

# R136, Language Proficiency in the Utah System of Higher Education<sup>1</sup>

**R136-1 Purpose:** To provide for the use of languages other than English for communications with non-English speakers, promote English proficiency, and encourage enhanced language training in the Utah System of Higher Education (“USHE”).

## R136-2 References

- 2.1 Utah Code § 53B-2-106, Duties and Responsibilities of the President of a Degree-Granting Institution of Higher Education – Approval by Board of Trustees.
- 2.2 Utah Code § 63G-1-201, Official State Language

## R136-3 Policy

- 3.1 **Official State Language:** English is the official language of Utah and is the sole language of the government.
- 3.2 **Communications in Order to Encourage English Proficiency:** USHE institutions and the Board may use languages other than English to communicate with non-English speakers. These communications may include, but are not limited to, explaining educational opportunities in order to encourage and support access and participation in institutional education, institutional or Board policies and procedures, training and other related programs, or English proficiency training. The communications shall promote the principle that non-English speaking children and adults should become able to read, write, and understand English as quickly as possible.
- 3.3 **Foreign Language Instruction:** USHE institutions and the Board shall continue to emphasize and support foreign language instruction as an integral and important function of Utah higher education.
- 3.4 **English as a Second Language Instruction:** USHE institutions and the Board shall support, initiate, continue and expand formal and informal programs in English as a Second Language.

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<sup>1</sup> Adopted January 17, 2003; amended June 6, 2024.