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IDAHO JOINS INITIATIVE TO BOOST STUDENT SUCCESS IN COLLEGE

Idaho is joining an initiative designed to keep first-year college students in school by improving success rates during the freshman year.

The effort, called the [Momentum Pathways Project](#), was developed by the Complete College America Alliance (CCA), a network of states and higher education institutions working to create evidence-based “Game Changer” strategies to help first-year college students stay on track to degree completion.

The Momentum Pathways model uses data to identify problems and restructure delivery systems to improve student confidence through such meaningful approaches as helping them earn more credits earlier in their college career.

“The State Board of Education is excited to take part in this year’s Momentum Pathways cohort,” State Board President Dr. Linda Clark said. “Though Idaho’s colleges and universities have made good progress toward the implementation of CCA Game Changers in recent years, the Momentum Pathways initiative will help us complete the scaling of these initiatives across all institutions. This initiative will also help our institutions reach the Board’s student achievement goals and advance Governor Otter’s Higher Education Task Force recommendations adopted in 2017. As opportunities and challenges alike are to be anticipated, our state’s four-year institutions and community colleges stand ready to embark on this work in order to transform the educational experience of all Idahoans.”

The Momentum Pathways Project creates a three-year implementation timeline and includes structured implementation support from CCA staff and content experts.

Presidents and provosts from each of Idaho's public institutions, along with the Board's executive officers, will meet in Boise later this month to develop an operational framework for accomplishing statewide student success goals. CCA will be investing approximately a half-million dollars in technical support and services to develop system-wide strategies and scale implementation across Idaho colleges and universities.

“Idaho is thrilled and honored to be named a Momentum Pathways state because now is the time, due to the leadership of the State Board of Education, to scale CCA's Game Changer strategies statewide,” Idaho State University Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Laura Woodworth-Ney said. “As a small state with a collaborative spirit, we have an enormous opportunity to leverage CCA's unparalleled expertise to transform Idaho's current completion rates. It is a privilege to work with CCA to make a difference for Idaho's students and communities.”

Idaho is joining four other states and one institutional system that have committed their collective efforts to implement Momentum Pathways. They are Colorado, Montana, Hawaii, West Virginia and the City University of New York.

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