

IDAHO MASTERY-BASED EDUCATION FRAMEWORK

Students at the Center



The Idaho Mastery-Based Education Framework builds on the definition of mastery education provided in Idaho law and spotlights the legislative intent to provide learning environments where students are empowered, competencies are demonstrated, learning is personalized, and mastery is recognized. It guides and supports without prescribing any particular model or method.

Idaho Code 33-1632: 33-1630 (1) *"The legislature finds that moving toward a mastery-based model of education where students progress as they **demonstrate mastery** of a subject or grade level is in the best interest of Idaho students. The legislature further finds that moving from the current time-based system with a mastery-based model will allow for more **personalized and differentiated***

*learning; create a focus on explicit, measurable, transferable learning objectives that **empower students**; and **emphasize competencies** that include application and knowledge along with skill development."*

Idaho code further defines mastery as: "an education system where student progress is based on a student's demonstration of mastery of competencies and content, not seat time or the age or grade level of the student"

STUDENTS EMPOWERED

Learning culture empowers students. The transparency in a mastery-based learning system encourages students to play a greater role, and invest more, in their educational success. With the support of teachers, students take productive risks to learn and demonstrate the competencies, as the focus shifts to learning rather than earning a grade. They make important decisions about their learning pathways, providing insight on projects, activities, and the individual support needed to reach their potential. Self-reflection and self-assessment, along with goal setting and progress monitoring, become regular habits. Through meaningful collaboration and routine teacher and peer feedback, learners support one another in their academic growth.

LEARNING PERSONALIZED

Instructional practices personalize learning. Mastery-based education provides a foundation for personalized learning through flexible pacing and deliver of common expectations and performance-based assessments. Students receive timely, differentiated supports based on individual academic strengths and needs, and the opportunity to share their understanding in multiple ways. Learning experiences offer opportunities to collaborate in meaningful ways by leveraging student interests and connections to their community. Personalized Learning, driven by meaningful interactions with teachers and peers, results in higher levels of student engagement and agency.

COMPETENCIES DEMONSTRATED

Curriculum and assessment enable students to demonstrate mastery. The College and Career Readiness Competencies adopted by the State Board of Education provide the foundation for the Idaho-Mastery Based Education Framework. Competencies represent the knowledge, skills, and personal attributes that lead to success. Mastery learning environments focus on competencies through rigorous real-world applications that prepare students for diverse postsecondary pathways. Competencies make learning equitable and transparent through explicit, measurable, and transferable learning objectives.

MASTERY RECOGNIZED

Policies and systems recognize mastery. Coupled with flexibility in pace and delivery, mastery learning is grounded in the idea that students' progress when they demonstrate mastery of key content and skills, regardless of the time spent in class or when instruction takes place. Students also have opportunities to demonstrate mastery in multiple formats. Mastery-based education systems ensure learners have equitable access to supports that promptly identify and address learner need so they can move at their optimal pace through and into new learning experiences.