



Alta High School's  
Step2TheU  
Application  
2020-2021

Classes Begin  
Summer 2021

Application Deadline:  
February 01, 2021  
Alta Counseling Center

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### Alta High School's New Early College Pathway

**Student Contact Information:**

Student #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Cell): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Applicants must include the following documents with their application to be considered. All applications must be fully completed. Step2TheU uses a similar undergraduate holistic admissions application process as the University of Utah, and will rank students for consideration using the following criteria. A committee comprised of both Alta and University of Utah faculty will screen and rank all applicants. The top 35 applicants will be considered for the program and each applicant thereafter will be placed by rank on a priority wait list (in the event a student opts not to participate).

- Alta High School Transcript (includes GPA)
- Resume
- One Letter of Recommendation
- Responses to the following two questions:

1. Why are you interested in participating in Step2TheU? (500 word max)
2. Describe a period of time you've had to demonstrate resiliency and what you learned from the experience. (500 word max)

Students will be evaluated based on the following criteria for admissions into Step2TheU:

1. The first criteria considered for acceptance will be based off of academic preparation and performance, including a student's rigorous level of courses taken during high school (i.e., Academic Core Classes, Honors, Advanced Placement, and Concurrent Enrollment), and GPA (Grade Point Average).
2. The second criteria will be based off of a student's personal achievements, contribution, and characteristics (outlined in the table on the backside) and responses to the two essay questions.

**Step2TheU's Holistic Review Considers the Following:**

<b>Academic Preparation and Performance</b>	<b>Personal Achievements and Characteristics</b>
Rigorous course selection in high school <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of Academic Cores</li><li>• Honors (H)</li><li>• Advanced Placement (AP)</li><li>• Concurrent Enrollment (CE)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Integrity, maturity, motivation, and resilience</li><li>• Commitment to school and/or community engagement, positive citizenship, and leadership</li><li>• Involvement in student clubs, organizations, programs, athletics, and/or other extra-curricular activities</li><li>• Familial responsibilities</li><li>• Extraordinary circumstances</li><li>• Ability to contribute to and benefit from a culturally and intellectually diverse learning community</li><li>• Demonstrated understanding of and respect for historically underrepresented populations</li></ul>
Grade Trend <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improvement over time</li></ul>	
GPA (Grade Point Average)	
Academic Awards and Distinctions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resume</li></ul>	
Intellectual Pursuits and Creative Endeavors	

**Student Application Review and Notification**

Student applications will be evaluated using a blind study process to make the application process as fair and as equitable as possible. As students turn in their application to the counseling center, they will be assigned a number to allow for anonymity and unbiased consideration. In the event students are equitable in ranking and a third variable needs to be considered, a student's letter of recommendation will be utilized for the final variable of consideration and the next available Step2TheU slot. Students accepted and those wait-listed will be notified the following month after the application deadline.

**Step2TheU Eligibility**

Step2TheU is ideal for any 11<sup>th</sup> grade high school students who consider themselves ready for an academic challenge and are motivated to explore university level coursework through an integrated approach and project application based method and design. Step2TheU is not necessarily for the top students with the highest GPAs, but rather students who are hard-working, resilient, driven, and willing to take on the challenge of college level courses. We are looking for students who are interested in using critical thinking skills to solve problems, developing creativity and innovation, communicating effectively in both written and verbal formats, learning at a challenging pace, and willing to work with other peers in a culminating group project that will benefit Sandy City and the local community. The University of Utah desires for students who are applying for Step2TheU to consider a continuation of undergraduate studies at the University of Utah (PAC-12).

**Cost and Commitment**

The total cost of Step2TheU is \$5 per semester credit hour (18 credits @ \$90) for each class prior to high school graduation. The cost increases for the final summer block (after graduation) at \$10 per semester credit hour (12 credits @ \$120). A 30-semester hour credit schedule with in-state tuition, fees, books, and travel expenses is approximated at \$15,000 or more. A student saves this amount of money, plus, the additional significant savings in time required towards a Baccalaureate Degree (BS or BA). A student and/or parent can pay for one semester of participation at a time. All payments will be made directly to the Continuing Education Department at the University of Utah.

Step2TheU student commitment:

- One semester of 12 credits (summer between junior and senior year – 9 weeks, 3 days a week)
- One fall and spring Mathematics class (1030, 1040, 1050, or 1060) course during their senior year (in-class or online)
- One semester of 12 credits (summer between senior year and freshman year of college – 9 weeks)

I, as the prospective student, and my parent/s and or guardian/s agree to the following cost and commitments included within the Step2TheU application.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_