

# Shawn Owens – 2016 UCAT Student of the Year



Shawn Owens was named the new UCAT Student of the Year at a gala held on January 21, 2016.

Shawn received a full ride scholarship to attend a university and enjoyed serving as an ambassador as a college student. After his first year he began to wonder if the traditional route for his education was right for him. After some serious reconsideration and exploring other options to achieve his goals, he decided technical education would be the right choice.

He looked for an institution that offered training for a Non-Destructive Inspection (NDI) program and was surprised to learn that the Ogden-Weber ATC had just opened a new composite program which included NDI training. Shawn completed the program in record time, and last fall, was named Ogden-Weber's Student of the Year.

An NDI technician tests major components of major structures like jets and trains to spot flaws in those parts before they become critical. He feels that technical education was the best pathway to a career for him and encourages others to explore the possibilities offered at the eight ATCs throughout the state.

As UCAT Student of the Year, he has had the opportunity to address the Utah Legislature and meet the Governor. He will serve as an ambassador for technical education as he meets with a diverse group of agencies and institutions throughout the year. Shawn is currently working at Hill Air Force Base.

