POLICY NUMBER: 101
SUBJECT: AUTHORITY AND BRIEF HISTORY
APPROVAL DATE OF LAST REVISION: AUGUST 15, 2005; JANUARY 24, 2011; NOVEMBER 23, 2015; OCTOBER 19, 2021; JUNE 26, 2023; JUNE 24, 2024; JUNE 22, 2026
SOURCE(S): UTAH CODE 53H STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

101.1 – AUTHORITY

Utah Legislature established an institutional governance structure, the Utah Board of Higher Education (UBHE), providing authority, direction, and coordination for the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) and its member colleges and universities.

Utah Code 53H-1-102(b) and 53H-3-102 recognizes Bridgerland Technical College (BTECH) as a college within USHE as a "body politic and corporate with perpetual succession…" and Utah Code 53H-3-1202," which serves the geographic area encompassing:

a) the Box Elder School District;
b) the Cache School District;
c) the Logan School District; and
d) the Rich School District.

BTECH was granted both the responsibility and the authority to ". . . offer technical education programs…" by the Utah State Legislature (§53H-3-1203).

101.2 – BRIEF HISTORY

101.2.1 – TIMELINE

- Opened under the direction of Stanley S. Richardson as Bridgerland Area Vocational Center in 1971.
- Changed name to Bridgerland Applied Technology Center in 1990.
- Accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges – Special Purpose Schools in 1991.
- Creation of the Utah College of Applied Technology (UCAT) resulting in a name change to Bridgerland Applied Technology College effective July 1, 2001.
- Accredited by the Council on Occupational Education (COE) in 2006.
- Reorganization changes UCAT to the Utah System of Technical Colleges (USTC) resulting in a name change to Bridgerland Technical College effective July 1, 2017.
- Creation of the Utah Board of Higher Education, putting all public degree-granting colleges and universities and technical colleges under a single governing body effective July 1, 2020.
- Merged USTC with the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE), which is comprised of the Commissioner's Office and all public higher education institutions in Utah effective July 1, 2020.
- Received Utah Board of Higher Education and COE approval for clock-hour to credit-hour conversion effective July 1, 2023.

101.2.2 – FACILITIES

1971-1990

- First operated at Sky View High School, then Logan School District central office. Between 1974 and 1976, the Center utilized facilities in the George Nelson Fieldhouse and the Mechanical Arts building at Utah State University (USU). Additional courses were located throughout the three counties in a variety of old and spare buildings.
- Moved to its permanent location the former Wurlitzer piano factory in 1984. This year marked the first of many remodels to accommodate its unique diversity of programs.

1991-2021

- Expansion to Brigham City began in portable classrooms at Thiokol and ultimately moved to the former Albertson's building purchased by Box Elder County in 1996, now known as the Brigham City Branch Campus.
- Expanded to Rich County to serve rural high school students in 1996.
- Expanded the Logan Campus in 2005, purchasing the Bourns building for pennies on the dollar. This building became known as Logan Campus-West.
- Legislature funded the first purpose-built building as the #1 priority in the state for a new Health Sciences building in 2021.

2022-Present

- Construction on the new Health Sciences building started with a groundbreaking on March 16, 2022. Certificate of Occupancy was received on October 24, 2023, and a ribbon cutting event was held on June 11, 2024.
- Legislature funded the land bank request in 2022 for two parcels of land. The north parcel, with the existing structure of 100,000 square feet of manufacturing space, was purchased and included 12.85 acres of land. The purchase closed on August 11, 2022. This building became known as the Bridgerland Technical College Business & Innovation Building in 2023.
- The college finalized the purchase of 13.74 acres of land at 1200 North and 1000 West in June 2025.