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**For Immediate Release**

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## **BOARD AND STAFF RECOGNIZED BY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

The Idaho State Board of Education and its staff today received national recognition for efforts to provide pathways for more Idahoans to attend and succeed in college or a career technical program.

The State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) Association presented the Board with its inaugural Exceptional Agency Award during the Association's Annual Meeting in Park City, Utah.

The award recognizes leadership, dedication and innovation in state higher education policy and administration.

In presenting the award, SHEEO noted the Board's ***Direct Admissions*** program admitting all high school students into an Idaho public higher education institution and the ***Apply Idaho*** website enabling students to submit applications to those same institutions free of charge. The award also recognizes the Board's efforts to support and implement Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter's Higher Education Task Force recommendations.

Here's a link to the SHEEO press release: <http://www.sheeo.org/news/sheeo-announces-inaugural-excellence-awards-winners>

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