UEA Priorities for the 2021 Utah Legislative Session

Education Budget

• Fulfill statutory funding obligations created in 2020 (HB 357 and HB 5011) in the FY2022 Base Budget, including:
  o Fully restore $140 million in WPU funding cut during 2020 interim special sessions;
  o Fully fund student enrollment growth;
  o Include a WPU inflation adjustment in the Base Budget; and
  o Support long-term education economic stabilization through a working fund.

• Reinstated cuts made during 2020 interim special sessions, including:
  o Administrative Cost Factor;
  o Flexible Allocation; and
  o MOST/USTAR.

• Hold all schools harmless for enrollment fluctuations during the 2020-21 school year due to COVID.

• Allocate $40 million in one-time funding for COVID-driven expenses related to health and safety, equity, student learning, staffing needs and educator support.

• Devise and implement a tax system that will deliver sustainable and growing long-term revenue to address the chronic underfunding of public education.

• Oppose/repeal schemes (such as vouchers or tax credits) that funnel public education money to personal student accounts or privately-run entities where taxpayer accountability is lost.

For the 2021 General Session

• Reverse the overwhelming workload and support Utah educators during the COVID pandemic crisis by strictly limiting education-related bills to essential legislation that must be accomplished during the 2021 General Session.