

About the UEA

For more than a century, the Utah Education Association has been dedicated to preserving and enhancing Utah public education. The UEA represents more than 18,000 active classroom teachers, retired educators, administrators, licensed educational support personnel and campus student organizations.



Structure—

The UEA is governed by a president, vice president and board of directors, each elected by their peer member educators. These leaders and other individuals elected by the membership determine the policies of the UEA — and how to implement them.

The UEA has local affiliates in each of the state's 41 school districts, Applied Technology Colleges, and the Utah Schools for the Deaf & the Blind. These affiliates are also governed by elected presidents, vice presidents and boards.

Activities—

The UEA serves its educator members and promotes public education and the education profession in Utah. Here are a few examples of the UEA in action:

- **The UEA Convention & Education Exposition**

The annual UEA Convention includes dozens of professional development workshops for K-12 educators, keynote speakers, hundreds of exhibitor booths, a New Educators' Workshop and much more.

- **New Educators' Workshop**

This free, one-day workshop, held during the UEA Convention, is for students in teacher preparation programs and educators in their early years of teaching. The event features professional development classes, classroom-tested lesson plans, and a keynote speaker to motivate and inspire educators.

- **Advocating for Public Education**

Despite educators' best efforts in the classroom, much of what they want to accomplish is out of their control. Decisions about everything from curriculum and class size, to budgets for classroom supplies, to salaries and benefits, are made in large part by elected officials and appointed policymakers. That's why teachers band together, through their professional association, to advocate for legislation and policies that will benefit Utah public education. Members of the UEA staff represent the voice of teachers on numerous committees, as part of education coalitions and with individual legislators.

- **Utah National Board Coalition**

As a member of the UNBC coalition, the UEA helps to sponsor teacher summits, an annual celebration dinner to honor newly certified NBC teachers, and an Educator Day on the Hill to honor newly certified teachers at the Utah State Capitol.

- **School Improvement Grants**
 As part of a national Priority Schools Campaign, the UEA provides intensive support to schools receiving School Improvement Grants. At Glendale Middle School, for example, the NEA, the UEA, the Salt Lake Teachers Association and the Salt Lake City School District are providing professional development opportunities on team-building, cultural competency, and community outreach and parent engagement.
- **PTA ‘Golden Apple’ Awards**
 The UEA co-sponsors these annual teacher and school volunteer awards with KUED, the Utah PTA and other partners.
- **‘Excellence in Teaching’ Awards**
 The UEA annually presents “Excellence in Teaching” Awards to 10 Utah educators. The awards are presented during a “Superstars in Education” Celebration held in conjunction with the UEA Convention.
- **The UEA Children At Risk Foundation**
 The non-profit Children At Risk Foundation distributes grants to teachers serving at-risk populations, provides tutoring services in schools that do not meet federal standards and delivers other services to students in need.
- **‘Prepared Not Scared’ / ‘Future Educators of America’**
 Hundreds of college seniors preparing to enter education receive assistance with resumes, mock interview training, Praxis test preparation, and other support each year as part of these student programs. The programs are conducted in conjunction with the college of education at several Utah universities.
- **Member Benefits and Discounts**
 UEA and NEA member benefits programs provide exclusive access to discounts on a variety of products and services, often saving members more than the cost of member dues.
- **Communications and Public Relations**
 The UEA maintains an active communications and public relations program to share information with its members and the community. This program includes the *myUEA.org* member website, member newsletters, an active campaign to support Utah public education, and the *UtahsFuture.org* public website.
- **Teacher Representation**
 The UEA represents Utah teachers in a variety of ways:

 - President is a member of the Governor’s Education Commission;
 - President is a member of the National Commission on Effective Teaching;
 - Represent Utah teachers on the Governor’s Literacy Commission;
 - Representation on policy taskforces at the Utah State Office of Education;
 - Participation in a variety of community committees, boards and taskforces;
 - Legal representation for individual teachers; and
 - Assist local affiliates with teacher contract negotiations in individual school districts.

In addition, local school district affiliates represent teachers on a variety of committees and task forces.