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[www.uesp.org/pdfs/PressRelease/2016UtahTaxRefund](http://www.uesp.org/pdfs/PressRelease/2016UtahTaxRefund)

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***Save Your Utah State Income Tax Refund for College***

**(Salt Lake City)** Thanks to cooperation with the Utah State Tax Commission, Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP) account owners can send their state income tax refund directly to their UESP account(s).

The refund will be distributed equally among all UESP accounts owned by a taxpayer, including those owned by a spouse if the taxpayer files a joint return.

**How to Send a Tax Refund to UESP**

On the final page of the Utah state individual income tax form TC-40, Part 5, simply enter an “X” next to the option to have a tax refund sent directly to UESP. UESP will credit the refund to the appropriate account(s). It’s that simple.

“UESP’s work with the Utah State Tax Commission gives families another way to save money for college,” says Lynne Ward, UESP executive director. “Every dollar saved for college is one less dollar borrowed through student loans.”

**Opening a New UESP Account**

If a Utah taxpayer wants to send a refund to UESP but does not own an account, he or she can read the UESP Program Description and open an account online at [uesp.org](http://uesp.org). Accounts are free to open and require no minimum or ongoing contributions.

Earnings on contributions to a UESP account grow tax-deferred, and account owners pay no federal or Utah state income taxes on withdrawals if they use the money to pay for qualified higher education expenses, including tuition and fees; computers or peripheral equipment, software, and Internet access; required books, supplies, and equipment; and certain room and board costs. Savings can be used at any eligible educational institution that participates in federal financial aid programs for students, not just at institutions in Utah.

Utah resident individual account owners also are eligible for a Utah state income tax credit on contributions to their UESP accounts. For the 2016 tax year, a single filer can claim a 5 percent Utah state income tax credit for eligible contributions up to \$1,900 (\$95 maximum tax credit) *per qualified beneficiary*. Joint filers can claim the credit on contributions up to \$3,800 (\$190 maximum credit) *per qualified beneficiary*.

In order for an account owner to claim the tax credit, the beneficiary must have been age 18 or younger when designated as such on the account. For each eligible beneficiary, the account owner can claim the credit each year a contribution is made for the life of the beneficiary's account.

To learn more about UESP, visit [uesp.org](http://uesp.org), call 800.418.2551 toll-free, or send an email to [info@uesp.org](mailto:info@uesp.org).

### **About UESP**

UESP, Utah's official nonprofit 529 college savings plan, manages more than \$8 billion in assets and is highly ranked by Morningstar Inc., *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine, *Money* magazine, CBS MoneyWatch.com, and consumer expert Clark Howard for its low fees and industry innovations such as its customized allocation investment options.

UESP's user-friendly website, [uesp.org](http://uesp.org), makes it easy to open, manage, and contribute to an account online.

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*Read the Program Description for more information and consider all investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. Call 800.418.2551 for a copy of the Program Description or visit [uesp.org](http://uesp.org).*

*Investments in UESP are not guaranteed by UESP, the Utah State Board of Regents, the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority (UHEAA), or any other state or federal agency. However, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance is provided for the FDIC-insured accounts. Please read the Program Description to learn about the FDIC-insured accounts. Your investment could lose value.*

*Non-Utah taxpayers and residents: You should determine whether the state in which you or your beneficiary pays taxes or lives offers a 529 plan that provides state tax or other benefits not otherwise available to you by investing in UESP. You should consider such state tax treatment and benefits, if any, before investing in UESP.*

*UESP does not provide legal, financial, investment, or tax advice and the information provided in this document does not contain legal, financial, investment, or tax advice and cannot be construed as such or relied upon for those purposes. You should consult your own tax or legal advisor to determine the effect of federal and state tax laws on your particular situation.*

*A Morningstar Analyst Rating for a 529 College Savings Plan is not a credit or risk rating. Analyst Ratings are subjective in nature and should not be used as the sole basis for investment decisions. Morningstar does not represent its Analyst Ratings to be guarantees. Please visit [Morningstar.com](http://Morningstar.com) for more information about the Analyst Ratings, as well as other Morningstar ratings and fund rankings.*