



Executive Department
State of Idaho

State Capitol
Boise

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF IDAHO
BOISE**

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 2026-05

CREATION OF THE STATE WORKFORCE PELL COORDINATING COUNCIL

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2025, President Trump signed H.R. 1 – the One Big Beautiful Bill Act – which established the Workforce Pell Grant program by expanding the federal Pell Grant framework to include high-quality, short-term workforce training programs; and

WHEREAS, this expansion allows eligible students to use Pell Grants for programs that are shorter than traditional degree pathways but lead to recognized postsecondary credentials aligned with in-demand occupations; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a Workforce Pell Grant program builds on the great success of Idaho LAUNCH by providing additional financial aid options for those who need it most; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1 grants Governors the primary role in determining whether educational programs within their state meet workforce alignment requirements, ensuring coordination between higher education providers and state labor market priorities; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Idahoans that we act quickly but thoughtfully to implement this provision of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Brad Little, Governor of the State of Idaho, pursuant to the Constitution and laws of Idaho, do hereby order the following:

- 1. The State Workforce Pell Coordinating Council (“SWPCC”) is established to oversee the implementation of the Workforce Pell Grant program.*
- 2. The SWPCC shall be responsible for the following:*
 - a. Recommending statewide Workforce Pell eligibility and policy criteria to the Idaho Workforce Development Council (“WDC”)*
 - b. Implementing WDC policy to maintain an Eligible Program Registry*
 - c. Overseeing performance monitoring and accountability for all approved programs*
 - d. Coordinating federal compliance and representing Idaho in any reviews by the U.S. Department of Education*
 - e. Issuing guidance to institutions of higher education, regional entities, and education provider partners*
 - f. Recommending and executing enforcement actions, including probation, suspension, and removal*
 - g. Reviewing and recommending programs for approval or removal to the Governor*
- 3. The SWPCC shall function as an interagency administrative body and shall consist of the following members:*
 - a. The Administrator of the Idaho Division of Career Technical Education or a designee chosen by the Administrator to serve as a Co-Chair and voting member*
 - b. The Executive Director of the Idaho Workforce Development Council or a designee chosen by the Executive Director to serve as a Co-Chair and voting member*

- c. *The Executive Director of the Office of the State Board of Education or a designee chosen by the Executive Director to serve as a voting member*
 - d. *A staff member of the Office of the Governor to serve as a voting member*
4. *The SWPCC is authorized to include, as non-voting members, representatives from the Idaho Department of Labor, institutions of higher education and other data liaisons for the purpose of providing technical assistance.*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 10th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-six.

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

PHIL MCGRANE
SECRETARY OF STATE