

NEWS RELEASE

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Idaho Receives \$1.4 Million Federal Grant to Increase Registered Apprenticeships

Idaho is one of 37 recipients that will use a \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to expand registered apprenticeships throughout the state in health care, information technology, advanced manufacturing and energy.

Earlier this year the state received a \$200,000 planning grant to develop a strategy.

"Idaho businesses are calling for a pipeline of skilled workers with industry-specific training and hands-on experience," said Idaho Department of Labor Director Kenneth D. Edmunds. "This grant will allow us to help meet those needs and increase the number of registered apprenticeships throughout the state."

Edmunds said USDOL expects grant recipients to reform their system and use innovations and incentives to engage industry, employers and workforce development providers, expand apprenticeships to new sectors and increase participation by underserved populations and low-income workers.

In addition to funds the Idaho Department of Labor will use to expand registered apprenticeships to new industries, the Idaho Division of Career & Technical Education will use part of the grant to work with businesses to do job task analyses and create work-based learning and training opportunities.

Four industry partners will receive \$100,000 each to partner with industry for key programs specific to their area and include: PTECH, TechHelp, the Idaho Hospital Association and the Idaho Technology Council. Each will be expected to conduct statewide outreach and education within their industry regarding registered apprenticeship as a workforce solution and has committed to creating 25 new apprentices during the grant period.

Idaho will kick off its program Nov. 14 - 16 during National Apprenticeship Week with a series of six seminars on registered apprenticeships and diversity training in Twin Falls, Post Falls, Lewiston, Pocatello, Nampa and Idaho Falls. Topics will include:

- What is a registered apprenticeship program?
- What a registered apprenticeship program can mean to your company.
- What the registered apprenticeship program can do for the workforce.
- Panel discussion on value of apprenticeships.
- The connection between education and apprenticeships.
- Myths associated with apprenticeship programs.
- Traditional and expanding occupations for registered apprenticeships, such as information technology,

health care and advanced manufacturing.

The seminars are cosponsored by the Idaho Department of Labor, Idaho Power, Idaho Career & Technical Education and Idaho Workers Opportunity Network.

For a list of dates, addresses and locations, please visit:

<http://labor.idaho.gov/dnn/idl/Businesses/ApprenticeshipWeek.aspx>

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