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**For Immediate Release**

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## **BOARD APPROVES OUTCOMES-BASED FUNDING PROPOSAL**

The Idaho State Board of Education today approved a plan dramatically changing how Idaho higher education institutions would receive funding from the state.

Under the Board's outcomes-based funding (OBF) model, colleges and universities would be funded based on the number of graduates produced, rather than the number of credits students accrue, which is how state funding has been allocated for the last 30 years. The Board will ask the legislature to fund the plan when it meets early next year.

Development of the OBF model has been in the works for three years. It is the Board's top legislative priority for the upcoming session. The plan calls for a three-year phased approach that includes \$16 million in new state funding in the first year, FY2020.

"We as a board see outcomes-based funding as a practical step we can take to help our colleges and universities contribute even more to our entire higher education system success, and more importantly, to the success of our students." Board Member Emma Atchley said.

Outcomes-based funding models are used to fund higher education institutions in over 30 states.

Other Board actions include:

- Approval of the Board's common-course numbering policy, which will ensure that certain general education courses have the same title, course number and general education requirements across all Idaho institutions. The Board will approve the first list of common courses at its December meeting.
- Approved design construction of Lewis-Clark State College's new \$21 million dollar Career Technical Education Center. The 73,000 square-foot facility will be adjacent to

the new Lewiston High School, which is currently under construction. The LCSC CTE Center is expected to open in fall 2020.

- Approved the University of Idaho's request to purchase the Rock Creek Ranch in Blaine County for \$1.2 million. The U of I will operate the property as a research facility for rangeland operation including cattle grazing. Research will focus on rangeland conservation.
- The Board also reviewed and discussed Idaho's overall education system performance.

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