

IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## IDAHO PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ACCEPT MORE THAN 20,000 STUDENTS FOR FALL 2016

(BOISE). The State Board of Education announced today that 20,171 high school seniors were sent acceptance letters to Idaho's public colleges and universities for the Fall 2016 semester. Congratulatory letters were also sent to each student's parents or guardians informing them of their student's acceptance to college.

Earlier this year, the Board approved Direct Admissions, an initiative to proactively admit Idaho public and charter high school seniors to the state's public colleges and universities based on a State Board – established threshold factoring grade point average (GPA) and college entrance exam scores. Students meeting this threshold are being accepted to Idaho's eight public colleges and universities: Boise State University, Idaho State University, the University of Idaho, Lewis-Clark State College, Eastern Idaho Technical College, College of Southern Idaho, College of Western Idaho and North Idaho College.

Students not meeting the threshold are being accepted to the six public higher education institutions that offer certificate or associate degree programs: Idaho State University College of Technology, Lewis-Clark State College, Eastern Idaho Technical College, College of Southern Idaho, College of Western Idaho and North Idaho College.

"Idaho's public colleges and universities have opportunities for all students to achieve their education goals, whether it is a professional-technical program, or an academic certificate, associate or bachelor degree program," said Matt Freeman, Executive Director of the Idaho State Board of Education. "Instead of waiting for students to apply for admission, we have taken the first step of determining acceptance based on student grades and SAT or ACT score, and then welcoming them to our institutions."

The acceptance letter instructs students to visit <u>www.NextSteps.Idaho.gov</u>. This new website created by the State Board provides resources for students, families, and educators to learn more about each public college and university, how to complete the admission process, and how to secure scholarships and financial aid.

The State Board of Education is charged with the general supervision, governance and control of the public educational institutions and the public school system of the State of Idaho. To learn more about the Idaho State Board of Education, please visit <u>www.boardofed.idaho.gov</u>.