


MEMORANDUM

Date: September 4, 2020

To: Academic Deans and Chairs

From: David Kieda, Dean, The Graduate School 

Subject: 2021 RFP for WRGP-WICHE designation of selected UU Graduate Programs

The University of Utah announces a request for proposals for an individual graduate degree and certificate programs to participate in the WICHE Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP, www.wiche.edu/wrgp). WRGP allows master's, graduate certificate, and Ph.D. students who are out-of-state residents of WICHE-member state to enroll in selected UU graduate programs and pay up to 110% of the UU in-state tuition. In reciprocity, Utah residents may attend graduate programs and pay up to 150% of in-state tuition for selected graduate programs at WICHE institutions in other states. Graduate students from WICHE states are allowed to pay in-state tuition in order to fill open seats in existing programs. The WRGP mandates that the institution will not expend any additional administrative or educational costs to allow these students to fill unused program capacity. In exchange, the institution gains additional in-state revenue for classroom seats that would otherwise be unoccupied. During AY 2019-2020, more than 1900 students enrolled in graduate programs across the WICHE region through WRGP. Each WRGP student saved an average of \$14,600 in tuition, for a net savings of \$27.9 million dollars for all WRGP students across the WICHE region.

Participation in WRGP is by solicited proposal only. To submit a proposal for WRGP participation, please visit <http://gradschool.utah.edu/wrgp/proposals> for a description of the proposal submission process, timeline, and a template word document used for submitting the proposal to the Graduate School Dean. WRGP proposals for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 implementation are due to the Graduate School on or by December 11, 2020. Proposals must include letters of support from both the Department Chair and the Dean of the relevant College, as described in the application. Approval of proposed programs will be based upon demonstration of the value of the WRGP participation toward supporting University mission and goals. Proposed WRGP programs must demonstrate that the proposed number of WRGP students can be accommodated with no additional teaching support required by the Department or College. Additional strategic criteria, such as growing enrollment in a newly created program, may also be considered. Department Chairs and Deans will be notified in March 2021 regarding the approval of their proposed application(s).