

# Grant Opportunities



The Workforce Development Council funds employer, industry sector, outreach, and innovation projects that increase the economic mobility of Idahoans, support growth of the economy, and develop Idaho's workforce pipeline.

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## Goals of WDC's Grants:

- Increase the economic mobility of Idahoans through training that leads to wage gains and retention.
  - Provide timely assistance to businesses while shifting focus to broader talent pipeline development strategies that serve multiple employers.
  - Support growth of the economy by assisting employers with job creation and integration of technology, specifically through the development of skills in their existing and/or new employees.
  - Provide a return on investment to Idahoans as evidenced by increased wages, job creation, capital investment, retention of Idaho's workforce, credential attainment, and/or customer satisfaction (employer and trainee).
  - Promote innovation in talent development.
  - Encourage replication of best practices in talent pipeline development.
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**For more information, application deadlines, or to apply, visit:**

[www.wdc.idaho.gov/grant-opportunities](http://www.wdc.idaho.gov/grant-opportunities)

## Grants

### Industry Sector Grant

Designed to engage employers in developing new training solutions that address Idaho's workforce issues and fill skills gaps.

Applications are accepted from business entities representing a consortium of at least three industry partners with similar talent development needs.

Training should provide transferable skills gains for all individuals participating in the program. Training should lead to wage gains and/or promotional opportunities for incumbent employees of the consortium partners.

### Innovation Grant

Funds projects that address local workforce development needs. Projects may provide skills training to individuals and/or assist individuals with connecting to careers.

The lead applicant must represent a community-based team with representation and support from business, education and other community partners as an ideal partnership.

Innovation grants are available for projects up to \$25,000 per region, and can fund projects that address local workforce development needs. Projects may provide skills training to individuals and/or assist individuals with connecting to careers. Projects that include work-based learning as a major component can exceed the \$25,000 award limit.

### Employer Grant

Available to Idaho employers who are increasing their current workforce and/or retraining existing workers with skills necessary for specific economic opportunities or industrial expansion initiatives.

The fund is designed to support an employer's innovation of its processes, products and services; and/or the development of new goods or services which will improve the employer's competitive position within the industry.

The maximum amount of funds available to an employer is \$500,000 per grant or \$750,000 over a 10- year period.

### Outreach Projects

These grants are for projects that provide public information and outreach on career education and workforce training opportunities, including existing education and training programs and services not funded by the training fund.

State agencies, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, or employers may apply for these awards. The Council approves an earmark of Workforce Development Training funds annually for Outreach Projects.

### Childcare Expansion Grants

New in 2022, these grants are awarded to projects that will increase the number of child care seats available to working families by targeting employers and/or child care providers willing to build new on-site or near-site child care facilities or expand existing facilities.

The purpose of the fund is to encourage and enable businesses and employer consortiums to create and develop on-site, or near-site child care centers or partner with local and regional child care services to increase available slots for an employer's employees (not at the expense of existing or available slots in the local area).

Maximum of \$15,000 per child served is available to applicants to support the addition of new seats. - 50% minimum cash and/or in-kind match is required



Through its committees, collaborations, and programs, like **Grant Opportunities**, the Idaho Workforce Development Council helps connect Idahoans to career opportunities, and Idaho's employers to a qualified workforce.

## Who We Are

Established in 2017, the Council is made up of 37 Governor appointed members from throughout the state, including 17 Idaho employers, 10 state government representatives, 7 workforce representatives, a member from each chamber of the legislature, and a representative of the Governor.

Represented industry sectors include Healthcare, Construction, Technology, Aerospace, Energy, Finance, Professional Services, and Advanced Manufacturing. The Council also serves as the State Workforce Development Board.

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### Vision

We envision a future where Idaho's diverse and prepared workforce meets the needs of our unique communities and employers.

### Mission

We champion strategies that prepare Idahoans for careers that meet employers' needs.

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## What We Do

**The Council's work is focused on three strategic goals:**

- Increasing the public awareness of and access to career education and training opportunities.
- Improving the effectiveness, quality, and coordination of programs and services designed to maintain a highly skilled workforce.
- Providing for the most efficient use of federal, state, and local workforce development resources.