



OGDEN-WEBER
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

ANNUAL REPORT **FY24**

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THE OTECH MISSION

A leader in higher education and workforce training, OTECH offers over 30 hands-on technical certificates in fields like healthcare, manufacturing, business, computer technology, service industries, apprenticeships, and more. For over 50 years, OTECH has built prosperity in the community by creating a technically skilled workforce, one student at a time.

At Ogden-Weber Tech, experience is everything. Students can level up, no matter where they are in life, to gain a career—not just a job.

VISION: Higher education that works

MISSION: We build a prosperous community by creating a technically skilled workforce one student at a time

VALUES: Community, Learning, Integrity

COBY WIGHT, MACHINIST GRADUATE

"I decided to join OTECH because it seemed like a jumpstart on life. Where with college degrees, there are certain things where it takes a lot of money and a lot of time. But here you can get a course done and jumpstart straight into the career. Especially with the job opportunities [available]... There are so many opportunities that have opened up [for me] just by having a certificate here."



Building a prosperous community by
creating a technically skilled workforce

ONE STUDENT AT A TIME





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has been a historic year for Ogden-Weber Technical College. We had 1,344 graduates complete high-demand programs, representing over \$67 million dollars in return on investment through their starting wages. Ninety-nine percent of graduates found relevant employment. We served over 6,600 students, more than any year in our 53-year history. And we received legislative funding and generous donations for the first new building on campus in over a decade.

Each of these milestones is exciting, but only because they impact individual students who are building prosperity for themselves and their families. This annual report highlights just a few of these incredible students. Thank you for reading their stories, and for everything you do to make OTECH *higher education that works*.

Thank you,

JAMES R. TAGGART, COLLEGE PRESIDENT



LIFTING UTAH: MEETING THE DEMAND FOR SKILLED WORKERS TO CREATE A VIBRANT ECONOMY

Securing skilled employees is a pressing issue for our state's growing companies. The demand is unprecedented!

But with a 99% job placement rate, OTECH graduates are meeting this demand by quickly receiving hands-on training in key industries that fuel innovation and economic growth across every corner of our state: manufacturing, construction, healthcare, business, computer technology and services.

These skills not only meet workforce demands, but they also prepare graduates for lifelong careers.

Ogden-Weber Technical College works closely with local employers to respond to industry needs, shaping certifications and continuing education courses that will increase job skills and employee retention, and ultimately lift the state of Utah.

**OTECH GRADUATES HAD AN
ECONOMIC IMPACT OF**

+\$67 MILLION

IN STARTING WAGES



EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

Autoliv is the world's largest automotive safety supplier, operating in 25 countries to design, develop, and manufacture passive safety systems. The company's Ogden facility is home to 1,700 employees who produce more than 800,000 airbags every week.

For decades, Autoliv has also sent representatives to serve on occupational advisory committees for OTECH's manufacturing programs.

Automation is a booming industry and one of the fastest growing in Weber County. Ogden Autoliv's partnership ensures that OTECH students receive relevant, up-to-date training so they can meet industry demand for highly effective technical employees.

"OTECH prepares grads for our industry's workforce by giving them the fundamentals of theory and hands-on experiences for many industrial manufacturing maintenance categories—industrial maintenance, industrial mechanics, vision systems and robotics, to name a few," said Chris Jensen, Ogden Autoliv's tech support supervisor.

"The only way these programs can keep growing and continue to innovate with top-of-the-line curriculum and graduates, is with industry input," said OTECH automation programs coordinator, Mike Tolson. "Our programs wouldn't be where they are without strong partnerships like Autoliv's."

Autoliv

CAREER IN A YEAR OR LESS

With one of the highest job placement rates of any institution in the state of Utah, OTECH students earn certificates quickly, getting them into high-demand, high-wage jobs fast. Most programs can be completed in a year or less, and several can be completed in as few as three months!



DESIREE BRADEN, COMPOSITES GRADUATE

"At first, I was nervous to enroll myself into college at my age. I knew there would be struggles but the amount of support that I received from EVERYONE at OTECH made the journey worth it! I can say with confidence that OTECH's Composites program is the best in Northern Utah. The amount of knowledge, skills, and experience that I gained helped me land my dream job within a month of earning my certificate! I plan on returning to OTECH for my next certificate to continue my journey in the aerospace industry!"

At OTECH, skills pay! Data shows that OTECH graduates earn:

\$50,000 AVERAGE 1ST YEAR GRADUATE STARTING WAGE IN NON-APPRENTICESHIP FIELDS

and see a

1,291% RETURN ON THE INVESTMENT THEY MAKE IN THEIR EDUCATION

JACK BOROWSKI, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS GRADUATE

"I work for Ogden City in their I.T. department, specifically in operations. We ensure that the entire city's infrastructure is up and working the way it's supposed to. The Information Technology Systems program did a lot to prepare me for the job market. It did an amazing job at sampling multiple career fields within the industry to help me make an informed decision on what I wanted to at least try out. Without that experience in class, I don't think I would be going down the career path I'm going down now. I think that having real world skills on my resume from OTECH helped me become a stronger candidate."



HEAR TANIA'S STORY USING
THE QR CODE BELOW!



TURNING A LOVE FOR FOOD INTO AN AWARD-WINNING BUSINESS: 2024 OTECH STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Tania Rodriguez graduated from the Culinary Arts program in the summer of 2023 and is the owner of Los Churros del Norte food truck, a local favorite offering authentic Mexican food. Their menu ranges from street tacos to Tania's specialty, homemade churros. Everything is made from scratch.

Tania had already been running her business for a few years before starting the Culinary Arts program, and it was doing well. She didn't have to go back to school, but made the choice to gain an education because she realized the value and return on investment.

"Having an education is very important to have a better future and succeed in your community," Tania said. "You may have skills right now but you will develop those skills. If you're doing okay, you can do great. So don't say no to the opportunity to have a better education."

The skills Tania learned in the Culinary Arts program helped her improve her menu pricing, refine her purchasing process from vendors, identify inefficiencies that were leading to profit loss, and better her culinary expertise.

"If you want to become a great chef, you have to learn from the best and that's exactly what I did at OTECH."

6,646

FY24 HEADCOUNT
(8% INCREASE)

1,344

GRADUATES IN
FY24

140

TOTAL NTHS*
GRADS IN FY24
*NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY

1,634

UNDERREPRESENTED
STUDENTS ENROLLED

483

UNDERREPRESENTED
GRADUATES

287

HIGH SCHOOL
COMPLETERS IN FY24

100

VETERAN COMPLETERS
(AND DEPENDENTS OF VETERANS)
IN FY24

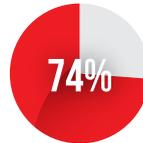
1.59M

FY24 ENROLLED HOURS
(9.18% INCREASE)

1,727

HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS ENROLLED

DISTRIBUTION OF CERTIFICATES



COMPLETION RATE



LICENSURE RATE



PLACEMENT RATE

784 HIGH-YIELD
CERTIFICATES
AWARDED

200 EMPLOYER
PARTNERSHIPS



REAFFIRMATION OF ACCREDITATION COMMENDATIONS

In 2024, the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education (COE) granted OTECH full reaffirmation of accreditation. There were no findings of deficiency and the reaffirmation team awarded the college with two commendations:

COMMENDATION 1

“THE TEAM COMMENDS THE INSTITUTION FOR ITS CREATIVE WAY OF SHOWCASING THE MISSION, ‘ONE STUDENT AT A TIME’ VIA THE INTERACTIVE AND HANDS-ON TOUR OF THE PROGRAMS.”

COMMENDATION 2

“THE TEAM COMMENDS OGDEN-WEBER TECHNICAL COLLEGE ON THE EXTRAORDINARY PHYSICAL RESOURCES OF THE INSTITUTION INCLUDING CLASSROOM, ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SPACES; EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, SIGNAGE, AND DISPLAYED ARTWORK.”



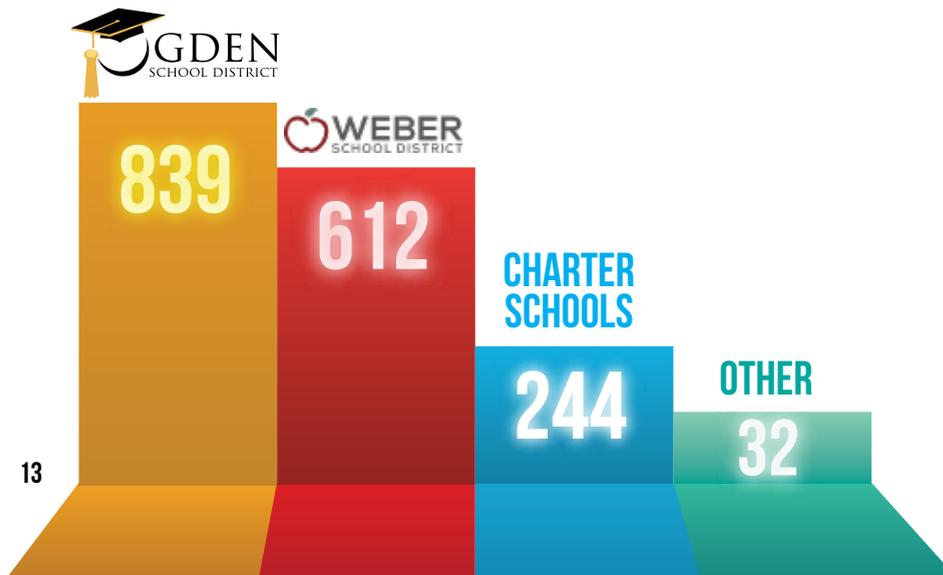
POV: YOU COMPLETED COLLEGE IN HIGH SCHOOL

In the state of Utah, high school students can attend a technical college tuition free. This is a game changer in making higher education more accessible to our state's youth and preparing them to be career-ready.

By learning high-demand skills at no cost, these students save time and money as they work towards their career goals. After completing their OTECH program, many students jump right into high-wage, high-demand jobs that help fund future schooling, eliminating the stress of how to pay for a degree program and setting them up on a path towards financial security.

The courses they complete at OTECH can even transfer to other institutions across the state, so they can quickly finish school and enter the workforce.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED AT OTECH



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO EARN A TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE ARE 99% MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL ON TIME

OGDEN TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Ogden School District's new Ogden Technical High School on the college campus makes it easier for students to complete their OTECH program of choice and continue their core classes required for graduation, without missing a beat.

Unique to OTECH High is the integration of competency-based academics and hands-on learning. Students can progress at their own pace and demonstrate mastery through practical application in their OTECH High classes, just as they do in their OTECH courses.



DIEGO ROJAS-OTERO, GRAPHIC DESIGN GRADUATE

"Graduating with my OTECH Graphic Design certificate before even finishing high school gave me an amazing head start, and I wanted more. Ogden-Weber Tech offered a full ride scholarship for graduating high school seniors and I was fortunate enough to receive that scholarship. The funding has allowed me to continue my education without worrying about my tuition. I chose the Business program because one day I would like to have my own graphic design business, and now I'm learning the skills to make that a reality."



THAT “I JUST GRADUATED DEBT FREE” FEELING

Paying for school can be stressful and difficult, but it doesn't have to be.

At OTECH, tuition is affordable. The average program costs \$2,100, one of the most affordable higher education tuition rates in Utah.

And with thousands of dollars to help pay for school, 100% of OTECH students graduate with no student loan debt.



Graduating high school seniors qualify for the **OTECH Summer Scholarship**: free tuition for any available program the summer immediately following high school graduation.

In FY24, 338 students took advantage of the scholarship, covering \$253,838 in tuition (15% increase from FY23).



EDUARDO HURTADO, BARBERING STUDENT

“I’m essentially going to school for free, which is amazing. I’m still working a full-time job helping my mom pay bills to help take care of my family and my little brothers. That money that I would be paying for school out of pocket goes back to me and my family and it helps tremendously.”



ELIZABETH CUEVAS ROJAS, COSMETOLOGY STUDENT

"I was unexpectedly called to take a spot in the Cosmetology program in the summer but I wasn't ready to pay for school. I had FAFSA but that wasn't going to start until later. Because I just graduated high school, I received the Summer Scholarship. It helped me get started and was a really big help."

\$1,090,000 TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED TO STUDENTS
IN SCHOLARSHIPS

\$468,450 FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
TO 487 STUDENTS

\$214,620 STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO
167 STUDENTS

SAMANTHA RASMUSSEN, PHARMACY TECHNICIAN STUDENT

"I'm so grateful I had a scholarship to get me through this amazing program. It's been able to help me not worry about financial things and has taken a stress off my back so I can really focus on my program and learn and gain a skill."



PATHWAY BUILDING



In 2024, OTECH received an **\$84 million** appropriation from the Utah State Legislature for the newest building on campus in over a decade. The 110,000 sq. ft. Pathway Building will provide needed instructional space for high-wage, high-demand programs, consolidate student services into a single location, and give space to expand existing partnerships with other institutions of higher education and local school districts.

The new space will eliminate current program waiting lists and expand services to **2,000 additional students!**



ONE STUDENT AT A TIME



We believe that a student's financial situation should not be a barrier to their education. That's why the Ogden-Weber Technical College Foundation works to raise funds for scholarships, equipment, and student success programs to help relieve the burden of paying for school.

487

SCHOLARSHIP
RECIPIENTS

\$500K

RAISED FOR STUDENT
SUCCESS PROGRAMS

\$3M

DONATIONS SECURED
TO SUPPORT THE
PATHWAY BUILDING



Your donation can make all the difference for an OTECH student, whatever the amount. Contribute to student success and change a student's life by scanning the QR code!



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Heidi Doman
Wasatch Peaks Credit Union

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

LARRY H. & GAIL
MILLER
FAMILY FOUNDATION

From opening their first Utah car dealership in 1979 to building one of the largest privately-owned companies in the western United States, Larry and Gail Miller worked to ensure that the communities housing their businesses would be better because they were there. The Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation was established in 2007 to continue the philanthropic spirit exemplified by the Millers for future generations. The Miller Family Foundation champions education, skill development, jobs, and economic self-reliance, all causes that tie directly to the work of Ogden-Weber Tech.

In 2024, the Miller Family Foundation donated \$1,000,000 to support the construction of OTECH's new Pathway Building. "We are honored to support Ogden-Weber Technical College's new Pathway Building," said Steve Miller, trustee of the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation. "Technical skills and training are essential to equipping future leaders with the necessary tools to build thriving communities. The Pathway Building will create a place where education meets opportunity, while fostering a community of students to pave the way for a brighter future."

OTECH President James R. Taggart said, "The Miller Family Foundation is one of the most influential forces for good in Utah, and we are so grateful for their partnership with Ogden-Weber Tech. This investment will help generations of OTECH students access educational opportunities and build high-wage, high-demand careers in our community."

Heidi Flitton
Equitable

Alicia Martinez
Midtown Community Health Center

Priscilla Martinez
Intermountain Health

Matt Miles
Froerer & Miles

Bob Nannini
Bio-Med Engineering, Inc.

Teresa Puskedra
Ogden Surgical-Medical Society

Nathan Felix
Samuel C. and Myra
G. Powell
Foundation

Diane Sedgwick
Retired

SUPPORTING STUDENT WELLNESS

OTECH students have access to a range of resources to support their overall wellbeing and academic success.

Resources are free to students and include career preparation and employment assistance, access to the student pantry and relaxing zen den, and mental health services through college counselors and community partners like Trula and Blomquist Hale.

These resources help students manage stress and emotional challenges that may impact their studies and create a supportive and safe environment where they can thrive.

THE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL FORMED IN 2024 TO ADVOCATE FOR AND IMPROVE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE



DENISSE MARTINEZ, MEDICAL ASSISTANT GRADUATE

"I learned very quickly how mental health affects student success. As an OTECH student, I have access to free therapy from a licensed therapist and support from my program. These services outside of school could have cost me a fortune. Resources like the Student Success Center and the zen den are the best friends I didn't know I needed. I visit the zen den, an area for students to relax and destress, quite often. It's a great way to take care of my health while studying about health. From meditating, to coloring, or getting a cup of tea, it's the little things that make a big impact... and help me pass my tests."



1,064 ITEMS DONATED TO THE STUDENT PANTRY FROM THE CAMPUS FOOD DRIVE

IN MARCH, STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERS PACKED:

75 PANTRY PACKS. ALL 75 HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED.

A STUDENT RESOURCE STATION WAS ADDED TO THE BDO CAMPUS ZEN DEN. IT INCLUDES:

GRAB-AND-GO SNACKS AND MEALS

PANTRY PACKS

HYGIENE ITEMS

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

157
SHELF-STABLE PROTEIN SOURCES

193
SHELF-STABLE CARBOHYDRATES

154
MICROWAVEABLE MEALS

560
GRAB-AND-GO SNACKS

THREE WELLNESS WORKSHOPS HOSTED BY THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER:



Each year, the Utah State Legislature allocates Custom Fit funds to encourage companies to pursue training that will maintain and grow Utah's businesses. These subsidized trainings enhance the skills of employees to keep companies competitive in constantly evolving industries.

156 TOTAL COMPANIES ASSISTED

\$902K TOTAL SPENT ON DIRECT TRAINING COSTS

2,131 STUDENTS SPONSORED

80,503 HOURS OF TRAINING

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



“Custom Fit has been a transformative investment for our business, significantly enhancing our employees' knowledge, skills, and customer service. The tailored training programs provided through Custom Fit have addressed specific needs within our workforce, resulting in a more skilled and adaptable team. The training has translated directly into improved employee morale, self-confidence, and effectiveness in our daily operations.

Our employees appreciate the investment in their professional development. This, in turn, has fostered a positive workplace culture, boosting overall job satisfaction and retention rates. From a productivity perspective, our crew's enhanced abilities have allowed us to grow revenue by 35% while keeping expenses even year over year.”

In FY24, OTECH Custom Fit assisted,

109 SMALL BUSINESSES

35 MEDIUM BUSINESSES

12 LARGE BUSINESSES



**WATCH THE FULL EPISODE
USING THE QR CODE BELOW!**



WEBER
COLLEGE

The
College
Tour ▶

prime
video

Season 12

Episode 15

Catch OTECH's episode of **Amazon Prime Video's The College Tour!** The episode features 10 extraordinary OTECH students and graduates who chose the college for its affordability, flexibility, and unmatched return on investment, and agree that their experiences at OTECH changed their lives and their careers.

LOOKING FORWARD: 2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN

NEW VISION: BE THE MODEL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION THAT WORKS

In FY24, Ogden-Weber Tech worked with employees, partners, and the college's Board of Trustees to create a new five-year strategic plan. As part of this plan, we updated our vision to be the model for *higher education that works*. OTECH higher education should work for students, for school district and university partners, for employers, for college employees, and for the entire community and the state of Utah.

MISSION: WE BUILD A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY BY CREATING A TECHNICALLY SKILLED WORKFORCE ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

The mission of Ogden-Weber Technical College embraces the why, what, and how we serve our community. Our why is to build prosperity in our community. Our role in building prosperity is our what—specifically, we create a technically-skilled workforce. Finally, our defining difference is how we accomplish our mission. We do it one student at a time.

VALUES: COMMUNITY, LEARNING, INTEGRITY

Ogden-Weber Technical College incorporates the values of community, learning, and integrity into its daily operations, fostering a culture of excellence, ethical conduct, and continuous improvement within higher education. From these values, the college aligns objectives and yearly strategies to meet the mission and vision of the institution.

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