Pathway.lds.org

Pathway FAQs

#### What is Pathway?

Designed to give students the confidence and skills needed to succeed in college, Pathway is a low-cost educational opportunity that combines online courses with local gatherings. The program takes three semesters, or one year, to complete and can lead to professional certificates and degrees.

#### How long does it take to complete Pathway?

Pathway takes three semesters (one year) to complete.

#### How long is a semester?

Each semester is 14-weeks long.

#### When does the semester start and end?

Fall semesters start in September and end in the middle of December, winter semesters start in January and end in the middle of April, and spring semesters start at the end of April and go until the end of July.

#### Can people who are not members of the Church apply?

At this time, only members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can participate in Pathway.

#### Can high school students enroll in Pathway?

To participate in Pathway, students should be eligible to attend institute and have completed their high school experience.

#### Do I need an ecclesiastical endorsement to participate in Pathway?

No, Pathway students do not need an ecclesiastical endorsement to participate in the program; however, if you continue your education at BYU-Idaho after Pathway, either on campus or as an online student, you will need to obtain an endorsement at that time.

#### Can I take more than the required 5 credits per semester?

No, Pathway students are unable to access other BYU-Idaho online courses; however, students who matriculate to the BYU-Idaho Online Degree Program at the conclusion of Pathway have the ability to take a full course load.

#### Can I miss a gathering?

Attendance at weekly Pathway gatherings is required and comprises a significant part of a student’s course grade. If students miss a gathering, they will lose attendance points in the course. To be successful in Pathway, students should commit to attending all gatherings whenever possible.

In very rare instances, Pathway missionaries may cancel a gathering due to extreme weather or other unsafe situations. If such a situation occurs, this will not count against a student as an absence, but the student must notify their online instructors.

#### Will tuition remain the same after I complete Pathway and start the Online Degree Program?

Yes, students who complete Pathway and continue on to the BYU-Idaho Online Degree Program will continue to pay the low Pathway tuition rate. Tuition has the potential to increase slightly each year. (The only exception is the online RN to BSN Program.)

#### Will tuition remain the same if I enter the RN to BSN program?

No, tuition will cost the same as it does for others in that program. Please visit the [RN to BSN website](http://www.byui.edu/nursing/degrees/rn-to-bsn) for tuition cost information.

#### Will tuition remain the same if I attend BYU-Idaho as a campus student?

No, Pathway students who continue their education on campus in Rexburg will pay the regular campus tuition rate.

#### Are tutors available if I have trouble with my homework?

Yes, tutoring is free at BYU-Idaho. You can find an online tutor through the [Academic Support Center](http://www.byui.edu/academic-support-centers/tutoring-center/online-tutoring).

#### Is financial aid available to Pathway students?

Pathway students are not eligible for Federal Financial Aid or BYU-Idaho scholarships. However, once a student becomes a degree-seeking student, they are eligible for Federal Financial Aid as long as they meet the requirements, which can be found at the [Financial Aid website](http://www.byui.edu/financial-aid).

#### Who are the missionaries at my Pathway site?

You can find Pathway sites and missionary contact information on the Pathway website. Click on the “Find a Location and Apply” link in the middle of the page; then search for the Pathway location in which you’re interested. The missionaries’ contact information is listed on each site’s page.

#### How do I pay for courses?

Log in to your student portal and click the gear icon next to your name. Click on the “Finances” link and follow the directions given. For additional help, contact [Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising). (Update link)

#### How do I register for classes?

Your Pathway course sequence will automatically be assigned to you, so you do not need to register for classes; however, you must verify the course sequence each semester. For new students, this is done during the application process. Students in their second and third semester will verify their course sequence at the student portal. To do this, log in to your student portal and check your “My Classes” section. If a course sequence is waiting your verification, a link will be available. Click the link and follow the directions given. For additional help, contact [Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising). (Update link)

#### Which course do I take next?

To view your upcoming course sequence, log in to your student portal and check the information given in the “My Classes” section.

#### Whom do I contact for help or issues with my online courses?

[Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising) (Update link) is available to help you with all things Pathway related. However, if you have a course-specific question, concern, or issue, we encourage you to contact your instructor or the BYU-Idaho [Online Support Center](http://www.byui.edu/online/online-support-center).

#### Do I have to start over if I cannot attend a semester of Pathway?

If you miss a semester of Pathway, you do not need to retake the semester(s) that you have previously completed. However, once you rejoin Pathway, you must wait for the semester that your Pathway site is offering your missing courses or transfer to another Pathway location.

I need to take a semester off. Can I do that?  
Yes. You should, however, be aware that course sequencing and course availability will be affected if you take a semester off. You might then have to wait an additional semester, or longer, to complete Pathway. If you have concerns about your ability to continue in Pathway, contact [Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising). (Update link)

#### I’m moving. How do I change to a different Pathway site?

Contact [Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising). (Update link).

#### Can I get an identification card from BYU-Idaho?

No, Pathway students are not eligible for I-Cards. However, students who continue to the Online Degree Program can receive identification cards.

#### How can I get Pathway in my area?

Local priesthood leaders can apply to have a Pathway site in their area by completing an [online application](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/priesthood-leade). (Update link)

Pathway Advising FAQs

#### Am I required to do Pathway if I already have an associate degree, or can I start the Online Degree Program instead?

In order to be eligible to begin the BYU-Idaho Online Degree Program, students must have at least 15 credits from a CES school (BYU, BYU-I, BYU-H, LDSBC). If your associate degree is from one of the Church schools, you can by-pass Pathway. However, if you don’t meet the requirement of 15 CES credits, you will need to complete Pathway before you will be eligible to apply for the Online Degree Program.

#### If I have already taken a Book of Mormon course at an institute of religion, am I still required to take the Book of Mormon course with Pathway?

Unless you have taken a Book of Mormon course through one of the CES schools or taken the Book of Mormon at an institute *for credit*, you will need to take it as part of Pathway. For more details, contact [Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising). (Update link).

#### Can I substitute credits from other schools or universities to replace Pathway courses?

You cannot substitute an academic course taken at another school for a Pathway course. However, if you’ve previously taken one of the Pathway religion courses for credit, that class can be waived. To waive a previously taken religion course, contact [Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising). (Update link).

#### What happens if I fail a class?

If you fail a course, you will need to retake it. As a Pathway student, you cannot begin the Online Degree Program unless you have passed every course and have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA. However, Pathway students can apply to campus with less than a 3.0 GPA if all application requirements (ACT, transcripts, essays, etc.) are met. If Pathway students earn a 3.0 GPA, these requirements are waived when applying to campus. If you have completed Pathway with no failing grades, but do not meet the 3.0 cumulative GPA requirement, you will need to retake your courses with the lowest grades to qualify for the Online Degree Program.

#### Can I retake a class?

Retake options for Pathway courses may be available for you. If you want to take advantage of these courses and continue, contact the [Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising). (Update link).

AFTER PATHWAY FAQs

#### What do I do after Pathway?

Following the completion of Pathway, you may apply to join the BYU-Idaho Online Degree Program, attend BYU-Idaho as an on-campus student, or enroll in a local college or university.

#### What is matriculation?

Matriculation is the process of becoming a degree-seeking student.

#### How do I matriculate to the BYU-Idaho Online Degree Program?

View this step-by-step [tutorial](http://www.byui.edu/Documents/Admin_Offices/Online%20Learning/2012-2013_OD_Application_Tutorial.pdf) showing how to apply to the BYU-Idaho Online Degree Program through besmart.com. (I’ve sent a request to Karl and Alex to verify that this is still the best tutorial link and valid with our new system.)

#### Where or whom do I go to for help with matriculation?

[Pathway Support](http://www.byui.edu/pathway/pathway-advising) (Update link) can help you apply to BYU-Idaho. After you have been admitted to BYU-Idaho, contact the [Online Support Center](http://www.byui.edu/online/online-support-center) for help.

#### How do Pathway courses count toward my degree?

The Pathway courses taken through BYU-Idaho count toward your degree as elective credits.

#### Do I have to transfer my institute credits? How do I do that?

If you apply to BYU-Idaho as a campus student or as an online student, you must transfer your institute credits as part of the application process. Contact the institute you attended and request that they send your official transcripts to the following address:

Brigham Young University-Idaho Admissions

120 Kimball Building

Rexburg, Idaho 83460

#### How do I send my transcripts from a U.S. college or university?

Official transcripts must be mailed directly from the institution in a sealed envelope or through a secured electronic transmission. BYU-Idaho will not evaluate transcripts submitted via fax or any other method deemed unsecure by the university.

Official transcripts should be sent from previously attended colleges and universities by the application deadline to the university Admissions Office.

Brigham Young University-Idaho  
Admissions Office  
Kimball Building 120-1615  
Rexburg, ID 83460

#### How do I send my transcripts from an international school?

For information on submitting international transcripts, please visit the BYU-Idaho [Transfer Evaluation website](http://www.byui.edu/transfer-evaluation/international-transfer-credit).

#### Will my previously earned college credits transfer if I matriculate to a program at BYU-Idaho?

Transfer credits from other schools or universities depend on a variety of factors. If you have questions about the transferability of courses, contact BYU-Idaho’s Student Records and Registration department at (208) 496-1000 or [registrar@byui.edu](mailto:registrar@byui.edu).

#### What classes will I need to take when I matriculate?

You will take classes that will count toward a professional certificate, associate, or bachelor's degree. Once you matriculate into BYU-Idaho, you will have a new advisor, through the university, in your chosen program. This advisor can help you create a graduation plan.

#### Will I have to buy textbooks in the Online Degree Program?

Yes, some courses in the Online Degree Program require textbooks. You can purchase these through the [University Store](http://www.byuistore.com) or online.

#### What is the difference between a Certificate, an A.S., an A.A.S., and a B.S.?

* A certificate is 14-15 credits that are focused in one area of study.
* An A.S., or associate’s degree, is 60 credits of general studies or Foundations courses.
* An A.A.S., or applied associate’s degree, is 60 credits that are focused in a career area, rather than in general studies courses. This degree prepares the student for immediate employment.
* A B.S., or bachelor’s degree, is 120 credits that are made up of about 60 credits focused on a major, as well as general studies courses.

#### What new majors will be offered in the future?

Regularly check BYU-Idaho’s [Online Learning website](http://www.byui.edu/online/online-degrees-and-certificates/programs) to view the most up-to-date online programs offered through the university.

#### What should I do if I decide to change my major?

Majors are declared at the time of matriculation. If you change your mind after declaring a major you can work with an academic advisor, at BYU-Idaho, to make that change.

#### What is an ecclesiastical endorsement?

An ecclesiastical endorsement is a certification from your local ecclesiastical leader that you are living in accordance with the [CES Honor Code](http://www.byui.edu/student-honor-office/ces-honor-code). This is essential to have in being enrolled at BYU-Idaho as a degree-seeking student.

#### Why do I need to have an ecclesiastical endorsement?

By being accepted to BYU-Idaho, students promise to abide by the [CES Honor Code](http://www.byui.edu/student-honor-office/ces-honor-code), the BYU-Idaho [Dress and Grooming Standards](http://www.byui.edu/student-honor-office/ces-honor-code/dress-and-grooming), the [Residential Living Standards](http://www.byui.edu/housing/policies/apartment-living-standards), and the [Academic Honesty Policy](http://www.byui.edu/student-honor-office/ces-honor-code/academic-honesty). By fulfilling our responsibilities and reporting on them, we develop personal honor and integrity.

If my GPA isn’t high enough to matriculate, what are my options?  
If you would like to continue into the Online Degree Program, you can choose to retake some of your Pathway courses in order to raise your GPA to the required 3.0 to be eligible for matriculation.

Speaking Partner FAQs

Move the Speaking Partner FAQs from its current location to this main FAQ page.