



Localized Pathways Guidance

OVERVIEW

Localized Pathways are structured frameworks designed to help students align their secondary education, including core courses, electives, and extracurriculars, with their specific postsecondary goals. By creating these pathways, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) ensure that graduation milestones are responsive to the modern workforce and deeply personal to the student’s journey. The goal is to help bridge the gap between high school credits and real-world outcomes.

The Core Objectives

- **Workforce Readiness:** Preparing students for a rapidly evolving global economy.
- **Guided Exploration:** Providing a roadmap for students to explore personal interests.
- **Skills Articulation:** Helping students identify and communicate the value of their unique learning experiences.

REQUIREMENTS FOR LEAS

By June 30th, 2026, all LEAs must develop and **publicly post at least two localized pathways**. While LEAs have the autonomy to determine the specific framework, the goal is to bridge the gap between high school credits and real-world outcomes.

Potential Pathway Examples

- **Postsecondary Academic:** 2-year or 4-year college and university readiness.
- **Military Readiness:** Preparation for enlistment or officer programs.
- **Technical/Trade:** Apprenticeships or direct entry into a trade.
- **General Exploration:** Broad exposure to various post-secondary opportunities.

BEST PRACTICES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

To make these pathways truly “localized” and effective, LEAs should incorporate the following elements:

Component	Description
Dual Credit Courses	Highlight opportunities to earn college credit early to save time and tuition costs
Suggested Electives	Recommend specific courses that build and support the skills needed for that specific career or academic path

Component	Description
Local Extracurricular Activities	Identify relevant clubs, organizations, and community programs that offer hands-on experience and networking opportunities
Exams & Certifications	Identify industry-recognized exams or certifications that boost employability within the chosen field
Additional Relevant Options	Include any other valuable resources, such as internships, mentorship programs, or specific volunteer opportunities that strengthen a student's connection to their pathway.

Note: These pathways are not intended to “track” students into a single career; rather, they serve as a guided framework to ensure that the time spent in high school is purposeful and preparatory.

For Questions Contact

Student Engagement & Safety Coordination
 Idaho Department of Education
 650 W State Street, Boise, ID 83702
 208 332 6800 | www.sde.idaho.gov