



Through its committees, programs, and collaborations the Idaho Workforce Development Council helps to connect Idahoans to career opportunities, and Idaho's employers to a qualified workforce.

## Who We Are

Established in 2017, the Council is made up of 37 Governor appointed members from throughout the state, including 17 Idaho employers, 10 state government representatives, 7 workforce representatives, a member from each chamber of the legislature, and a representative of the Governor.

Represented industry sectors include Healthcare, Construction, Technology, Aerospace, Energy, Finance, Professional Services, and Advanced Manufacturing. The Council also serves as the State Workforce Investment Board.

### Vision

We envision a future where Idaho's diverse and prepared workforce meets the needs of our unique communities and employers.

### Mission

We champion strategies that prepare Idahoans for careers that meet employers' needs.

## What We Do

**The Council's work is focused on three strategic goals:**

- Providing for the most efficient use of federal, state, and local workforce development resources.
- Increasing the public awareness of and access to career education and training opportunities.
- Improving the effectiveness, quality, and coordination of programs and services designed to maintain a highly skilled workforce.

Idaho Child Care Expansion Grants, administered by the Workforce Development Council, will increase the number of child care seats available to working families by targeting employers and/or child care providers willing to build new on-site or near-site child care facilities or expand existing facilities.

---



#### Upcoming Grant Application Deadlines:

- August 15, 2022
- October 1, 2022
- January 1, 2023

Employers and/or child care providers that are seeking to add or expand capacity in Idaho apply or get more information here: <https://wdc.idaho.gov/child-care-expansion>

Child care is one of the most critical work supports for parents to successfully participate in the labor market. Since the pandemic, labor force participation rates in Idaho have decreased and one of the major factors is lack of child care options.

According to Idaho's most recent Child Care Gap Assessment 74,670 children have the potential need for child care, and there are only 55,850 child care slots, leaving a gap of nearly 20,000 seats needed to get Idaho parents back to work.

#### Program Goals

- Increase child care seats statewide by approximately 1,000 by the end of 2024.
- Prioritize small providers, and providers who practice evidence-based high quality care.

These funds provide infrastructure or operating grants for start-up or expansion of child care where there is a significant gap between the number of child care slots available and the number of children needing care.

---

Resources are available for existing providers looking to expand or employers looking to start a new child care program at <https://wdc.idaho.gov/child-care-expansion>

---