



---

**For Immediate Release**

January 14, 2026

Contact: Marissa Morrison  
208-221-5529  
[mmorrison@edu.idaho.gov](mailto:mmorrison@edu.idaho.gov)

## **Idaho Universities Compliant with State DEI Laws, Legislative Audit Finds**

BOISE, Idaho — A new report issued by the Idaho Legislative Services Office (LSO) confirms that Idaho’s public four-year colleges and universities are largely in compliance with state laws governing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), reflecting sustained oversight and coordinated implementation efforts led by the Idaho State Board of Education.

The limited-scope special report, conducted pursuant to Senate Bill 1209 (2025), reviewed Boise State University, Idaho State University, Lewis-Clark State College, and the University of Idaho for compliance with multiple provisions of Idaho Code related to DEI in higher education. The review covered expenditures, hiring and employment practices, admissions, and curriculum.

In its conclusion, the report notes that institutions have taken significant steps to align policies, practices, and programs with Idaho law. The review found that state-appropriated funds are not being used to support prohibited DEI activities, admissions and hiring decisions are merit-based and do not require diversity statements, and institutions have eliminated DEI offices and positions as required under statute. Where technical or administrative issues were identified, institutions have already taken corrective action or initiated the Board’s established exemption process.

“The report confirms what the Board has worked closely with our institutions to accomplish: strong compliance with Idaho law and a clear focus on merit, academic integrity, and student opportunity,” **Idaho State Board of Education Executive Director Jennifer White said.** “This review reflects the seriousness with which Idaho’s colleges and universities have implemented these requirements, and where adjustments were identified, they are being addressed through transparent, established processes.”

The Board will continue to monitor compliance and support institutions through established oversight and accountability measures established by SB 1198 (2025) and other relevant laws. The full report can be found [here](#).

#####

#####