

Idaho Workforce Development Council

Legislative Priorities



The Council works to champion the development and implementation of a statewide, strategic workforce development plan that meets industries' needs today and tomorrow.

Though the council does not have any pending legislation we support these initiatives, as well as policies that support college credit for work-based learning.



Idaho Career & Technical Education Initiatives

- **Post-Secondary Funding:**
 - Capital Replacement (FY20 – \$594,600) – Funds the replacement of outdated equipment in post-secondary institutions to ensure students are trained on equipment equivalent to what is used in industry today.
 - Nuclear Energy Workforce (FY20 - \$320,000) – Start nuclear safety training program at CEI and expand ESTEC program at ISU to meet increased workforce demand at INL and suppliers.
- **Workforce Readiness Incentive Grants:** (FY20 – \$200,000) - ICTE is working with the Governor's office and Idaho Business for Education to develop a program to incentivize school districts who graduate workforce ready students.
- **Middle School CTE:** (FY20 - \$200,000) – Starts the implementation of the new middle school CTE program which includes identifying standards, creating assessments, developing curriculum, and working with the identified pilot schools to ensure the new middle school CTE program is listed in school or district's FY21 course catalogs.
- **Program Alignment:** (FY20 - \$95,000) - Continue to connect and align CTE secondary and postsecondary programs to allow high school students opportunity to earn CTE college credit and move through school and into careers more efficiently.



Idaho Department of Labor Initiatives

- **Idaho Job Corps Demonstration Project:** (FY20 - \$4,323,500 Spending Authority) - The Idaho Department of Labor will partner with the College of Western Idaho to serve 150 students annually in the Treasure Valley and expand the program to serve an additional 150 students at other community colleges throughout Idaho during years two and three.
- **Apprenticeship Idaho:** The Idaho Department of Labor is using \$2.247 million in federal funds from the US Department of Labor to increase registered apprenticeships in nontraditional industries. Since the program's inception, registered apprenticeships have increased by 66 percent the number of Idahoans enrolled has more than doubled. The goal is to continue that growth by 20 percent annually until 2020 with a focus on nontraditional industries like advanced manufacturing, health care, high tech, and power and energy.



Idaho State Board of Education Initiatives

- **Opportunity Scholarship:** (\$7 million) - In FY18 1,780 eligible applicants did not receive the scholarship because of a lack of funds. If the proposal becomes law, the Opportunity Scholarship fund will increase from \$13.77 million to \$20.77 million. This provides a market-based approach to increasing higher education funding by awarding scholarships to students who choose which institution best fits their needs. This will support the 60% goal, increase responsiveness of institutions to student needs, and address access and affordability.

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Idaho Department of Education Initiatives

- **All Idaho Students persevere in life and are ready for college and careers:**
 - **Implementing Recommendations of the Task Force for Improving Education (K-12):** In 2013 the Task Force for Improving Education (K-12) recommended 20 ways Idaho could better prepare students to achieve success. These recommendations have helped shape Department of Education initiatives and objectives. The FY20 budget recommendation includes funding to continue implementing the task force recommendations, including Literacy Proficiency (\$26 million), Master Educator Premiums (\$7.2 million), and Advanced Opportunities (\$3 million).
- **Idaho attracts and retains great teachers and leaders:**
 - **Strengthening the Career Ladder to Improve Teacher Pay:** The FY20 budget recommendation includes funding the fifth year of the career ladder (\$48 million) and increasing the salary for a newly credentialed teacher to \$40,000 (\$11.2 million).



STEM Action Center Initiatives

- **Computer Science Initiative:** (FY 20 - \$1M) – Onetime funding for the Computer Science education initiative including educator professional development, camps, student competitions, and grants. As a national leader in Computer Science education, and in partnership with other state agencies, Idaho STEM Action Center will work collectively to build a workforce prepared to fill the growing number of Computer Science jobs available in Idaho.



Bureau Of Occupational Licenses

Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses Initiatives

- **Water/Wastewater Apprenticeship Rule Changes:** The proposed changes will reduce barriers and provide additional pathways to licensure through apprenticeships for those seeking jobs in the drinking water and wastewater professions.