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## 2025 - 26 TSSA Guiding Framework for Utah International

Utah International will use TSSA funds to stay close to the state average for teacher salaries by using 40% of TSSA funds to increase teacher salaries and benefits. It is very difficult for small charter schools like Utah International to attract and retain highly qualified teachers. TSSA funds will be used to help us offer salaries comparable to schools in the neighborhood.

Sixty percent of TSSA funds will pay the salary of our full time highly qualified guidance counselor, in order to increase our graduation and college placement rates by ensuring that credit-deficient students complete all of their missing credits and that 100% of graduating students receive one-to-one assistance in completing FAFSA.

During the 2024-25 school year, out of 40 graduating seniors, close to 90% of our graduating students completed FAFSA and submitted at least one college application. Over 50% of the graduating seniors were awarded scholarships to support their post-high school education. Notably, fourteen students were accepted into Salt Lake Community College Summer Bridge Program and twelve received scholarships, such as the One Refugee and Real Life scholarships, which will fully cover their tuition. Most registered for Salt Lake Community College and completed the placement test by mid-May and two students received admission into University of Utah. Two other students were accepted into prestigious out of state colleges such as Howard and Gonzaga Universities. Four of the seniors were recognized as Youth leaders by the mayors of South Salt Lake and Millcreek.

This framework was approved by the Board of Trustees on June 25, 2025.