

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: July 2, 2015

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Workforce Development Micro-Grant Program to Benefit Rural Communities

Idaho's Workforce Development Council has approved \$500,000 in Workforce Development Training Funds for local and rural workforce development projects.

Micro-grants of \$25,000 will be available to local and rural communities on a non-competitive, first-come, first-serve basis.

Successful projects will increase employment and wages of the community's workforce, contribute to the state's goal of having 60 percent of 25-34 year-olds achieving a degree or certificate or assist in stemming the out-migration of youth and young adult workers from Idaho communities.

To ensure small community access to resources, the grant funds will be apportioned in equal amount to each of the six areas of the state for the first 90 days.

Grant applicants must provide 100 percent in-kind match for support.

A complete description of criteria can be found at www.labor.idaho.gov. Applications will be reviewed and approved by a panel of representatives from business, education, economic development and the Idaho Department of Labor.

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