



650 W. State Street • Room 307 • Boise, ID • 83702  
P.O. Box 83720 • Boise, ID • 83720-0037

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Contact: Mike Keckler  
208-332-1591 (office)  
208-866-5734 (cell)  
[Mike.Keckler@osbe.idaho.gov](mailto:Mike.Keckler@osbe.idaho.gov)

## **BOARD HEARS UPDATE ON PLAN TO AWARD COLLEGE CREDIT FOR MILITARY TRAINING**

Beginning in fall 2020, military veterans interested in earning a college degree could be awarded college credit at all of Idaho's colleges and universities for specialized training received while in the service.

The Idaho State Board of Education heard yesterday that each of Idaho's more than 100,000 veterans could be eligible for an average of nine general education college credits, depending on their military occupation when enrolling in one of Idaho's public postsecondary institutions after serving in the military.

Nearly 200 college and university faculty members from throughout the state are refining the Board's military "crosswalk" aligning training elements with requirements for college-level math, English, science, oral communication, arts and humanities and social sciences. The crosswalk covers over 1,000 military occupations and was developed with funds from an Adult Promise grant from Lumina Foundation.

"This is a very exciting project," Board Member Dr. Linda Clark said. "We have support from the Idaho Workforce Development Council and employers

throughout the state and I think many of our military veterans will take advantage of this when it is ready next fall.”

The Board also took time during Wednesday’s meeting to discuss input received earlier this year related to the K-12 Idaho Content Standards during a series of five public hearing held around the state.

In November, the Board approved the standards along with several other education-related proposed rules as pending rules, meaning the rules will be considered by the Idaho Legislature during the upcoming legislative session.

Board President Debbie Critchfield decided to discuss concerns expressed that the Board didn’t take public input received on administrative rule docket 08-0000-1900 into account at the November Board meeting when the Board approved it to move forward to the Legislature.

Board members reiterated their support for the standards with Board Member Andrew Scoggin noting that he was open to reviewing any proposed specific changes to the actual language of the standards along with compelling evidence based support for the proposed changes. “We, as a Board, would welcome that kind of input,” Scoggin said. “We need to have standards in place. They are critical for us to understand how our education system as a whole, is performing.”

Other Board actions include:

- Approved a request by Idaho State University to spend up to \$7.4 million renovate Davis Field.
- Approved a request by the University of Idaho to spend \$25 million to plan, design and construct the CAFÉ Research Dairy Facility near Rupert.
- Approved a request by the University of Idaho to spend \$5.2 million to begin the bid and construction phases of a Seed Potato Germplasm Facility on the Moscow campus.

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