



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## GRANTS FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS NOW AVAILABLE

(BOISE) – The State Department of Education will award \$1.5 million in grants to fund afterschool programs across the state for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year. Now is the time for school districts and other organizations to apply.

The funding is available through the federal 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) program, which is designed to provide academic enrichment opportunities, art, music, recreation, sports, drug and violence prevention and youth development activities to students during non-school hours. The State Department of Education currently funds 91 afterschool centers throughout the state, which serve a total of 5,229 Idaho youth daily.

“This is a great opportunity for schools and other organizations to provide for the needs of students across the state,” Superintendent Sherri Ybarra said. “Whether it is art, music, enrichment opportunities, or needed support for drug prevention or violence prevention, these grants provide great opportunities for youth development during non-school hours.”

School districts, public charter schools, municipalities, community based organizations, faith-based organizations and private corporations are eligible for these grants. Successful applicants will receive funding for up to five years. Grant applications are due January 29, 2016.

Those considering applying for funding are strongly encouraged to attend a Bidder’s Workshop. The following workshops are open to any interested party:

- Monday, November 16: Coeur d’Alene, North Idaho College, Student Union, Driftwood Conference Room, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Wednesday, November 18: Meridian, West Ada School District Office, Sawtooth Room, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Friday, November 20: Pocatello, Pocatello School District Office, 3115 Pole Line Road, Boardroom, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

All workshops are free. To register for the workshops please visit:

<http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/cclc/grants.htm> or call (208) 332-6960.

Participants are expected to download and review the application prior to the workshop.

If you need more information please contact Camille McCashland, Program Specialist at (208) 332-6960 or by email at [cmccashland@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:cmccashland@sde.idaho.gov).

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