



Education

“Enhance the current K thru Career educational continuum to ensure innovative and collaborative instruction; provide multiple pathways to college/career readiness (Military, Technical, 2-Year, 4-Year); and continue to expand the capacity of Idaho’s workforce and career technical programs, leading to a highly skilled workforce and high wage jobs.”

Ongoing General Education Funding for College of Eastern Idaho

Given the establishment of the College of Eastern Idaho as Idaho’s fourth Community College there is a need to ensure stable, ongoing general education funding from State appropriation of approximately \$4,000,000 annually in new allocation. The Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce (GIFCC) is in favor of this legislative initiative given the ability of a new community college to effect high school “Go On” rates, the State Board of Education 60% goal, and the influence a community college can have on economic development.

Career-Technical Post-Secondary Program Capacity Expansion

Continue Career Technical Education (CTE) funding increases to address employer demand for highly skilled workers.

- \$2.1 Million to expand CTE Postsecondary programs - This funding would enhance technical training capacity at the six post-secondary institutions to produce more graduates for high-demand jobs for 16 programs in: business, healthcare, information technology, advanced manufacturing, and transportation. There are 1,500 annual job openings for graduates of these 16 identified programs. The technical colleges graduated 233 students to fill this demand last year and there were approximately 282 students on wait lists.
- \$750,000 to expand capacity of Workforce Training Centers – Last year 44,788 Idahoans received short term occupational training at the Workforce Force Training Centers located at the six Technical Colleges. This funding would increase the Centers’ reach to serve 50,000 Idahoans with a focus on outreach to rural businesses.
- \$700,000 to expand secondary CTE Program Quality Improvement grants – This funding will incentivize high quality CTE secondary programs and provide technical assistance grants to improve low performing programs.
- \$173,700 to expand CTE to Middle Schools for Career Exploration – Proposed legislation will allow CTE to begin funding CTE programs in the 7th grade. This funding will provide staffing to develop curriculum to provide comprehensive career exploration by middle school students.

Outcomes Based Funding

The State Board of Education is considering a new funding model to distribute dollars to post-secondary institutions as a share of their degree production, both career-technical and academic. The degrees eligible for incentive funding would be limited to baccalaureate (4-year) degrees, associate (2-year) degrees, and certificates of at least one academic year duration. The advocacy committee endorses the establishment of a funding model based on awarding of degrees and certificates.

Idaho State Student Residency Establishment

The GIFCC recommends that any student who is a resident of another state, who moves to Idaho for the purposes of earning a degree, be permitted to establish Idaho residency for the purpose of in-state tuition based on the same rules as other individuals moving to Idaho.

Enhance INL's Higher Education Partnerships in Cybersecurity, Nuclear Energy, Engineering, & Technology Collaborations

Through partnerships between the Idaho National Laboratory and Idaho Institutions of Higher Education in eastern Idaho, this funding would create educational pathways for working adults, permitting them to enhance their earning potential through degree completion opportunities as their careers progress. This partnership would create degrees from associate of science through PhDs.

Governor's Workforce Development Task Force

Adopt recommendations for K-12 public schools made in June 2017:

- Idaho's K-Career education system should value and support all pathways for students to achieve education, training and workforce skills that align to their career aspirations.
- Ensure that there is equity and access for all Idaho student to occupational pathways by establishing stronger requirements for the secondary education system in deploying college and career advising.
- Incentivize Idaho school districts to incorporate workforce readiness skills throughout secondary curriculum.
- Continue the development of apprenticeship programs throughout the state.
- Strengthen Idaho's talent pipeline by expanding CTE programs at the secondary and post-secondary level.

Advanced Opportunity/Fast Forward Funding

Encourage and support partnerships between high schools and local colleges to maximize use of Advanced Opportunity funding. Allow high school students to earn college credits and/or associate degrees through dual and concurrent courses while enrolled in high school.

Public School Funding

Develop and implement a student-based funding formula that provides flexibility and local control while improving student achievement and accountability.