

# Educational Talent Search Times

March 2024

Funded through the US Department of Education

Volume 27 Issue 4



## FROM THE COORDINATOR



Hi Everyone! With Spring upon us, it's the perfect time to rejuvenate our spirits and embrace new beginnings. As we enjoy the blossoming flowers and warmer days, let's also remember the importance of finishing the school year on a high note. Let's set goals, stay focused, and support each other to make these final months memorable and successful.

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I would like to inform our TMS & RMMS families that Olivia has moved on but we are thrilled that Lisa, our WHS advisor, will take her place and will advise all our TRIO students in Heber. Change can be challenging for our students, but it also presents opportunities for growth and resilience. We appreciate your support in helping Lisa feel welcome.

For our high school students, as we embrace the excitement of Spring, it's also a crucial time to focus on planning for the future. We're gearing up for our upcoming trip to tour colleges in northern Utah, an invaluable opportunity for our juniors to explore their options and envision their academic journey ahead. Additionally, I urge all seniors to work closely with your TRIO advisor to complete the FAFSA, submit college applications, and seek out scholarship opportunities. These steps are essential in paving the way for a successful transition to higher education.

Together, let's make the most of this season of growth and possibility as we support our students in reaching their aspirations.

**Paul Belvin - ETS Coordinator**

### Upcoming ACT Test Dates

April 13, 2024  
June 8, 2024  
July 13, 2024

### College Tour Trip Dates

April 24-26

Talk to your advisor to learn more!



The 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form is open and available at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov).



You can find us online and on social media

Website: [uvu.edu/trio/ets](https://uvu.edu/trio/ets) Blog: [uvu.edu/trio/ets/blog/index.html](https://uvu.edu/trio/ets/blog/index.html)



Instagram: [uvu\\_ets](https://www.instagram.com/uvu_ets)



Facebook: [uvu\\_ets](https://www.facebook.com/uvu_ets)

## FROM THE ADVISORS



Happy Spring students, parents, and administrators. As we begin our final quarter for the 2023-2024 school year, we look forward to our mini college trip, April 24-26<sup>th</sup>. Students will have a unique chance to visit multiple college campuses across the Wasatch front as well as participate in wonderful activities and build new relationships. Thank you to those of you that were able to go on the MTECH trip. It is a great opportunity to train for careers in high school and earn credit that can transfer to college.



We are grateful to all who have been patient with filling out the FAFSA forms this year. Many students are still in the process or are waiting to make changes. It has been difficult, but I know that as we persevere, our students will be able to receive the federal assistance they are eligible for.



Seniors at Wasatch have the unique opportunity to apply for Wasatch Education Foundation scholarships. All ETS seniors will receive information about the program. To apply, students will need to have been accepted to a college. They will also need a resume and a college scholarship essay. We are indebted to the many donors and contributors that make this resource available for Wasatch seniors. Many of these scholarships are concentrated on 1<sup>st</sup> generation students and students with financial need. These scholarships can also be deferred. The application window is March 25- April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Thank you all for making ETS at Wasatch a great program to be a part of.



**Lisa Child — ETS Advisor**



Fun facts: College-educated workers enjoy a substantial earnings premium. On an annual basis, median earnings for bachelor's degree holders are \$36,000 or 84 percent higher than those whose highest degree is a high school diploma. (Association of Public & Land-Grant Universities 2023)



### We are all connected and Stronger Together

The students at both Provo High School and Dixon Middle School are busy preparing for their school's annual cultural assemblies. Both assemblies promise to be a wonderful showcase of dances representing many different cultures.

Some of our TRIO students at both schools will be participating in this cultural celebration. In so doing they will be playing an important role in the preservation and promotion of their cultural heritage. They will also participate in the Maypole Dance display. Symbolizing

that **We are all connected and Stronger Together**.

### Cultural Assembly

Dixon Middle School: March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Three performances for both students and parents

Provo High School: March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

**Marlene Neptune — ETS Advisor**



### In Celebration of Black History Month

Do you know the names of some of our Black Nation Builders who have made significant contribution of the advancement of these United States of America? Use the link below to play the game and then your answer would be a confident YES!!!

[20 Black History Trivia Questions \(crowdparty.app\)](#)

## FROM THE ADVISORS



The academic year at MVHS and OJHS has been brimming with excitement and growth! I've relished the opportunity to connect with our new students, particularly those at Orem Junior, while also nurturing deeper bonds with our existing TRIO members. Operating with a full program has been immensely gratifying, and I eagerly anticipate fostering even greater consistency with our students.



Throughout the year, our workshops have been a highlight, empowering students at both the junior high and high school levels to excel academically, become exemplary citizens, and chart a path towards college readiness. Our MVHS seniors have been making remarkable strides in their college preparations, with all having completed their FAFSA and school scholarship applications. Now, we're directing our attention towards external scholarship applications and course registration, which marks an exciting phase in their academic journey. Meanwhile, MVHS juniors are diligently gearing up for their ACT exams, with access to TRIO's ACT prep course set to equip them for success this April! Over at Orem Junior, we've enjoyed exploring tools like YouScience, and embarking on a journey of discovering individual learning styles together.

As we approach course registration for the next academic year, I encourage all TRIO students to prioritize their path to graduation and consider maximizing opportunities like concurrent enrollment classes. The prospect of graduating high school with an associate's degree is well within reach for many of our students, and I'm committed to supporting them every step of the way. For personalized guidance on course selection or any other assistance, students can always reach out to me—I'm here to help them thrive.



A fascinating fact about an associate degree, is that individuals who hold them tend to experience higher earning potential and lower rates of unemployment compared to those with only a high school diploma. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), individuals with an associate degree had median weekly earnings of \$887 in 2020, compared to \$781 for those with only a high school diploma. Additionally, the unemployment rate for individuals with an associate's degree was lower at 5.5% compared to 9.1% for those with just a high school diploma.

This demonstrates the significant economic benefits that come with obtaining an associate's degree, making it a valuable investment in one's future. It's so neat that our students have the opportunity to graduate with their associates in high school. If you would like more information about this pathway, never hesitate to reach out!

**Kaitlyn Dyshkant — ETS Advisor**



**High school dropouts in the United States** are more likely to be [unemployed](#), have [low-paying jobs](#), be incarcerated, have children at early ages and/or become single parents. There is not a single race in the U.S. that as of 2019, has a 90 percent graduation rate. In order for the U.S. to have achieved this rate by 2020, almost 200,000 more students would have had to graduate on time.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High\\_school\\_dropouts\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High_school_dropouts_in_the_United_States)

### **Expectations of students accepted into TRIO Talent Search:**

- ⇒ Attend school regularly
- ⇒ Attend monthly ETS meetings held in your school
- ⇒ Maintain a 2.5 GPA
- ⇒ Graduate high school (HS) at the end of the 12th grade
- ⇒ Take at least one dual enrollment course each year in HS
- ⇒ Attend a college/university after HS graduation
- ⇒ Earn a college degree within 6 years after HS graduation

## FROM THE ADVISORS



STEAM is an important part of education and your future career. Having any kind of knowledge or skills in STEAM can lead to better educational and career opportunities. The Space Foundation states “As humanity faces increasing change, challenges and complexity, we need people with the ability to ask the right questions and find new solutions.



STEAM—with its focus on not only the “how” and “what” but also the “who” and “why”—is specifically designed to develop future innovators. It encourages students to

approach real-world scientific problems with consideration for their impact on humanity.” When you are thinking about career choices or college majors and minors, having some type of STEAM skill will help you in your future job search and career. Finish off the school year with hard work and good grades!



**Whitney Parry — ETS Advisor**

At the dawn of the industrial age, literacy meant the basic skills of reading, writing, and arithmetic that enabled people to work in paper-based, procedures-driven factories and offices.

Now, basic skills are still important, but not enough. People now also need the capacity to process and evaluate information, make informed judgments, and learn how to learn in order to keep up with the accelerating pace of information flow and technological change. **STEAM is the new literacy.**

**FOR EXAMPLE:**

S	T	E	A	M
<b>SCIENCE</b> gives tools to experiment, test and evaluate ideas and observations.	<b>TECHNOLOGY</b> teaches how to process and connect information in a variety of frameworks: one-to-one, one-to-many, and many-to-many.	<b>ENGINEERING</b> teaches the cycle of innovation: inventing solutions, measuring impact, and making changes to improve results.	<b>ARTS</b> teach symbolic, expressive capacities that can reach across barriers of language, culture, background, and experience.	<b>MATHEMATICS</b> provides the tools and structures to reach across all interests and backgrounds to make sense of the world.

<https://cie.spacefoundation.org/what-is-steam-education-and-why-is-it-important/>

<https://www.infohio.org/blog/item/full-steam-ahead>



**ATTENTION SENIORS:** As we head into the final quarter of the school year, just a reminder that college applications are not complete until you have asked the counseling office to send your final, official transcript to the school you will be attending in the fall. 4<sup>th</sup> quarter grades matter! Grades from the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter determine eligibility for fall sports and activities and college admission and scholarship offers are often contingent on successful completion of all high school classes. You've worked hard all year, don't quit now.



**Lesa Dixon — ETS Advisor**



# FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) INFORMATION



If you are having issues when completing the FAFSA, please refer to this website for help: <https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out/help#fafsa-help-topics>.

Additionally, stay informed about 2024–25 FAFSA changes and receive up-to-date notifications and information:

Follow Federal Student Aid on social media for resources and announcements.

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#) (Informational Videos)

[YouTube](#) (Educational Webinars)

As always, you can reach out to your advisor for help. We are receiving updates and information from Utah's State FAFSA Coordinator as the FAFSA process is being smoothed out.



# ETS Program Locations & Advisor Contact Information

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Mountain View High School  
Orem Junior High School

**Whitney Parry**  
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Timpview High School  
Centennial Middle School



**Marlene Neptune**  
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Ph: 385-645-5801

Provo High School  
Dixon Middle School

**Lesa Dixon**  
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Ph: 435-709-5665

Union High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Uintah River High School

**Lisa Child**  
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Ph: 801-755-6120

Wasatch High School  
Rocky Mountain Middle School  
Timpanogos Middle School

For those of you who are thinking of attending UVU in the fall, there is now freshmen housing available.

## Benefits of UVU Freshman Housing at The Green:

- 1. Community Connection:** Experience the advantages of residing in a vibrant community comprised of fellow freshmen. Forge meaningful connections with your peers beyond the classroom setting.
- 2. Engaging Events:** Get ready for a dynamic college experience! At The Green, you'll have the opportunity to engage in weekly university-related events and programming. From workshops to social gatherings, there's always something happening.
- 3. Proximity to Campus:** Say goodbye to long commutes! Benefit from the ease of proximity to the university. Imagine rolling out of bed and being steps away from your classes.
- 4. Residential Community Leaders (RCLs):** Our dedicated RCLs are here to build community and create engaging events and activities. They'll be your resource support system, connecting you to campus life and valuable resources.
- 5. Academic Success:** Living near campus has its perks! Enhance your academic outcomes by reducing stress, improving grades, and increasing the likelihood of completing your degree.

**Free UTA Transportation:** No car? No problem! Enjoy free UTA transportation, granting you easy access to shopping, food, entertainment, and more—all without the need for a vehicle.

## Qualifications for UVU Freshman Housing:

To be eligible to live in The Green buildings dedicated to UVU Freshman students, you must meet the following qualifications:

- **Enrolled and Registered:** You should be enrolled and registered for UVU classes.
- **Age Range:** Between the ages of 18 and 24.
- **Credit Limit:** Have 30 credits or less (excluding concurrent enrollment students).
- **Good Standing:** Maintain good standing with the UVU Student Rights & Accountability Office.

**Housing Contract:** Sign a housing contract with The Green

For more information visit <https://www.uvu.edu/housing/freshman-housing-program/index.html>.