

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-25

\$10.9M

TOTAL SAVED

by Wyoming students through WICHE Student Access Programs.

\$7.5M

SAVED
through WUE

\$1.1M

SAVED
through WRGP

\$2.4M

SAVED
through PSEP

WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE



Saves **UNDERGRADUATE**

students on out-of-state tuition. They pay no more than 150% of in-state tuition at partner institutions across the West.

Top Wyoming WUE schools for out-of-state undergraduate students:

- ▶ **Laramie County Community College (403)**
- ▶ **Northwest College (185)**
- ▶ **Casper College (173)**

Top out-of-state WUE schools for Wyoming undergraduate students:

- ▶ **Black Hills State University, SD (199)**
- ▶ **South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (82)**
- ▶ **Montana State University Billings (46)**

WESTERN REGIONAL GRADUATE PROGRAM



Saves **GRADUATE** students on out-of-state certificate, master's, and doctoral programs. They pay no more than 150% of in-state tuition at partner institutions across the West.

Top Wyoming WRGP schools for out-of-state graduate students:

- ▶ **University of Wyoming (6)**

Top out-of-state WRGP schools for Wyoming graduate students:

- ▶ **University of Northern Colorado (10)**
- ▶ **University of South Dakota (9)**
- ▶ **Black Hills State University, SD (9)**

PROFESSIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM



Helps students pursuing careers in **10 HEALTH FIELDS**. They can enroll in programs in the WICHE region and receive substantial tuition support from their home state/territory.

91 Wyoming students paid reduced tuition for health care studies not offered by public institutions in their home state.

55% of Wyoming's PSEP graduates returned home to practice (2012-16 for physicians, 2012-21 for all other fields). Students are contractually required to return, except for those studying veterinary medicine.

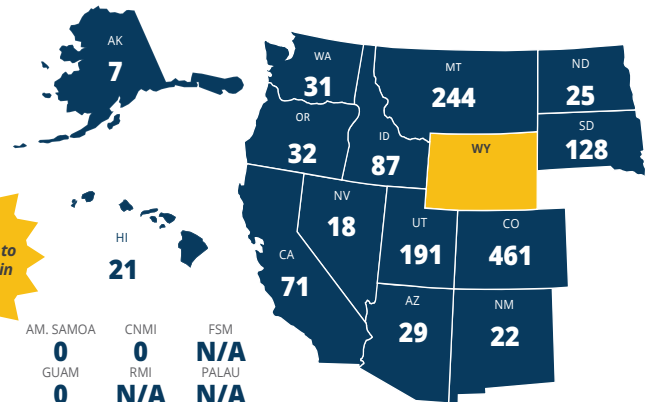
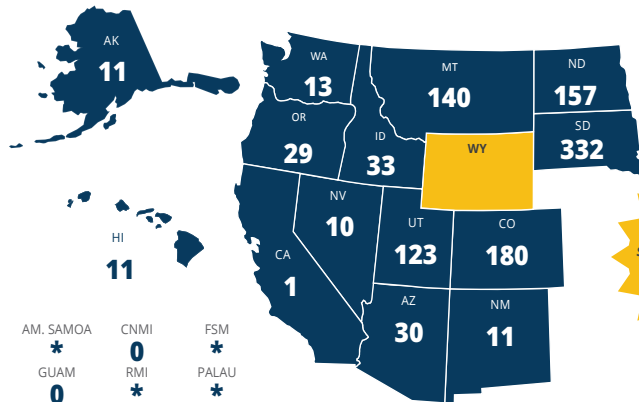
The University of Wyoming and the local economy can benefit from PSEP. Its doctor of pharmacy program can enroll students from other WICHE states. Enrolling institutions receive a support fee paid by the students' home states to reduce their tuition costs.

430% ROI gained on Wyoming's WICHE annual dues (\$169,000/FY 2025)

WUE

WUE STUDENTS **FROM** WYOMING: **1,081**

WUE STUDENTS **TO** WYOMING: **1,367**

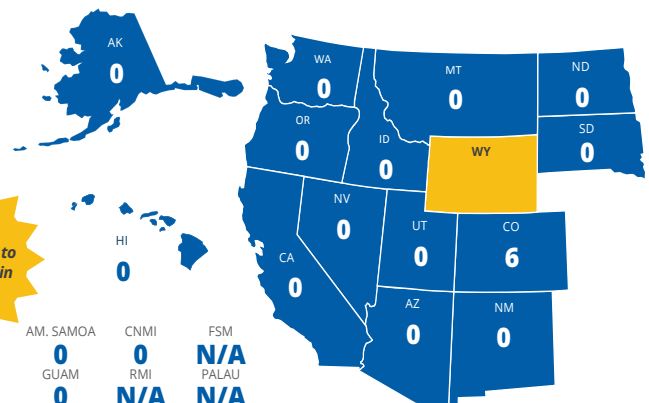
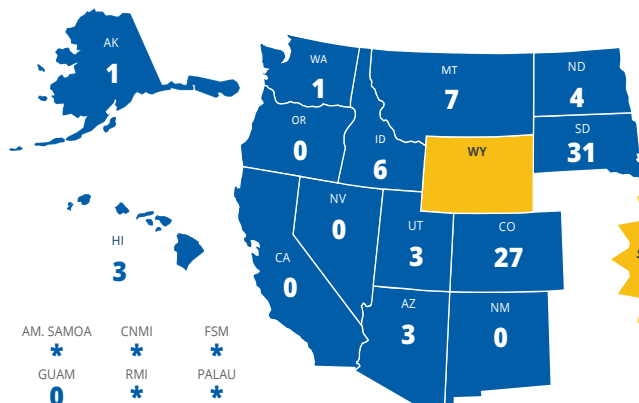


* Currently do not have any participating WUE schools.

WRGP

WRGP STUDENTS **FROM** WYOMING: **86**

WRGP STUDENTS **TO** WYOMING: **6**



* Currently do not have any participating WRGP schools.

PSEP

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING

FIELD	STUDENTS	FEES PAID
Dentistry	8	\$239,200
Medicine	11	\$392,700
Occupational Therapy	6	\$67,709
Optometry	7	\$144,025
Osteopathic Medicine	6	\$153,600
Physician Assistant	2	\$40,800
Physical Therapy	26	\$447,850
Veterinary Medicine	25	\$885,000
TOTAL	91	\$2,370,884

PSEP students from Wyoming saved \$2,370,884 in tuition



“ PSEP made my dream of becoming a dentist possible by alleviating the financial stress of dental school. Now I can focus on becoming the best dental professional I can be, and I look forward to returning to my rural community to give back to my home state of Wyoming. ”

CAMERON, Wyoming resident, Dentistry, University of Utah

Regional collaboration

WICHE brings together senior academic leaders to foster dialogue about issues facing individual institutions through its leadership and professional development networks.

WESTERN ALLIANCE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC LEADERS – 2-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ Eastern Wyoming College
- ▶ Laramie County Community College
- ▶ Western Wyoming Community College

Kari Brown-Herbst, Laramie County Community College, serves on the Alliance executive committee.

WESTERN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP FORUM – 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ University of Wyoming

Scott Turpen, University of Wyoming, serves on the Forum executive committee.

WESTERN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY is a yearlong professional development program for academic leaders aspiring to become chief academic officers in the WICHE region. One cohort member from a Wyoming institution participated in the Academy since its inception in 2015.

WICHE offers student health and technology contracts through a **COST-SAVINGS PROGRAM** with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) to colleges and universities, K-12 school districts, local and state municipalities, and nonprofit organizations with an education emphasis. Last year, entities that used these contracts saved 9% over what they otherwise would have outside this joint purchasing arrangement. The total savings in Wyoming was \$163,767.

WICHE ACADEMY FOR LEADERS IN THE HUMANITIES

is a two-year leadership development program for aspiring academic leaders with a background in the humanities. J O'Brien, Laramie County Community College, is participating in the 2023-2025 cohort.

Optimal behavioral health care

MOUNTAIN PLAINS RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (MP ROTAC) develops and shares resources, training, and technical assistance focused on opioid and stimulant misuse in rural areas in Region 8. This is funded through a multiyear grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

RURAL COMMUNITIES OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM (RCORP)

is a multiyear initiative supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to identify treatment barriers and best practices for preventing and treating substance use disorder. In Wyoming, the RCORP program supports one grantee.

Sound public policy

Wyoming participates in the **STATE AUTHORIZATION RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT (SARA)** through WICHE. This voluntary agreement provides reciprocity for the state authorization of distance education. WICHE Commissioners have been strong advocates for protecting the state voice in important governance decisions affecting this agreement and staff continue to support participating states and improving student protections while bolstering access.

Created by the WICHE Commission in 1995, the **LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LAC)** works to strengthen state-level postsecondary policymaking across the West. Members are legislators appointed by each state, territory, or freely associated state in the WICHE region; they meet annually to explore emerging policy issues and develop strategies for interstate collaboration.

KNOCKING AT THE COLLEGE DOOR is the leading U.S. resource for projections of high school graduates. Released in December 2024, the newest edition is essential for postsecondary policymakers, planning and workforce efforts, and economic development. Visit wiche.edu/knocking to access reports, interactive dashboards, webinars, presentations, as well as state-level data.

DATA EXPERTS WICHE staff provide analysis on finance, financial aid, articulation and transfer, strategic planning, student demographics, and more, as well as host peer-to-peer calls of state, system, and institutional chief academic officers to identify areas of potential collaboration and resource sharing across the West.

DATA RESOURCES WICHE offers curated data and policy resources to support better-informed decision-making. WICHE's research projects and collaborations cover postsecondary completion, health workforce development, behavioral health in postsecondary education, open educational resources (OER), state finance, prior learning assessment, and more.

- ▶ **Tuition and Fees in the West** includes tuition, fees, and enrollment data about 350+ public institutions in the West.
- ▶ **Benchmarks: WICHE Region** presents information on the West's progress in improving access to, success in, and financing of higher education.
- ▶ Data on over 35 indicators in WICHE's **Regional Fact Book for Higher Education in the West**.

CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS NETWORK Staff from the University of Wyoming and the Wyoming Community College Commission participate in regular collaborative calls with colleagues around the region.

STATE PROJECTS WICHE is providing project management support through the Wyoming Community College Commission (and working closely with the Wyoming Governor's Office) for the Wyoming Innovation Partnership. This ambitious statewide effort aims to modernize and develop a resilient state workforce and economy.

WICHE is working with institutions in three states, including Wyoming, to study programs aimed at addressing rural nursing shortages and identify promising approaches.

Innovative solutions

WCET – THE WICHE COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES is the leader in the practice, policy, and advocacy of digital learning in higher education. Its growing membership includes

institutions, higher education agencies and systems, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and corporations in all U.S. states and several Canadian provinces. WCET members include:

- ▶ Casper College
- ▶ Central Wyoming College
- ▶ Eastern Wyoming College
- ▶ Laramie County Community College
- ▶ Northwest College
- ▶ University of Wyoming
- ▶ Western Wyoming Community College

STATE AUTHORIZATION NETWORK (SAN) helps guide institutions through state regulations around online courses and programs. SAN members include:

- ▶ University of Wyoming

WICHE has convened the **OERWEST NETWORK**, which is part of a nationwide collaborative to scale the development and adoption of free course materials. Open educational resources (OER) have shown promise in improving student outcomes, particularly for students whom the high cost of textbooks can be a barrier to postsecondary success.

TECHNOLOGY AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR TRANSFER SUCCESS PROJECT offers two-year grants to partner institutions to create technology solutions to assist transfer students. In Wyoming, the partnership is between Laramie County Community College (WY) and the University of Northern Colorado (CO).

Wyoming Commissioners



Fred Baldwin
Physician Associate,
Retired State Senator



Joseph Schaffer
President, Laramie
County Community
College



Mike Smith
Vice President for
Government Affairs
and Community
Engagement, University
of Wyoming

Legislative Advisory Committee

Landon Brown
Representative, Wyoming State Legislature

Art Washut
Representative, Wyoming State Legislature

Wendy Schuler
Senator, Wyoming State Legislature

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