

NEWS RELEASE

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Partners for Prosperity in Blackfoot Receives \$25,000 Training Grant

Partners for Prosperity has received a \$25,000 workforce training grant from the Idaho Department of Labor to increase soft skills and job readiness by offering financial education and life /soft skills training to the Blackfoot community.

Up to 200 people are expected to participate, with an estimated average starting hourly wage of \$11 an hour for people entering employment after training.

Community partners are putting up \$41,600 as an in-kind match. Other partner organizations include Shoshone-Bannock Senior High School, the Idaho Department of Labor, Center for New Directions, Idaho State University's START program, J&J Chemical, NeighborWorks Pocatello and Pocatello, Blackfoot and Snake River high schools.

The \$500,000 micro-grant program, approved by the Idaho Workforce Development Council and funded by the Idaho Workforce Development Training Fund, provides up to \$25,000 to local and rural communities for workforce development programs smaller than traditional projects. Approved projects must increase employment and wages or reduce out-migration of youth and young adult workers.

Grant criteria can be found at:

<http://labor.idaho.gov/dnn/idl/Businesses/TrainingResources/WorkforceDevelopmentTrainingFund/WDTFmicr ogrants.aspx>. Applications are reviewed and approved by a panel of representatives from business, education, economic development and the Idaho Department of Labor.

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