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MORE THAN 20,000 IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ADMITTED TO THE STATE'S PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

(Boise). The Idaho State Board of Education announced today that 20,213 Idaho high school seniors have been admitted to the state's public colleges and universities for the Fall 2018 semester. Students and their parents will receive admission letters over the next week.

This is the third year of the State Board's Direct Admissions initiative, which uses a student's grade point average (GPA) and college entrance exam score to determine college acceptance without requiring the student to initially apply for admission to a particular college or university. All students have been admitted to the six public higher education institutions that offer certificate or associate degree programs: Idaho State University College of Technology, Lewis-Clark State College, College of Eastern Idaho, College of Southern Idaho, College of Western Idaho and North Idaho College.

Students who meet or exceed a GPA and college entrance exam benchmark requirement are also admitted to Boise State University, Idaho State University, and the University of Idaho.

"The Direct Admissions initiative has been successful in proactively showing Idaho students that higher education is an option for all of them after graduating from high school, and that we have a variety of great options each student," Dr. Linda Clark, President of the Idaho State Board of Education. "We want Idaho students to go-on to college, and we want them to enroll in our institutions," she continued.

Students are directed in the admission letter to visit NextSteps.Idaho.gov to learn more about each Idaho public college and university, along with information on scholarships and financial aid. While admission to six or eight public higher education institutions is guaranteed through Direct Admissions, students need to submit an application that indicates interest in one or more institutions. This year, the State Board of Education has made it even easier for students to submit an application. From NextSteps.Idaho.gov, students can access **Apply Idaho**, an online application created to allow Idaho students to apply to one or more of Idaho's public colleges and universities in four easy steps and it is free, meaning students do not incur application fees. Students can log onto **Apply Idaho** from a mobile phone, tablet, laptop or PC by visiting NextSteps.Idaho.gov.

The State Board of Education is charged with the general supervision and governance 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 www.boardofed.idaho.gov.

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