



Idaho LAUNCH Contingent Award Process FAQ

The Workforce Development Council (WDC) has started making contingent awards for the Class of 2024. Demand for Idaho LAUNCH will exceed the resources available to award all eligible students. The WDC has obligated the first round of grants as of December 22, per Idaho Code 72-1205, which requires initial awards to be announced by December 31. Due to the high volume of students that have applied for Idaho LAUNCH, the Workforce Development Council will prioritize awards based on the pursuit of in-demand careers, per I.C. 72-1205(ii). Contingent awards will continue to be offered until the application period closes on April 15 and all careers can be prioritized based on the pursuit of an in-demand career. These FAQ's provide insight into the process.

How many awards will the WDC be able to make in 2024?

If the Legislature transfers the remaining balance of the In-Demand Careers Fund to the Workforce Development Council during the 2024 Legislative Session, the WDC anticipates being able to make approximately 9,000 awards.

What is a contingent award?

The final Idaho LAUNCH grant award is contingent upon completion of the five (5) LAUNCH requirements: graduate from an Idaho High School or Equivalent, be an Idaho resident, enroll in or apply to an eligible Idaho institution, begin enrollment by Fall Semester after graduation, and complete a Career Pathway Plan. A "contingent" award is provided to applicants prior to their high school graduation so that they can continue to make postsecondary plans while completing the requirements. The award is also contingent upon funding provided by the Idaho Legislature.

Why is the WDC only providing contingent awards for two-thirds of the funding in December 2023?

There is significant demand for Idaho LAUNCH grants. As this is the first year the grant is being offered, we do not have baseline data on how many applicants will fall off by not meeting one or more of the five LAUNCH requirements. Contingent awards will continue to be offered as students decline or request an extension. The application window does not close until April 15, 2024.

When will additional contingent awards be made?

Additional contingent awards will be made as students decline or request an extension. There will be additional windows of contingent awards in March 2024 (for applications submitted by February 15) and May 2024 (for applications submitted by April 15).

How was prioritization done for applicants that applied prior to November 30?

Prioritization began by looking at the Community College programs and aligning those to in-demand careers. Next, the applicants were numerically sorted from the most in-demand to least in-demand occupation aligned to their program. Since the WDC has not obligated the full amount of funding for this cycle, it is possible that awards will be available for programs aligned to fewer openings.

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How will prioritization be done for remaining applicants?

Prioritization will be administered in the same manner throughout the process. This means that applicants who apply after the November 30 Priority Deadline may receive a contingent offer if the program they chose has a higher ranking against in-demand occupations.

What happens to applicants that weren't offered a contingent award by December 31, 2023?

Applicants that were not offered a contingent award by December 31, 2023 will remain eligible for contingent awards in future rounds if their application is complete. Some applicants were notified by email they need to update information in their application in order to continue to be considered.

What happens if a student does not accept or decline their contingent award offer?

A lack of response by the deadline (January 15 for the first round) will revert their application to the next cycle of contingent awards.