

Idaho State Board of Education
GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: III. POSTSECONDARY AFFAIRS

SUBSECTION: Q. Admission Standards

June 2021

1. Institution Policies

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

2. Academic Program Admission

a. Academic Program Regular Admission

Students attending an Idaho public school, or Idaho private school that has entered a Direct Admission participation agreement with the Board, 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 on the verified level of achievement in high school curriculum and successful completion of Idaho high school graduation requirements.

An applicant who is not admitted under the Board's Direct Admission Program must graduate from a high school accredited by a body recognized by the Board and complete the Admission Standards Core Courses with a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade point average. Applicants who graduated from high school prior to 1989 will be subject to the admission standards at the time of their high school graduation. Each institution may develop a separate policy for the admissions and placement of international students.

Admission Standards Core Courses

Subject Area	Minimum Requirement	Select from These Subject Areas
Secondary Language Arts and Communication	8 credits	Composition, Literature, and Oral Communication

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

June 2021

Mathematics	6 credits	<p>A minimum of six (6) credits. Secondary Mathematics includes Integrated Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Fundamentals of Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, and courses in Mathematical Problem Solving and Quantitative Reasoning. A total of 8 credits are strongly recommended. Four (4) of the required mathematics credits must be taken after 9th grade.</p> <p>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 of higher math functions prescribed by the State Mathematics Content Standards.</p> <p>Institutions may recognize other Mathematics courses as meeting this requirement if those courses are taken in compliance with the Idaho state minimum graduation requirements.</p>
Social Studies	5 credits	<p>American Government (state and local), Geography, U.S. History, and World History.</p> <p>Other courses may be selected from Economics, including Consumer Economics, if it aligns to the state content standards, Psychology, and Sociology.</p>
Science	6 credits	<p>Secondary sciences include instruction in Applied Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Life Sciences. 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).</p> <p>Institutions may recognize other Science courses as meeting this requirement if those courses are taken in compliance with the Idaho state minimum graduation requirements.</p> <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>Humanities courses include instruction in Visual Arts, Music, Theatre, Dance, or World Language aligned to the Idaho content standards for those subjects. Other courses such as Literature, History, Philosophy, Architecture, or Comparative World Religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is aligned to the Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards. 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	3 credits	Speech or Debate [no more than one (1) credit]. Debate must be

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

June 2021

Preparation		<p>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>Secondary Career Technical courses (no more than two (2) credits) in Agricultural Science and Technology; Business Technology Education; Computer Science Technology; Engineering; Family and Consumer Sciences; Marketing Technology Education; Technology Education, and individualized occupational training.</p>
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If the student graduated from a high school that 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 also count in another category.

b. Academic Provisional Admission

i. A degree-seeking applicant who does not qualify for admission based on subsection 4.a. above, but who satisfies one (1) of the criteria below, may seek provisional admission by petitioning the institutional admissions officer:

- 1) Graduated from a secondary school accredited by a body recognized by the Board but has not completed the Admission Standards Core courses set forth above;
- 2) Did not graduate from a secondary school accredited by a body recognized by the Board, including home schooled students, and has acceptable performance on either the General Educational Development (GED) test or another standardized diagnostic test accepted by the institution;
- 3) Deserves consideration by the institution because of special status (e.g., disadvantaged or minority students, delayed entry students, returning veterans, or gifted and talented students wishing to enter college early).

A student seeking provisional admission to any public postsecondary institution must take at least one (1) assessment indicator that will allow the institution to assess competency and placement.

ii. If provisionally admitted, a student will enroll with provisional standing and is subject to the institutional grade retention. A provisionally admitted student

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

June 2021

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.

c. Academic Transfer Admission

- i. 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.
- ii. A student not meeting the requirement in subsection 6.a. may petition the institutional admissions officer 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.

d. Academic Program Placement

Placement assessment indicating potential for success may be required for some academic programs. Placement requirements vary according to the program. Each institution shall establish academic program placement policies and publish these policies in an accessible manner on the institution's website.

3. Career Technical Program Admissions

a. Admission Standards

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. 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.

Idaho State Board of Education
GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: III. POSTSECONDARY AFFAIRS

SUBSECTION: Q. Admission Standards

June 2021

- 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.
 - iv. Clarify that career technical programs of one or two years in length may require additional time if applicants lack sufficient educational preparation.
- c. Career Technical Program 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 from a high school accredited by a body recognized by the Board; and
 - 2) Placement examination 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)

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

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

June 2021

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, 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 Career Technical Program 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 from a high school accredited by a body recognized by the Board; or
- 2) General Educational Development (GED) certificate; and
- 3) Diagnostic/placement tests as determined by the institution. Scores may also be used to determine admission eligibility for specific career technical programs.

d. Career Technical Program 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 complete appropriate remedial, general and/or technical education coursework related to the career technical program for

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

June 2021

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 meet the following standards:

- i. High School diploma or GED certificate; and
 - ii. diagnostic/placement tests as determined by the institution. Scores may also be used to determine placement eligibility for specific career technical programs.
 - iii. Institutions may allow individuals who do not have a high school diploma or GED to be admitted if the applicant can demonstrate the necessary ability to succeed in a career technical program through appropriate tests or experiences as determined by the institution.
- e. Career Technical Program Placement Criteria

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.

Each institution shall establish career technical program placement policies and publish these policies in an accessible manner on the institution's website.

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:

- i. 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
- ii. Formal procedures and definitions for program admission employed by the technical college. Program admission requirements and procedures shall be clearly defined and published for each program.