

OFFICE OF THE UTAH STATE AUDITOR

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Office of the State Auditor Releases Comparison of First-year Salaries for Education Majors to First-year Salaries for Other Majors

Salt Lake City, UTAH –

The Office of the State Auditor (Office) today released its *Comparison of First-year Salaries for Education Majors to First-year Salaries for Other Majors*. Reports indicate that many schools in Utah's public education system struggle to find sufficient numbers of highly-qualified teachers to fill their staffing needs, particularly in the fields of mathematics, science, or special education.

Many factors influence the market for teachers. The purpose of this report is to highlight salary differences between graduates of different majors and how those differences may be playing a role in creating continuing subject-specific teacher shortages. Some individuals who could otherwise become teachers might be pursuing careers which pay higher salaries.

The report may be found on the Office's website, <u>auditor.utah.gov</u>, and specifically at <u>http://financialreports.utah.gov/saoreports/2016/AR16-02TeacherSalaryComparisonEducation,Officeof.pdf</u>.

About the Office of the State Auditor

The Office of the State Auditor provides Utah taxpayers and government officials with an independent assessment of financial operation, statutory compliance, and performance management for state and local government.

Specific activities of the Office include performing financial audits, conducting Federal funds compliance audits, providing local government oversight, conducting agency and program performance audits, performing fraud and compliance audits, and operating the State Auditor Hotline for citizens to report suspected financial issues or improprieties. These capabilities strengthen Utah State Government and help taxpayers have confidence in the integrity of Utah's government agencies.

The State Auditor is a Constitutional Officer of the State of Utah, elected directly by the state's citizens every four years. The role of the State Auditor is authorized in Article VII, Section 15 of the Utah Constitution. For more information, see <u>auditor.utah.gov</u>.

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