



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 10, 2025
www.sde.idaho.gov

Media Contact:
Maggie T. Reynolds
Public Information Officer
208-332-6976
mreynolds@sde.idaho.gov

Idaho Career Ready Students Program Provides Additional Round of Micro-Grant Funding for CTE Education

(BOISE) – The Idaho Career Ready Students (ICRS) program recently awarded funding to establish or expand Career Technical Education (CTE) opportunities in 68 additional local education agencies in Idaho in its latest round of micro-grants.

The additional dollars used to fund this round of grants were secured thanks in part to a conservative budget approach and responsible program oversight.

ICRS grants are designed to reduce reliance on federal funds for CTE programming. To date, the council has awarded over \$64 million to fund 140 total proposals. ICRS funding determinations are made by an 11-member council that considers factors such as partnership with local industry, sustainability of the proposed programs and responsiveness to community and statewide workforce needs.

Funds can be used for one-time purchases like machinery and tools as well as building construction and initial investments to develop or expand programs in districts or charters where they don't already exist.

This round of awards amounted to over \$2.6 million and will make projects possible like expanding agriculture, fabrication and welding programs at Genesee High School, creating welding and agriculture mechanics pathways at Kellogg Jr.-Sr. High School and adding a CDL training program at McCall-Donnelly High School, among others.

“This program has made a significant impact for our students statewide, opening doors to learning that they can use in a meaningful way after high school,” said Superintendent of Public Instruction and council chair Debbie Critchfield. “Demonstrating to kids that yes, you can get a good-paying, secure job in your own community has the potential to invigorate local industries and most importantly, fulfill our responsibility to prepare students for a successful life after their K-12 education.”

Learn more about the program and how it helps students and communities in Idaho on the Idaho Department of Education's ICRS webpage [here](#).

###