

**NEXT  
STEPS**  
IDAHO



# Parent PLAYBOOK



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**LAUNCH**





**DEAR PARENTS,**

Once again, it's the beginning of a new school year. It is with excitement and gratitude that we prepared for you this Idaho Parent Playbook! We recognize that you are the beginning of a new adventure for your High School Senior and their next step. With you in mind, we have developed this Playbook to offer an insight into the different opportunities for your student.

There have been a team of people working throughout the school year and the summer to prepare the information for you – our hope is that you will be able to use the information to help plan forward.

Each resource has been thoughtfully created to provide support as you engage with your student and post-secondary journey. The materials aim to assist students in successfully navigating their choices and helping you, as the parents, gain a clear understanding of the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.

We hope you find this Playbook beneficial. The best way to achieve Governor Little's goal of making Idaho the place where our children and grandchildren choose to stay is equipping them with the skills needed to become lifelong learners and eventual participants in our state's workforce.

Sincerely,

Sherawn Reberry

**CONTENTS**

TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS  
3

FINANCIAL AID  
4

IDAHO LAUNCH  
5

IDAHO LAUNCH FAQs  
6 - 7

AVOIDING IDAHO LAUNCH GRANT  
REPAYMENT  
8

TIPS FOR ACCEPTING YOUR FINAL  
IDAHO LAUNCH GRANT AWARD  
OFFER  
9

IDAHO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP  
10

IDAHO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP  
AND IDAHO LAUNCH COMPARISON  
CHART  
11

OTHER IDAHO STATE SCHOLARSHIPS  
12

ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES  
13 - 14

ONLINE RESOURCES  
15

# TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS



## Helping Your Students Ask the Right Questions:

These handy guides offer an overview of the most important things students should start thinking about before they talk with their counselors and teachers.

**Financial Aid Resources:** Your student will almost certainly need your help in accessing financial aid to pay for school, starting with filling out the FAFSA form. Learn about the different types of aid available, how to find scholarships for Idaho students and more.

**Grade-Level Checklists:** Each grade-level landing page offers downloadable checklists with an overview of key milestones, tips, and to-dos to keep students on the right track toward graduation, college, and career.

**Career Technical Education:** Career technical education (CTE) programs provide hands-on learning opportunities aligned with careers right here in Idaho. So, if learning by doing and gaining the skills Idaho employers are looking for appeals to you, read on!



Learn more at:  
<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov>

## FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH STATE INITIATIVES

**Idaho LAUNCH:** A grant program that aims to connect students with in-demand careers by helping cover the cost of an Idaho university, community college, career technical, or workforce training program.

**Next Steps Idaho:** An initiative of the State Board of Education in partnership with Idaho's employers, Next Steps Idaho is designed to help you understand and pursue the many education and career opportunities available to you.

**Scholarship Idaho:** The online application students use to apply for state-managed scholarships.

**Advanced Opportunities:** Grant program for students in grades 7-12 that covers the costs for dual-enrollment college courses and advanced CTE classes. There are advanced opportunity dollars for both public school and private school students.

**Apply Idaho and Idaho Campus Choice:** Apply Idaho allows students to submit one or more applications for admission to Idaho's public colleges and universities all at once and for free. Apply Idaho, aligned with Idaho Campus Choice, proactively admits all Idaho public high school seniors to a minimum of 6 in-state colleges and universities each year.

**Summary of all online resources for parents:** We hope you find the information on post-secondary education and training beneficial for your student. There are many different avenues available for assistance. We hope that this provides additional support as you assist your student navigate their future opportunities. You will find a listing of online resources on [page 15](#) of this playbook.

## FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is defined as funds provided to students and families to pay for postsecondary education and training expenses. Learn more about the different types of financial aid below.

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### GRANTS

Free money. Most grants do not have to be repaid. Some grants, like Idaho LAUNCH may require repayment if students do not meet the terms of the agreement they accepted when awarded the money.

Learn more about federal grant programs:  
[Federal Grant Programs \(studentaid.gov\)](https://studentaid.gov)

### LOANS

Borrowed money; must be repaid.

Learn more about federal student loans:  
[studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/federal-loan-programs.pdf](https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/federal-loan-programs.pdf)

### WORK STUDY

Earned money. The Federal Work Study Program allows students to earn money to pay for school while working part time.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Free money; does not need to be repaid. Scholarships are awarded based on a variety of factors including merit, talent, need, community service, leadership, etc. Scholarships can come from a variety of sources including local foundations, banks, community organizations, colleges and universities, state agencies, national organizations, and more



The US Department of  
Education distributes  
**\$150 billion**  
in federal student aid each year.



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**Deadlines:** Financial Aid deadlines vary by state and institution. Check state and college websites for the most current information.

More information: [studentaid.gov/](https://studentaid.gov/)

# IDAHO LAUNCH

The Idaho LAUNCH grant program aims to prepare Idaho's students for Idaho's workforce needs, by providing grants for students to attend education and training programs in Idaho.

## WHAT CAN LAUNCH BE USED FOR?

Idaho LAUNCH provides a one-time opportunity for Idaho high school seniors, beginning with the Class of 2024, to cover 80%, or up to \$8,000, of the tuition and fees at an eligible institution, up to a maximum amount of \$8,000.

### To be eligible students must:

- Graduate from an Idaho High School or Equivalent
- Be an Idaho Resident
- Be enrolled in or have applied to an in-demand career program at an eligible Idaho institution
- Begin Post-Secondary Program by Fall Semester After Graduation
- Complete a Career Pathway Plan (Detailed information is available at: <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/LAUNCH>).

Students can receive up to one-half (\$4,000) of the initial grant award in the first year of a program. However, for programs that are less than 12 months in length, students can use the full awarded amount (80% of tuition and fees up to \$8,000) in one year.

## APPLY

Go to [scholarships.idaho.gov](https://scholarships.idaho.gov) to apply!



There is approximately  
**\$75,000,000**  
 available for Idaho LAUNCH  
 funding. This means that it is  
 possible the state may fund  
**between 9,000 and 10,000**  
 awards per year.

### Application Opens

October 1, 2024

### Application Closes

April 15, 2025

### Contingent Offers

Applications will continue to be accepted until April 15, 2025 with award notifications rolling through the spring

**Please note:** always check [nextsteps.idaho.gov](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov) for the most up-to-date information on approved programs and providers, as these will be updated regularly.

## IDAHO LAUNCH FAQs

### HAVE I HEARD OF THIS PROGRAM BEFORE?

A version of Idaho LAUNCH that serves adult learners seeking to upskill or change careers has been around for approximately 3 years and is referred to as Idaho LAUNCH for Adults.

Idaho LAUNCH for Students is new this year! The graduating class of 2024 will be the first cohort invited to participate in this program. Idaho LAUNCH for Students aims to connect high school seniors with in-demand careers throughout Idaho. Keep an eye out for program updates throughout the year.

### ARE STUDENTS REQUIRED TO FILL OUT A FAFSA TO RECEIVE IDAHO LAUNCH FUNDING?

No, applying for FAFSA is not a requirement for this grant. However, Idaho LAUNCH will only cover 80% (up to \$8,000) of a program's tuition and fees. Idaho LAUNCH grant dollars cannot cover the cost of room and board. Other financial aid and scholarship opportunities may pay the remaining program costs and expenses.

### HOW WILL STUDENTS BE NOTIFIED IF THEY HAVE BEEN AWARDED LAUNCH FUNDING?

Students will receive email notifications from Scholarship Idaho, from the email [idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov](mailto:idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov). Students must have an active email address to receive information from Scholarship Idaho that requires their attention. Students cannot use a school-based email address, as they will no longer have access to the account post-graduation. Scholarship Idaho will send notifications to students before and after graduation.

### HOW DOES THE APPLICATION CYCLE WORK FOR IDAHO LAUNCH?

The Idaho LAUNCH application opens on October 1, 2024, and closes on April 15, 2024. Award Letters are contingent upon verification of eligibility.

Final Award Letters will be issued in June 2024 after eligibility is verified.

### WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW PROGRAMS COULD BE FUNDED BY IDAHO LAUNCH?

Please refer to [nextsteps.idaho.gov](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov) for the complete listing of eligible programs.

Program	EXAMPLE Total Cost	EXAMPLE of Portion Paid For by Launch	EXAMPLE of Remaining Amount to be Paid by Student
Workforce Training Program <i>(ex: CNA, Welding, Pharmacy Tech)</i>	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,440	\$ 360
Commercial Driver's License	\$6,000	\$ 4,800	\$ 1,200
Community College Course	\$ 400	\$ 320	\$ 80
Community College Degree	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,600	\$ 1,400
Apprenticeship Program <i>(2-year program)</i>	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,000
Apprenticeship Program <i>(5-year program)</i>	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,000
Private Trade School Program	\$ 18,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 10,000

**Note:** Actual costs will be dependent on the program and institution. These figures are for demonstration only. Idaho LAUNCH covers 80%, or up to \$8,000 of tuition and fees. Students may use other scholarships and grants to cover remaining costs.

**WHAT IF SCHOOLS, PARENTS, AND STUDENTS HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE IDAHO LAUNCH PROGRAM?**

Check Next Steps Idaho for answers to common questions at <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/LAUNCH>. For questions not answered by the website, please send an email to [idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov](mailto:idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov).

**WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CONTINGENT AWARD LETTER AND A FINAL AWARD LETTER?**

A Contingent Award Letter is sent to applicants who submit their application and are on track to meet the program's eligibility requirements. This offer is contingent upon verification of eligibility completion. Final Award Letters will be issued in June 2025 upon successful verification of the application.

Contingent Award Letters and Final Award Letters are distributed through Scholarship Idaho. Students will be required to either accept or decline their award. If students do not respond within the designated time frame, their award may be offered to another candidate. Students are advised to check their email over the summer.

**WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH LAUNCH FUNDING FOR ALL ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS?**

Prioritization will be based on in-demand careers and financial need. Applications will be ranked based on the program a student selects during the application process and how/if it connects to the list of in-demand careers approved by the Idaho Workforce Development Council, which will be reviewed and approved annually.

**WHO DO I CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE IDAHO LAUNCH PROGRAM?**

1. Visit the Next Steps Idaho website to find the most current information on the Idaho LAUNCH program at [nextsteps.idaho.gov/launch](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/launch).
2. Urgent questions can be directed to Sherawn Reberry ([sherawn.reberry@wdc.idaho.gov](mailto:sherawn.reberry@wdc.idaho.gov)).
3. Please email all other questions to [idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov](mailto:idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov).

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For more, and frequently updated, answers to FAQs, visit [www.nextsteps.idaho.gov/LAUNCH](https://www.nextsteps.idaho.gov/LAUNCH)

## AVOIDING IDAHO LAUNCH GRANT REPAYMENT

Before accepting a final award, participating students should review and confirm the institution and program listed on their application. These details will be verified each time an invoice is paid on behalf of the participant.

Changing institutions, providers, or programs may cause participants to lose or have to repay their Idaho LAUNCH Grant. They may also have to repay the grant money if they don't meet certain academic expectations once they arrive. These instances are explained below:

### UNSATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

A school or provider reports the participant is not meeting academic requirements or is making unsatisfactory progress.

### EXPULSION

Defined by individual schools or industry standards. Generally, refers to a case where a participant is asked to leave the institution or program. Voluntary Drop or No-Show: If a participant fails to start or decides to leave a program before completing their program.

### JOB OUT

Participants who leave training to pursue a job opportunity that is not related to their chosen program or in-demand career. Please note, if participants provide evidence that they left for a job related to their program, they won't be required to pay back funds.

Exceptions may exist based on special circumstances, exclusions, and an appeal process. Repayment terms and conditions vary, depending on the situation.

# TIPS FOR ACCEPTING YOUR FINAL IDAHO LAUNCH GRANT AWARD OFFER

1. Final Award Offers will arrive in the email inbox of the account you used for Scholarship Idaho. If you don't see your offer, check your SPAM or Junk folder.
2. Final Award Offer emails contain a personal invite link to access your account in the NEW Idaho LAUNCH Grant Management system.
  - a. Contact: [launchadmin@wdc.idaho.gov](mailto:launchadmin@wdc.idaho.gov) if you need help using your personal link to create an account.
3. During the final offer acceptance process you will need to validate several items:
  - a. **ID Verification** – a government issued identification (such as a driver's license, driver's permit, passport, ID card). The document cannot be expired.
  - b. **Your Residency** – Be prepared – you may need to upload documentation to verify your residency (such as driver's license, government ID, utility bill, voter registration/configuration card, etc). The document may not be expired and must have your name and current address.
  - c. **Your Graduation from High School** – Check out this document for instructions if you run into trouble: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:0fed9303-5650-375d-9b72-8379e33b38b1>  
Be prepared – you may need to upload a copy of your diploma or transcript.  
*Please note, you may need to enable edits and indicate that you have graduated from high school in the Class of 2024 and adjust (or add) your graduation date.*
  - d. **Career Pathway Plan (CPP) Completion** – If your school district determined, you would use your Senior Project for this there is nothing that you will need to upload. (You can find the list of school district choices here: <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/assets/uploads/2024/04/LAUNCH-CPP-List-4-22-24.pdf>) If your school district chose to use Next Steps Idaho, visit this link to see how to complete your CPP or connect your LAUNCH number: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:a4773535-5601-3e23-9929-f535ad98f3b8>
4. Once you've finished setting up your account, validating your residency, graduation, program, etc., it may take the Idaho LAUNCH Team up to 3 - 5 business days for your final award to be approved, as this is a manual approval process. Students will receive an email from the system when their verification has been completed.
5. To continue finding out information about your Final Idaho LAUNCH award you will continue to login to the Idaho Grants Management system. This is where you will update information and review your remaining award amount.

## IDAHO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

The Idaho Opportunity scholarship is awarded to Idaho residents that have graduated, or will graduate, from an Idaho high school, Idaho homeschool, or who passes a GED/HSE test in Idaho and are pursuing their first bachelors degree at an approved Idaho institution. Applicants must have AT LEAST a 2.7 GPA. The application for the Idaho Opportunity scholarship, Idaho's biggest scholarship program, takes just a few minutes to submit.

Award decisions are based on a combination of need and merit. Applications are ranked based 70% need (using the Student Aid Index from a student's FAFSA) and 30% merit (Cumulative GPA).

Just because a student isn't eligible for the Pell Grant, does NOT mean they shouldn't apply. Many students receive the scholarship each year who do not qualify for any other need-based aid. This scholarship can be renewed for up to 4 years.

**October 1**

Application opens

**March 1**

Application deadline including FAFSA

**Mid-April**

Formal offers made following official need & merit ranking

### THE BASICS

The Idaho Opportunity Scholarship awards up to \$3,500 per academic year and is renewable for up to four years. **To qualify for this scholarship, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:**

- Have an unweighted, cumulative GPA of at least 2.7
- Be an Idaho resident
- Graduated or will graduate from an Idaho high school, Idaho homeschool, or its equivalent (GED/HSE from Idaho)
- Must attend during the upcoming academic year (fall semester)
- Can pursue a certificate, associate or first bachelor's degree
- Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1
- Maintain satisfactory academic standing as specified in program rules.
- Must attend one of these eligible Idaho colleges or universities:
  - University of Idaho
  - Boise State University
  - Lewis Clark State College
  - Idaho State University
  - The College of Idaho
  - Northwest Nazarene University
  - Brigham Young University – Idaho
  - Western Governors University

Students can apply at [scholarships.idaho.gov](https://scholarships.idaho.gov)

# IDAHO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP AND IDAHO LAUNCH COMPARISON CHART

	Idaho LAUNCH	Idaho Opportunity Scholarship
<b>Amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to \$8,000 one-time</li> <li>Covers 80% tuition and fees</li> <li>Receive up to 1/2 of funds in year 1, unless enrolled in a program that is less than 12 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to \$3,500 per year</li> <li>Renewable for up to 4 years</li> </ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graduate from an accredited Idaho high school or equivalent                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public School</li> <li>Charter School</li> <li>Private School</li> <li>Homeschool</li> <li>GED</li> </ul> </li> <li>Be an Idaho resident</li> <li>Be enrolled in or have applied to an in-demand career program at an eligible Idaho institution</li> <li>Begin enrollment by fall semester after graduation, unless granted an extension</li> <li>Complete a Career Pathway Plan or equivalent, submitted for approval by each district</li> <li>Review the approved list of eligible in-demand careers</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> During the application process, students will be required to pick a program (major or subject area of focus) and the school they plan to attend. While they are required to make selections now, these decisions can be revisited and updated by students later. If students make updates after they have been offered a contingent offer, it may impact their final offer</p> <p>Visit <a href="http://nextsteps.idaho.gov">nextsteps.idaho.gov</a> for a complete listing of the eligible in-demand career programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have an unweighted, cumulative GPA of at least 2.7</li> <li>Be an Idaho resident</li> <li>Graduated or will graduate from an accredited Idaho high school, Idaho homeschool, or its equivalent (GED/HSE from Idaho)</li> <li>Must attend during the upcoming academic year (fall semester)</li> <li>Must pursue a certificate, associate or first bachelor's degree</li> <li>Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1</li> <li>Must attend one of these eligible Idaho colleges or universities:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College of Western Idaho</li> <li>College of Eastern Idaho</li> <li>College of Southern Idaho</li> <li>North Idaho College</li> <li>University of Idaho</li> <li>Boise State University</li> <li>Lewis Clark State College</li> <li>Idaho State University</li> <li>The College of Idaho</li> <li>Northwest Nazarene University</li> <li>Brigham Young University – Idaho</li> <li>Western Governors University</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Application Process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit an application through Scholarship Idaho</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit an application through Scholarship Idaho</li> <li>Submit a FAFSA by Mar 1</li> <li>Receive and accept a final offer, emailed by Scholarship Idaho</li> </ol>
<b>Deadline</b>	April 15	March 1

\* NEW: Starting with the graduating class of 2025, students may only be awarded either Idaho LAUNCH or Idaho Opportunity, but not both.

## OTHER IDAHO STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

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### IDAHO GOVERNOR'S CUP SCHOLARSHIPS

- Deadlines: Academic - March 1, Career/ Technical - April 15
- Applicants must have AT LEAST a 2.8 GPA
- \* *The Office of the State Board of Education handles the application intake process. The Governor's Cup committee is responsible for reviewing applications and making award decisions. To connect with their staff, please visit: [www.idahogovernorscup.org](http://www.idahogovernorscup.org)*



Approximately  
**\$90 million**  
is available to support  
Idaho students going on to  
**postsecondary education**

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### ARMED FORCES/PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER SCHOLARSHIP

- Applications are open year-round.
- This scholarship is for dependents of fallen or permanently disabled (to the point they are unemployed) Idaho members of the armed forces or Idaho public safety officers.
- Eligible applicants must be Idaho residents.
- Contact the state Scholarship Program Manager ([joy.miller@osbe.idaho.gov](mailto:joy.miller@osbe.idaho.gov)) for application instructions and pre-screening.

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To learn more about all of Idaho's state scholarships, visit [nextsteps.idaho.gov/scholarship-idaho](http://nextsteps.idaho.gov/scholarship-idaho)

Students can apply for all Idaho State Scholarships and Grants at [scholarships.idaho.gov](http://scholarships.idaho.gov)

## ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES

Advanced Opportunities is a program that provides funding for Idaho students to use toward educational and career pathways while they are in middle and high school years.

The program provides \$4,625 for each student in grades 7-12 attending an Idaho public school. Funds can be utilized toward particular costs that students may incur for the courses and programs listed below.

### OVERLOAD COURSES

Overload courses are high school courses that are taken in excess of a student's full course load and outside the regular school day. Students can use funds up to \$225 per eligible course.

### DUAL CREDIT COURSES

A dual credit course is a college course taken for both high school and college credit. Students can request funding for up to \$75 per credit. Dual Credit resources for families can be found at [prtoolkit.org/dual-credit/](http://prtoolkit.org/dual-credit/)

### EXAMS

Students can use funds to pay for the full cost of many exams (including proctoring fees). Exams can include: college entrance exams, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), and professional certifications.

### WORKFORCE TRAINING COURSES

Students can use funds for approved courses that directly relate to workforce needs.

### EARLY GRADUATION SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship can be awarded for a student's early graduation, that must be at least one year early. Scholarship is estimated at \$2,400.

### FUNDS SPENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2023 BY EXPENDITURE TYPE

Dual Credit	\$	21,243,120
Exams	\$	1,713,912
Overload Courses	\$	2,218,264
Workforce Training	\$	111,847

### FISCAL YEAR 2023 ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES TOTALS

Payment Totals	\$	26,003,837
Students Served		42,959



## How to Access Advanced Opportunities

### SIGN UP FOR AN ACCOUNT

Staff are assigned an administrator account through the local district IT or by contacting SDE staff. Students should create an Advanced Opportunities account at [advancedops.sde.idaho.gov](https://advancedops.sde.idaho.gov). Creating an account will allow students to request funds and track their account balance. Once an account is created it must be approved by school staff. In some cases, school districts handle the request funding process internally, this is a local education agency decision.

### PARTICIPATION FORM

Students and parents must fill out an Advanced Opportunities participation form that outlines program risks and regulations prior to using funds. This form needs to be turned in at the school and will be kept on file with other student records. The participation form can be found online in the student's account at [advancedops.sde.idaho.gov](https://advancedops.sde.idaho.gov) or at the student's school.

### HOMESCHOOL AND PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

According to Idaho code 33-4603, students attending an accredited Idaho private school may be eligible for up to \$2,500 for dual credit courses and exams. Homeschool students must attend an Idaho public or an accredited Idaho private school to be eligible for Advanced Opportunities funding.

### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Advanced Opportunities program is an opportunity for students to participate in challenging and rigorous coursework. As students navigate the program, it is their responsibility to meet with their advisor or counselor to create a plan, work hard to successfully complete all courses, and pay attention to important deadlines and registration processes. Students who fail to earn credit for a course paid for by Advanced Opportunities, must then pay for and successfully earn credit or complete one (1) like course before future reimbursement can be made by the Idaho State Department of Education.

### ADVISING

Students who use Advanced Opportunities funds to earn more than 15 dual credits must receive advising on how the credits will translate into their post-high school aspirations and fit into their program of study.

### COURSE AND CREDIT TRANSFERABILITY

How a course is transferred or accepted is determined by the receiving school/college. Student coursework should be taken in mind with the institution from which the student plans to earn a degree. If students are receiving college credit from more than one college, it is important to plan ahead and consider how courses will transfer, and which courses will count toward the degree program. Each college has a transfer guide that provides information on how credits will be accepted. Visit [coursetransfer.idaho.gov](https://coursetransfer.idaho.gov) for transferability.

For more information visit the Advanced Opportunities website at [sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/advanced-ops](https://sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/advanced-ops).

For questions contact Brock Astle at (208) 332-6946 or [bastle@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:bastle@sde.idaho.gov).

Videos to share with students & parents (English & Spanish): [nextsteps.idaho.gov/resources/ao](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/resources/ao)

### DEADLINES FOR PORTAL SUBMISSION\*

Term	Request Funding Window	Verification Deadline	Submission Deadline
Summer 2024	April 8 – June 21, 2024	August 23, 2024	August 30, 2024
Fall 2024/ Trimester 1	April 8 – Oct 4, 2024	November 15, 2024	November 22, 2024
Spring 2025	Nov 25 – March 7, 2025	May 9, 2025	May 16, 2025 May 23, 2025 (exams)
Trimester 2	Nov 25 – Feb 21, 2025	May 9, 2025	May 16, 2025 May 23, 2025
Trimester 3	Nov 25 – April 4, 2025	May 9, 2025	May 16, 2025 May 23, 2025

\* Student Access window may vary by district, please contact your school/district office for local dates.

\* All funding requests are to be made by the request funding window deadline.

# ONLINE RESOURCES

## NEXT STEPS IDAHO

A free research tool that helps Idahoans transition to postsecondary opportunities and fulfilling employment.

<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov>

## APPLY IDAHO

Our state's free, common application platform where students can submit applications to up to 10 in-state colleges.

<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/apply-idaho>

## IDAHO SKILLSTACK®

A microcredential platform that allows Idaho's educators to validate the skills their learners demonstrate proficiency in, leading to industry-relevant digital badges.

<http://skillstack.idaho.gov>

## CTE PROGRAMS DIRECTORY

Career Technical Education (CTE) programs provide hands-on learning opportunities aligned with careers right here in Idaho.

<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/cte-program-directory>

## IDAHO DIGITAL SKILLS

IdahoDigitalSkills.org offers Idahoans free access to online learning tools to increase their digital skills.

<https://idahodigitalskills.org>

## LINKEDIN LEARNING

Students can access their free-to-use LinkedIn Learning account via Equus Workforce Solutions. LinkedIn Learning is an online educational platform that helps you discover and develop business, technology-related, and creative skills through expert-led course videos.

<https://www.equusidaho.com/linkedinlearning>

## SOFT SKILLS TRAINING MODULES

Designed to help students gain important employment skills that will increase their chance of finding a job and help students climb the career ladder.

<https://wdc.idaho.gov/resource-hub/#outreachmaterials>



[NEXTSTEPS.IDAHO.GOV](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov)

The logo for Idaho Launch, featuring the word "IDAHO" in a small, white, sans-serif font above the word "LAUNCH" in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font. Dashed horizontal lines are positioned above and below the word "LAUNCH".

**IDAHO  
LAUNCH**

[NEXTSTEPS.IDAHO.GOV/LAUNCH](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/launch)

For more information, please contact us at  
[idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov](mailto:idaholaunch@wdc.idaho.gov)