

Idaho State Board of Education
GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION: III. POSTSECONDARY AFFAIRS
SUBSECTION: Q. Admission Standards

June 2017

1. Coverage

Boise State University, College of Western Idaho, College of Southern Idaho, Eastern Idaho Technical College, Idaho State University, Lewis-Clark State College, North Idaho College and The University of Idaho are included in this subsection. The College of Southern Idaho, College of Western Idaho and North Idaho College are exempted from certain provisions of this admission policy when established in by their local boards of trustees.

2. Purposes

The purposes of the admission policies are to:

- a. Promote institutional policies which meet or exceed minimum statewide standards for admission to higher education institutions;
- b. Inform students of the academic and technical degree expectations of postsecondary level work;
- c. Improve the quality of academic and technical degree preparation for postsecondary programs;
- d. Enhance student access to academic and technical degree programs; and
- e. Admit to postsecondary education institutions those students for whom there is a reasonable likelihood of success.

3. Policies

The college and universities must establish institutional policies which meet or exceed the following minimum admission standards. Additional and more rigorous requirements also may be established by the college and universities for admission to specific programs, departments, schools, or colleges within the institutions. Consistent with institutional policies, admission decisions may be appealed by applicants to the institutional admissions committee.

4. Academic College and University Regular Admission

Students attending an Idaho public school may be notified of their admission to an Idaho public college or university through the State Board's Direct Admission Program. Admission awarded through the program is contingent upon verified level of achievement in high school curriculum and performance on a college entrance exam, and successful completion of state high school graduation requirements.

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An applicant who is not admitted under the State board’s Direct Admission Program must complete each of the minimum requirements listed below. International students and those seeking postsecondary career technical studies are exempt.

- a. Submit scores received on the American College Test (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and/or other standardized diagnostic tests as determined by the institution. These scores will be required of applicants graduating from high school in 1989 or later. Exceptions include applicants who have reached the age of 21. These applicants are subject to each institution's testing requirements; and
- b. Graduate from an accredited high school and complete the courses below with a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade point average. Applicants who graduate from high school prior to 1989 will be subject to the admission standards at the time of their graduation.

Admission Standards Core

Subject Area	Minimum Requirement	Select from These Subject Areas
Secondary Language Arts and Communication	8 credits	Composition, Literature, Oral Communication
Mathematics	6 credits	A minimum of six (6) credits, including Applied Math I or Algebra I; Geometry or Applied Math II or III; and Algebra II. A total of 8 credits are strongly recommended. Courses not identified by traditional titles, i.e., Algebra I or Geometry, may be used as long as they contain all of the critical components (higher math functions) prescribed by the State Mathematics Achievement Standards. Other courses may include Probability, Discrete Math, Analytic Geometry, Calculus, Statistics, and Trigonometry. Four (4) of the required mathematics credits must be taken in the 10 th , 11 th , and 12 th grade.
Social Studies	5 credits	American Government (state and local), Geography, U.S. History, and World History. Other courses may be selected from Economics (Consumer Economics if it aligns to the state content standards), Psychology, and Sociology.
Science	6 credits	Anatomy, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and Geology. Physiology, Physics, Physical Science, Zoology. A maximum of two (2) credits may be derived from career technical science courses when courses are aligned to state career technical content standards, and/or Applied Biology, and/or Applied Chemistry. (Maximum of two (2) credits).

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		<p>Must have laboratory science experience in at least two (2) credits.</p> <p>A laboratory science course is defined as one in which at least one (1) class period per week is devoted to providing students with the opportunity to manipulate equipment, materials, or specimens; to develop skills in observation and analysis; and to discover, demonstrate, illustrate, or test scientific principles or concepts.</p>
Arts and Humanities (including world languages)	2 credits	<p>Literature, History, Philosophy, Fine Arts (if the course is aligned to the state arts and humanities content standards), and interdisciplinary humanities (related study of two or more of the traditional humanities disciplines). History courses beyond those required for state high school graduation may be counted toward this category.</p> <p>World Language is strongly recommended. The Native American Languages may meet the world language credit requirement</p>
Other College Preparation	3 credits	<p>Speech or Debate (no more than one (1) credit). Debate must be taught by a certified teacher.</p> <p>Studio/Performing Arts (art, dance, drama, and music).</p> <p>Foreign Language (beyond any foreign language credit applied in the Humanities/Foreign Language category).</p> <p>Career Technical Education classes (no more than two (2) credits) in Agricultural science and technology, business and office education, health occupations education, family and consumer sciences education, occupational family and consumer sciences education, technology education, marketing education, trade, industrial, and technical education, and individualized occupational training.</p>

If the high school the student graduated from does not offer a required course, applicants may contact the institutional admission officer for clarification of provisional admission procedures.

High school credit counted in one (1) category (e.g., Humanities/World Languages) may not count in another category.

5. Academic College and University Provisional Admission

- a. A degree-seeking applicant who does not qualify for admission based on 4.b above but who satisfies one (1) of the criteria below, seek provisional admission by petitioning the institutional admission director.
 - i. Graduated from an accredited secondary school but has not completed the Admission Standards Core set forth above;

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- ii. Did not graduate from an accredited secondary school, including home schooled students and has acceptable performance on either the General Educational Development (GED) Test or another standardized diagnostic tests such accepted by the institutions.
- iii. Deserves special consideration by the institution, e.g., disadvantaged or minority students, delayed entry students, returning veterans, or talented students wishing to enter college early.

A student seeking provisional admission to any public postsecondary institution must take at least two (2) testing indicators that will allow the institution to assess competency and placement, one (1) of which must be the ACT or SAT. ACT or SAT scores must be submitted prior to enrollment.

- b. If provisionally admitted, a student will enroll with provisional standing and is subject to the institutional grade retention. A provisionally admitted student may change to regular admission status upon satisfactory completion of fourteen (14) baccalaureate level credits, twelve (12) of which must be general education courses. Regular admission status must be attained within three (3) registration periods or the student will be dismissed, subject to institutional committee appeal procedures.

6. Advanced Opportunities

Secondary students who wish to participate in the Advanced Opportunities outlined in Board Policy Section III.Y. Advanced opportunities, must follow the procedures outlined in Board Policy III.Y.

7. Transfer Admission

- a. A degree-seeking student who, after graduating from high school or earning a GED, has earned at least fourteen (14) or more semester hours of transferable academic college level credit from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 may be admitted.
- b. A student not meeting the requirement in subsection 7.a. may petition the institutional admission director to be admitted. If admitted, the student must enroll on probation status, meet all conditions imposed by the institutional admissions committee, and complete the first semester with a minimum 2.00 GPA, or may be dismissed.

8. Career Technical Education Admissions

- a. Admission Standards

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Regular or Provisional admission standards apply to individuals who seek a technical certificate or Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree through a career technical program. The admission standards and placement criteria do not apply to workforce development or short-term training programs. Career technical programs employ program admission processes in addition to institutional program admission.

b. Placement Tests

Placement test scores indicating potential for success are generally required for enrollment in a career technical program of choice. Placement score requirements vary according to the program.

c. Idaho Technical College System

The career technical programs are offered at the following locations:

Region I	Coeur d'Alene, North Idaho College
Region II	Lewiston, Lewis-Clark State College
Region III	Nampa, College of Western Idaho
Region IV	Twin Falls, College of Southern Idaho
Region V	Pocatello, Idaho State University
Region VI	Idaho Falls, Eastern Idaho Technical College

d. Student Advising

- i. Clarify the importance of career planning and preparation: high school students should be actively engaged in career planning prior to entering the 9th grade. Career planning assures that students have sufficient information about self and work requirements to adequately design an education program to reach their career goals.
- ii. Emphasize that career technical courses in high school, including career technical advanced opportunities and work-based learning connected to school-based learning, are beneficial to students seeking continued education in career technical programs at the postsecondary level.
- iii. Clarify the kind of educational preparation necessary to successfully enter and complete postsecondary studies. Mathematics and science are essential for successful performance in many career technical programs. Programs of a technical nature generally require greater preparation in applied mathematics and laboratory sciences.

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iv. Clarify that career technical programs of one or two years in length may require additional time if applicants lack sufficient educational preparation.

e. Career Technical Regular Admission

Students desiring Regular Admission to any of Idaho's technical colleges must meet the following standards. Students planning to enroll in programs of a technical nature are also strongly encouraged to complete the recommended courses. Admission to a specific career technical program is based on the capacity of the program and specific academic and/or physical requirements established by the technical college/program.

i. Standards for students who graduated from high school in 1997 or earlier

- 1) High School diploma with a minimum 2.0 GPA¹; and
- 2) Placement examination² (ACT, SAT or other diagnostic/placement tests as determined by the institution. Scores may also be used to determine placement eligibility for specific career technical programs.); and
- 3) Satisfactory completion of high school coursework that includes at least the following:
 - a) Mathematics -- 4 credits (6 credits recommended) from challenging math sequences of increasing rigor selected from courses such as Algebra I, Geometry, Applied Math I, II, and III, Algebra II, Trigonometry, Discrete Math, Statistics, and other higher level math courses. Two (2) mathematics credits must be taken in the 11th or 12th grade. Less rigorous mathematics courses taken in grades 10-12 after 1998, such as pre-algebra, review mathematics, and remedial mathematics, shall not be counted.
 - b) Science -- 4 credits (6 credits recommended, with 4 credits in laboratory science) including at least 2 credits of laboratory science from challenging science courses including applied biology/chemistry, principles of technology (applied physics), anatomy, biology, earth science, geology, physiology, physical science, zoology, physics,

¹An institution may substitute a composite index placement exam score and high school GPA for the GPA admission requirement.

²If accommodations are required to take the placement exam(s) because of a disability, please contact the College to which you are interested in applying.

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chemistry, and agricultural science and technology courses (500 level and above).

- c) Secondary Language Arts and Communication -- 8 credits. Applied English in the Workplace may be counted for English credit.
- d) Other -- Career technical courses, including postsecondary credits earned pursuant to Board Policy III.Y. Advanced Opportunities and organized work-based learning experiences connected to the school-based curriculum, are strongly recommended. High School Work Release time not connected to the school-based curriculum will not be considered.

ii. Standards for others Seeking Regular Admission

Individuals who graduated from high school, received their GED prior to 1997, or who are at least 21 years old and who desire Regular Admission to the technical colleges must have a:

- 1) High School diploma with a minimum 2.0 GPA; or
- 2) General Educational Development (GED) certificate³; and
- 3) ACT, SAT or other diagnostic/placement tests as determined by the institutions. Scores may also be used to determine admission eligibility for specific career technical programs.

9. Career Technical Provisional Admission

Students who do not meet all requirements for regular admission may apply to a technical program under provisional admission. Provisionally admitted students who are conditionally admitted must successfully complete appropriate remedial, general and/or technical education coursework related to the career technical program for which regular admission status is desired, and to demonstrate competence with respect to that program through methods and procedures established by the technical college. Students desiring Provisional Admission must have a:

- a. High School diploma or GED certificate³; and
- b. ACT, SAT or other diagnostic/placement tests as determined by the institutions.

³Certain institutions allow individuals who do not have a high school diploma or GED to be admitted if they can demonstrate the necessary ability to succeed in a technical program through appropriate tests or experiences determined by the institution.

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Scores may also be used to determine placement eligibility for specific career technical programs.)

10. Career Technical Placement Criteria: Procedures for placement into specific career technical programs

Specific career technical programs may require different levels of academic competency and admission requirements. Students must also be familiar with the demands of a particular occupation and how that occupation matches individual career interests and goals. Therefore, before students can enroll in a specific program, the following placement requirements must be satisfied:

- a. Specific program requirements (including placement exam scores) established by the technical program. A student who does not meet the established requirements for the program of choice will have the opportunity to participate in remedial education to improve their skills; and
- b. Formal procedures and definitions for program admission employed by the technical college. Program admission requirements and procedures are clearly defined and published for each program.