postsecondary outcomes that can inform policy and practice; providing feedback to postsecondary education leaders on selected workforce outcomes that can inform policy and practice; providing feedback to career and technical education leaders on selected workforce outcomes that can inform policy and practice; conducting career and technical education (CTE) research studies that can inform policy and practice; and conducting studies related to college readiness that can inform policy and practice.

The Evaluation and Research Priority focuses on expanding accessibility and use of the state longitudinal data system. Outcomes in this priority include: expansion and standardization of an ad-hoc request process to facilitate expanded use of the UDA data warehouse; creation of a Institutional Review Board to manage requests for access to individual-level data in the UDA data warehouse; structural and technical enhancement of the UDA data warehouse to expand data availability, improved data quality, and enhanced system architecture; development of a web portal that expands access to researchers, stakeholders, and the general public; development of professional development materials to support data use by end-users; enhanced training, procedures, protocols, and other documentation for current and expanded end-users; and enhanced training for UDA researchers.