

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Western Governors University
and the Weber County
Prosperity Center of Excellence**

We, the undersigned, having agreed that:

The strength and well-being of Weber County and the State of Utah depend increasingly on an impactful higher education system that helps individuals, especially Weber County residents from underserved populations, adapt to our rapidly changing economy and society; and

Weber County and the State of Utah must look to cutting-edge telecommunications and information technologies to provide greater access, equity, opportunity and choice to underserved populations increasingly in need of flexible and affordable higher education degree programs, competency-based certifications and industry-standard micro-credentialing; and

The State of Utah along with sitting governors from 18 other states having created Western Governors University for these very purposes in higher education; and

The Weber County Commission having created the Prosperity Center of Excellence in cooperation with the Weber-Morgan Health Department and Weber Human Services for the purpose of aligning county efforts to better address the quality of life for those residents who struggle with poverty, housing, gaining a higher education and other socioeconomic areas affecting health and well-being; and

Western Governors University and the Prosperity Center of Excellence combine in an integrated relationship to address underserved populations, especially youth and adults living within intergenerational poverty, in utilizing higher education to help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty in Weber County and associated counties throughout Utah.

In furtherance thereof, we the undersigned agree as follows:

Western Governors University will provide an initial grant to the Prosperity Center of Excellence in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00).

The initial grant would be used by the Prosperity Center of Excellence to hire a Resource Integration Coach committed to developing and sustaining a pipeline of underserved students, with priority given to youth and adults living within intergenerational poverty, in conjunction with the programs and courses provided by Western Governors University, and for other related purposes as general operating expenses;

Western Governors University and the Prosperity Center of Excellence agree to meet regularly to assess the efficacy of the initial grant and to work together strategically to overcome any challenges faced and to create even greater efficacy within the project;

As strategies are successfully implemented, goals met and objectives achieved, Western Governors University intends to award an annual grant of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to the Prosperity Center of Excellence within the first quarter of the University's fiscal years for FY 22, FY 23, FY 24 and FY 25, with the parties determining how each grant will be used by the Prosperity Center of Excellence prior to each respective award;

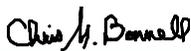
Western Governors University and the Prosperity Center of Excellence commit that all strategies, goals, objectives and implementations will be dedicated to the overriding belief that higher education can help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty and related struggles among underserved populations;

The Prosperity Center of Excellence is solely responsible for the allocation of the initial grant, and any subsequent grants, from Western Governors University;

Acceptance of the initial grant and any subsequent annual grants mentioned above do not preclude the Prosperity Center of Excellence from pursuing additional project-related grants as needed throughout the duration of this integrated relationship;

Lastly, this integrated relationship between Western Governors University and the Prosperity Center of Excellence may be dissolved by either party for any reason at any time unencumbered by any future plans, agreements, or financial commitments made previous to the dissolution.

Signed,



[Chris M. Bonnell \(Aug 4, 2020 14:05 MDT\)](#)

Chris Bonnell
Vice President, External Affairs
Western Governors University

Dated: Aug 4, 2020



[Paul Mero \(Aug 4, 2020 14:02 MDT\)](#)

Paul Mero
Government Relations Director
Western Governors University

Dated: Aug 4, 2020

Authorized/Responsible Party
Prosperity Center of Excellence

Dated: