

Application Letter for Epic Road Trip 2027: Vernal, Utah
April 19-21, 2027

Hello students, teachers, and parents,

We are excited to announce the Expanded Core Services Epic Road Trip 2027! This travel program is designed to be an introductory and supported travel program for students that teaches the essential elements of travel.

Travel dates will be April 19-21, 2027 and we will travel to Vernal, Utah. Students will spend 2 nights and 3 days away from home.

Program Requirements

- Attend 3 Zoom Expanded Core Coursework classes with a parent/guardian or trusted adult
- Attend 1 in-person class held on a Saturday March 13, 2027 at the Salt Lake Campus
- Students will travel in vans to Vernal, Utah, spend 2 nights away from home, explore all things dinosaur in the area, and travel back to Northern Utah.

Highlights of the program are:

- Manageable student expectations
- Targets Foundational Skills
- Focused
 - Explicit Instruction
 - Personalized Instruction
- Targets critical skills
 - Expanded Core Curriculum
- Supported
 - Coursework supported by Expanded Core Team and Parents
 - Travel supported by Expanded Core Team
- Social Opportunities
 - Interact with other students from Utah with Visual Impairments
- SO MUCH FUN!

To read the student objectives of the program click here: [Epic Road Trip Objectives](#)

Our selection process is listed below:

Application- Applications due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, October 30, 2026. Late applications will not be considered.

The application includes both of the following:

- **Google Form** [USB Travel Program Application Form](#)
 - Students may choose to have parents or another individual support them while completing the form.
- **Letters of Recommendation via Google Form**

- Students will provide the name and email address of their TVI and O&M Instructor in the Registration Form.
- Expanded Core Staff will contact the TVI and O&M Instructor to obtain the recommendation.
- Students will need a recommendation from both their TVI and their O&M Instructor.

Review of Applications

The Expanded Core Services Team will review all submissions and evaluate them for completeness and quality of content to identify and select the students who meet the application criteria. Incomplete applications will not move on to the next part of the application process.

Interview: will be held November 2 - 6, 2026

- Students will participate in a 15 - 20 minute interview with the application panel. This is an opportunity for the panel to get to know each applicant and complete a rubric based on their answers to determine if the applicant is a good fit for the rigor of the program.
- Students can access the interview questions here: [Interview Questions Document](#)
- Students are encouraged to prepare for the interview by:
 - Preparing answers to the questions in advance.
 - Having a copy of their answers with them during the interview.
 - Practicing with a parent, TVI, teacher or other trusted individual prior to the interview.

Review of Rubrics

The Expanded Core Services Team will review all the rubrics from the interviews and select the students who are a good fit for the program.

Notification of Acceptance

Those accepted into the program will be notified via email by end of day, Friday, November 13, 2026

Notification of Denial

Students who have not met the application criteria or those who did not meet the minimum score on the interview rubric will be denied admission to the program. They will be notified via email by the end of day, Friday, November 13, 2026

Coursework Information

- Students that are selected for the travel program will be required to complete coursework to participate in the experience.
- The course will be held via Zoom from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. On the following dates:
 - 2/4/27, 2/18/27, 3/18/27
- One mandatory Saturday in-person class will be held at the Salt Lake campus of USB on the afternoon of March 13, 2027

Eligibility

- Students in high school (9th-12th grades and post high) are invited to apply.

- Students must be independent in life skills and hygiene.
- Student experience staying overnight away from home without guardians is helpful.

Please use the [Expanded Core Guide to Applications](#) to help you as you complete the application.