



WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Vice President for Student Access, Success and Enrollment Management

Leadership Profile

Spring 2026



WittKieffer

About Weber State University

Overview

Founded in 1889, Weber State University (WSU) is a public, comprehensive regional university located in Ogden, Utah, with a distinctive dual mission: delivering high-quality baccalaureate and graduate education while fulfilling an essential community college role for Northern Utah. Weber State serves a large, diverse, and predominantly regional student population and is recognized for its deep commitment to education that is accessible, affordable, and student-centered.

For the 2025-2026 academic year, WSU enrolled 33,293 students, including 31,404 undergraduate students and 1,008 graduate students. A defining characteristic of the institution is its strong representation of concurrent and early college students, adult learners, first-generation students, and part-time students, reflecting WSU's mission to meet students where they are academically and personally.

WSU inspires impassioned loyalty from its faculty, staff, students, and alumni. The reason is simple: nothing is more important to them than the success of their students. They engage students of all ages from all backgrounds and strive to meet students where they are in their educational journey. For them, this is not just a platitude - they are an open admission institution serving over 33,000 students from Northern Utah with a robust student population across the state and nation. The university celebrates personalized teaching, mentoring, and engaged learning across seven colleges and throughout over 200 undergraduate certificate and degree programs and 20 graduate degrees, including one doctorate, the Doctor of Nursing Practice. In addition to being a learning institution, the university is a community leader and economic driver for their region.

The university takes great pride in its beautiful campuses, with state-of-the-art buildings and a focus on sustainability. They also boast a strong Athletics Department that competes within the Big Sky Conference and supports 16 NCAA Division I sports, including an FCS football team. WSU is looking for an experienced leader who will help them continue their traditions of excellence in campus planning and athletics while also leading and managing the additional areas of Administrative Services: Finance, Facilities Management, Information Technology, Human Resources, and Public Safety.





Founded in 1889, Weber State University is a regional public university with mission core themes of “Access, Learning, and Community.” The university emphasizes undergraduate education at both the associate and bachelor’s degree levels in liberal arts, sciences, technical, and professional fields, offering the largest and most comprehensive undergraduate programs in Utah. The Vice President for Student Access, Success and Enrollment Management will lead out on many of the critical non-academic elements that must run smoothly to help their institution continue to best serve students.

Their campuses are located in the heart of Utah’s legendary outdoor recreation, complemented by the rich cultural opportunities of a metropolitan area. It is a fantastic place to live and work. They offer a robust benefits package, including a very generous retirement plan that they encourage candidates to explore.

History

Weber State University's rich history extends from the late nineteenth century to today.

WSU was founded in Ogden, Utah, as Weber Stake Academy in 1889. “Weber” comes from the name of the county where the university is located, which was named after John Henry Weber, an early American fur trapper.

In 1933, the academy was made a state junior college. Following World War II, the college outgrew its downtown campus and moved to its present site in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, overlooking Ogden and the Great Salt Lake.

Weber State College awarded its first baccalaureate degree in 1964. In 1991, the college became Weber State University, appropriately symbolizing its role as Utah’s first comprehensive regional university that also retains a community college mission.

WSU At a Glance

Founded in 1889, Weber State University provides transformative educational experiences and high-quality degrees while serving the surrounding community in Utah.

NATIONWIDE RANKINGS

Wall Street Journal
in cooperation with College Pulse and Statista
2025 America's Best Colleges

U.S. News & World Report
2025 Best Regional Universities Public
2025 Best Regional Universities West

Forbes
2025 Top Colleges

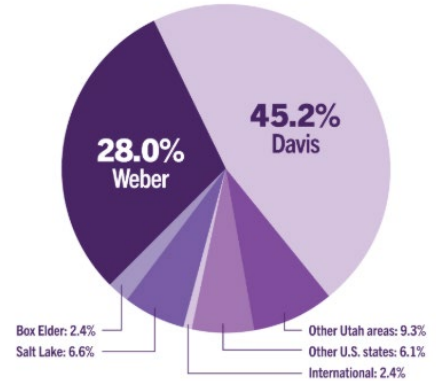
Niche
2025 Best Colleges in America
2025 Best Colleges in Utah
2025 Best College Campuses in America

33,293

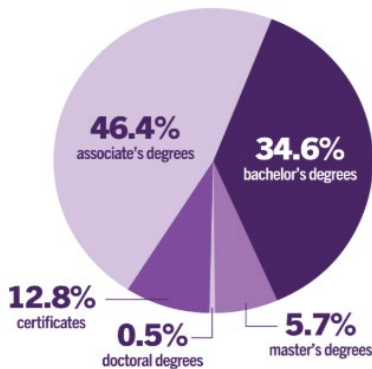
ENROLLMENT

FALL 2025

FALL 2025 ENROLLMENT BY COUNTY



2024-25 DISTRIBUTION OF DEGREES & AWARDS



REGISTERED STUDENT CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

123

NEEDY PROGRAMS

WSU PROVIDED MORE THAN

\$103,926,091



in scholarships and financial aid to **14,110 STUDENTS** in the 2024-25 academic year.

WSU Mission

TOP 10 DEGREES

(Excluding general studies)

1. Nursing
2. Computer Science
3. Health Sciences
4. Programming Essentials
5. Radiography
6. Medical Laboratory Sciences
7. Professional Sales
8. Criminal Justice
9. Spanish
10. Communication

Mission



STUDENT-ATHLETES EARN BIG SKY ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS 2024-25

FACULTY WITH TERMINAL DEGREES

81%

We transform lives and communities by educating students of all identities and

backgrounds. We nurture student success through a supportive environment, individualized pathways, meaningful personal connections with faculty and staff, teaching and experiential learning, research, and civic engagement.

Vision

We will be a leader in transforming lives by meeting all students where they are, challenging and guiding them to achieve their goals academically and in life.

We Value

- EVERY INDIVIDUAL
 - Listening to and embracing individuals of all identities and backgrounds through the promotion of belonging, creativity, uniqueness, and self-expression;
- COLLECTIVE EXCELLENCE
 - Fostering achievement and transparency in learning and discovery through collaboration, data-informed policies and practices, and the removal of barriers to student success; and
- TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCES
 - Nurturing success through engaging, supportive, and personalized opportunities in a rapidly changing world.



For more information about WSU, please visit: <https://www.weber.edu/>

Position Summary

Weber State University seeks a collaborative, student-centered, and visionary executive leader to serve as its next Vice President of Student Access, Success and Enrollment Management (VPSASEM). Reporting directly to the President, with close partnership with the Provost, the Vice President will lead a unified, institution-wide division responsible for ensuring that students are able to access WSU, persist in their studies, and successfully complete their educational goals.

The Vice President will oversee and integrate functions traditionally associated with both enrollment management and student affairs, creating a seamless and coordinated student experience from first contact through graduation and post-completion outcomes. This role is central to advancing WSU's strategic priorities related to access, enrollment stability and growth, student retention and completion, and workforce and community impact.

The Vice President will be a key strategic partner to academic and administrative leadership, helping align recruitment strategies, student support systems, financial aid policies, advising models, and co-curricular programs with institutional goals and mission-driven outcomes.

Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

Lead a Comprehensive Student Access and Success Strategy

The Vice President will design, implement, and continuously refine a data-informed, lifecycle-based strategy addressing recruitment, onboarding, persistence, completion, and post-graduation success. Areas of responsibility include enrollment management, student success initiatives, exploratory and academic advising partnerships, orientation and transition programs, financial aid and affordability strategies, and co-curricular engagement efforts.



Strengthen Enrollment and Retention Outcomes

The Vice President will guide institutional strategies for undergraduate, graduate, adult learner, online, and concurrent enrollment populations, aligning enrollment goals with capacity, mission, and student success priorities. This leader will use evidence-based practices and analytics to improve yield, retention, and graduation rates while supporting affordability and access.

Foster Collaboration and Shared Accountability

Working closely with Academic Affairs, Advancement, and external partners, the Vice President will build strong cross-functional relationships to ensure shared ownership of student success outcomes. The Vice President will represent WSU in system-level and state conversations related to student access, success, and workforce alignment within the Utah System of Higher Education.

Champion Belonging and Continuous Improvement

The Vice President will model empathetic, transparent, and transformative leadership, fostering a culture of belonging and continuous improvement across all units. This includes supporting staff development, encouraging innovation informed by assessment, and advancing outcomes for students of all identities and backgrounds.

Candidate Qualifications

Required Qualifications

- Master's degree in higher education administration, student affairs, enrollment management, or a related field
- At least seven years of progressively responsible senior leadership experience in higher education
- Demonstrated success leading complex, cross-functional organizations and managing budgets and strategic initiatives
- Proven record of advancing student access, belonging, retention, and completion
- Exceptional communication, collaboration, and change-leadership skills

Preferred Qualifications

- Doctoral degree in a related field
- Experience leading integrated student affairs and enrollment management portfolios
- Demonstrated use of data analytics to inform institutional strategy and improve student outcomes
- Experience partnering closely with faculty, executive leadership, and external stakeholders



Leadership

Meet the Interim President



Leslie Durham began in her role as interim president of Weber State University Nov. 10, 2025, after being appointed by the Utah Board of Higher Education.

“I am honored to serve as interim president of Weber State University during this transition,” said Durham. “Weber State is a remarkable institution, and I look forward to working closely with the students and campus community to ensure continuity, stability, and continued progress in the months ahead.”

Durham joined WSU in August 2025 as provost and senior vice president of Academic Affairs. She previously worked at Boise State University, where she most recently served as dean of the College of Arts and Science, and taught courses in theatre.

During her 25-year career in higher education, Durham has held various roles, including faculty member, school director, associate dean, and dean.

Her appointment follows current [WSU President Brad Mortensen’s announcement](#) that he accepted the position of president at his alma mater, Utah State University.

The Utah Board of Higher Education is currently conducting a search for WSU’s next president. It is anticipated that the new president will be named before the VPSASEM search process concludes and will make the final decision on the appointment of the VPSASEM.



The Community

Ogden City, Weber and Davis counties, and Utah

Weber State University is nestled at the foot of the beautiful Wasatch Mountains in [Ogden, Utah](#), a vibrant city that has earned a reputation nationally for being one of the “best places to live,” one of the “best places to do business,” a place with a “stable economy and high ethics from its workforce,” and a “playground for adrenaline junkies.”

Ogden is the largest city in [Weber County](#), the fourth-largest county in Utah, with a population of more than 230,000. Elevations range from 4,000 to 10,000 feet at the summits of Ben Lomond and Mount Ogden, providing unique opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts of all kinds.

Perhaps most known for winter recreation, Utah has 14 [ski resorts](#) to choose from, with three premier venues located in Weber County - [Snowbasin](#) (home to several events at the 2002 Winter Olympics), [Powder Mountain](#), and [Nordic Valley](#). Weber County also offers a number of other winter activities, including snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing.

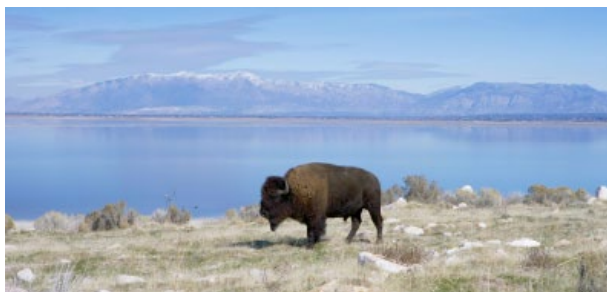


Recreation does not stop in the summer.

There are 38 recreational parks in Ogden and Weber County, hundreds of miles of hiking and biking trails, and rivers and lakes for water adventures. Horseback riding, bird watching, and even hot air ballooning and parachuting are available. And golf courses abound, with 16 that are five to 30 minutes from downtown Ogden.

The area also offers an assortment of restaurants, shopping opportunities, and cultural events. [The Junction](#), located in the heart of downtown, is Ogden’s shopping, entertainment, and residential complex, with restaurants, indoor surfing and flying, a Megaplex theater, and a gym. Also downtown is [Historic 25th Street](#). Recently named one of the 10 Great Streets in America by the American Planning Association, the street is notorious for its one-of-a-kind shops, restaurants, art galleries, and clubs. Nearby is [Peery’s Egyptian Theater](#), a historic landmark and venue for performances.

For the sports enthusiast, the [Ogden Raptors](#) minor league baseball team call downtown Ogden home. On WSU’s campus, the Weber County Sports Complex is the ideal place to watch Junior-A [Ogden Mustangs](#) hockey games. Just 40 miles south in Salt Lake City, even more sports await, including the NBA’s [Utah Jazz](#), MLS’ [Real Salt Lake](#) and the Triple-A [Salt Lake Bees](#), a Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim farm team.



In between Ogden and Salt Lake City is the state’s third-largest county, [Davis County](#). The area is home to [Weber State University Davis](#), a campus growing both in physical size and learning opportunities; [Hill Air Force Base](#), the state’s largest employer and one of Utah’s most popular state parks, [Antelope Island](#), which offers spectacular views of the Great Salt Lake.



While state parks are plentiful, [The Mighty 5](#) are also located in Utah - Arches, Bryce Canyon, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, and Zion - each within a five-hour drive. [Yellowstone](#) and [Grand Teton](#) national parks in northwest Wyoming are also just a five-hour drive away.

Getting around in Utah is easy with [public transportation](#), including a bus rapid transit system in Ogden known as OGX that connects the university to downtown Ogden and commuter rail, a light rail system in Salt Lake City

and commuter rail, a light rail system in Salt Lake City that extends to the [Salt Lake City International Airport](#), and a commuter rail that connects Salt Lake City, Davis, and Weber counties with stops from Ogden to Provo. Each commuter rail station has connections to UTA's bus or light rail system and park and ride lots.

Beyond the state, Los Angeles is 11 hours to the southwest, and Las Vegas is seven hours to the south. To the northwest, Boise is five hours, and Denver is eight hours to the east.

Sources: Ogden/Weber Chamber of Commerce, Davis Chamber of Commerce, and Visit Ogden

Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile.

WittKieffer is assisting Weber State University in this search, which will remain open until an appointment is made.

Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to Christy Pratt, Ben Haden, or Mercedes Vance through the office of Jess Cummings via email: [jcummings@wittkieffer.com](mailto:jcumings@wittkieffer.com)

Weber State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to creating an environment welcoming to all individuals. We strive to create a culture where everyone feels valued and appreciated. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to protected categories, such as disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion, national origin, veterans status, or others, as required by law and university policy. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. This material has been copied, compiled, or quoted in part from Weber State University documents and personal interviews and is believed to be reliable. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and factual situations govern.

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