

### Overview

- Regents' Scholarship is part of the *Utah Scholars* program that encourages academic rigor in preparation for postsecondary education or the workplace after high school.
- S.B. 180 (2008), sponsored by Senator Hillyard, established the Regents' Scholarship with broad legislative support (Senate: 26-1-2, House: 67-2-6).
- Endorsed by the Governor's Office, the Utah State Office of Education, the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, and the Utah K-16 Alliance.
- The Legislature appropriated \$900,000 (\$400,000 ongoing, \$500,000 one-time) to begin the program.
- The scholarship reward is redeemable at any Utah public or private non-profit accredited institution. Students qualify by meeting a defined course of study.
- 672 applications by the May 30, 2008 deadline.  
Of those applicants, 192 qualified for the Regents' Scholarship (79 received the *Base Award*, 113 received the *Exemplary Award plus the Base Award*), of those 21 received the UESP *Supplemental Award*.
- 1,022 applications by February 1, 2009 deadline.

### Legislative Proposal:

- Enhances the sustainability of the program by:
  - Beginning with high school graduates in 2011, changes the exemplary award from 75% of tuition to a flat amount of \$5,000 (and makes parallel changes in the New Century Scholarship)
  - Instead of expanding eligibility (such as by adding an AP track) slightly tightens eligibility by eliminating the International Baccalaureate track
  - Retains the Board of Regents' ability to reduce number or amounts of awards based on legislative appropriations.
- Makes technical changes that clarifies:
  - Time period that a student may use the scholarship monies.
  - Institutions at which a student may use a Regents' Scholarship.
  - Time that a student has to complete the requirements for a Regents' Scholarship.
  - Requirements to qualify for a Regents' Scholarship.