

Presidential Search

University of Idaho

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THE OPPORTUNITY

The Board of Regents of University of Idaho invites candidates to apply to become the 20th president of University of Idaho.

Founded in 1889, University of Idaho is the state's land-grant institution and its first and only Carnegie R1 research university. Its distinctive charge is to make exceptional education, consequential research and practical knowledge accessible across Idaho through a residential campus in Moscow, statewide learning and research sites, the reach of Extension, and its law school in Boise.

The university's momentum and distinctive place in American public higher education provide a strong foundation for its next president's success. Recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as the **No. 1 Best Value Public University in the** N**ation for 2027** and distinguished as **Idaho's only Carnegie R1 research university**, University of Idaho combines nationally recognized academic excellence, world-class research and affordability with a deeply rooted commitment to student success and service to the state.

Guided by a new 2026–2030 strategic plan, the university is advancing experiential learning, expanding its research enterprise and strengthening partnerships across agriculture, natural resources, energy, education, health care and industry. The next president will have the opportunity to build on these strengths, accelerate institutional progress and shape the university's future at a pivotal moment for public higher education.

President C. Scott Green will retire June 30, 2027. The board expects the next president to assume office July 1, 2027. The president reports directly to the Idaho State Board of Education, sitting as the Board of Regents of University of Idaho, and serves as the university's chief executive officer.



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

Mission, Vision and Values

MISSION

The University of Idaho will shape the future of Idaho and beyond through innovative research, education and community engagement.

VISION

The University of Idaho will prepare students to thrive by reimagining the role of experiential learning in the student experience and transforming how and where education is delivered. It will drive economic growth and quality of life through strategic partnerships and research addressing complex problems.

VALUES

Excellence

Respect

Integrity

Perseverance

Stewardship





A Land-Grant University with Statewide Reach

The University of Idaho's mission extends statewide through teaching, research, Extension and public service. Beyond its Moscow campus, the university expands educational access through regional centers in Boise, Coeur d'Alene and Idaho Falls, as well as online education programs. Its land-grant mission is reflected in statewide Extension services, including 4-H youth development, agricultural research, and programs addressing Idaho's forestry, water and natural resource needs. The university also serves the state through the Idaho Geological Survey, partnerships with Idaho's five federally recognized tribal nations, and medical and veterinary education through the WWAMI and WIMU regional partnerships. Collaborations with Idaho National Laboratory further advance research, innovation and workforce development.

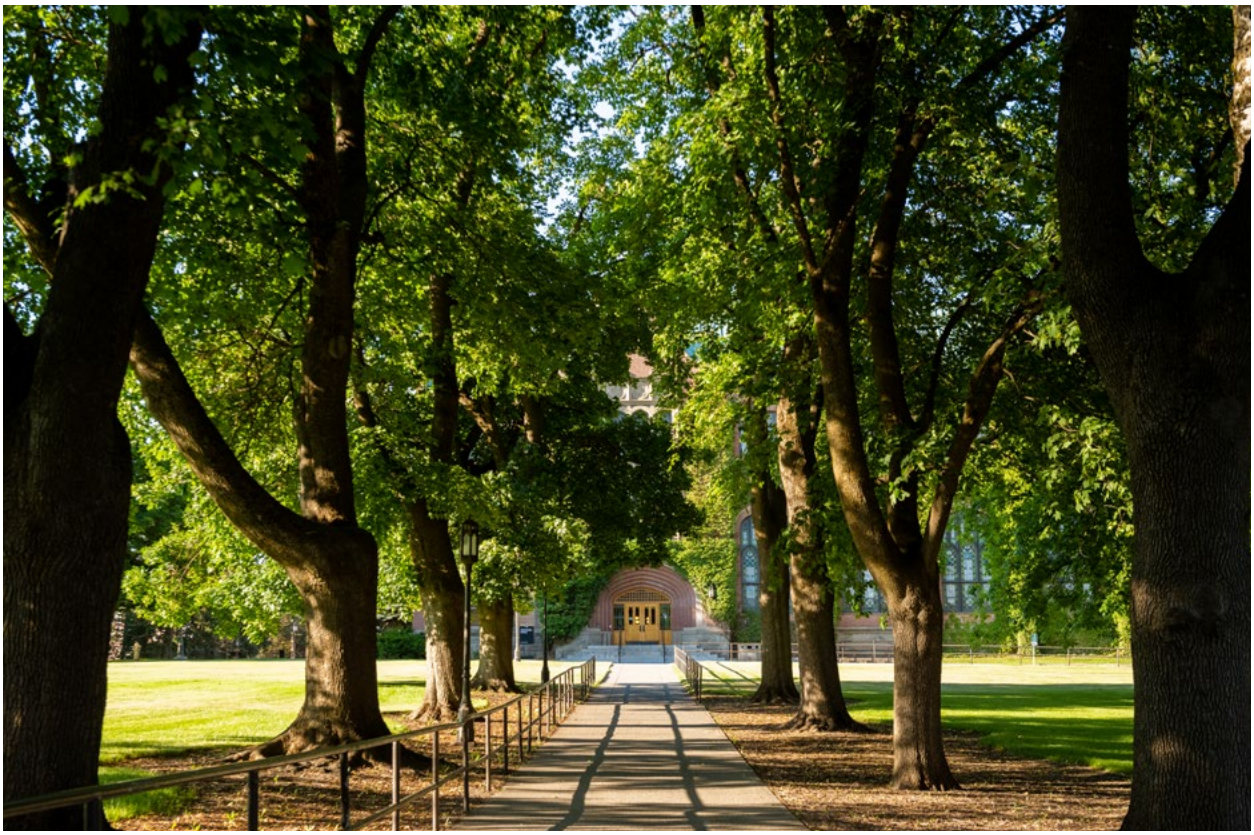
Key milestones

Year	Milestone
1889	University of Idaho established by the Idaho Territorial Legislature as the state's land-grant university, one year before statehood
1892	University opens its doors on October 3 in Moscow, welcoming its first students
1896	First graduating class receives degrees, including two men and two women
1897	University awards its first master's degree
1909	College of Law established, beginning more than a century of legal education in Idaho
1914	Cooperative Extension established, expanding U of I's statewide service mission
1954	Established nuclear engineering program in Idaho Falls in partnership with the Idaho National Laboratory (INL)
1963	Idaho Water Resources Research Institute established to advance research addressing water challenges
1969	Taylor Ranch begins operations as a wilderness research station, supporting ecological research and immersive field education.
1972	Idaho joins WWAMI medical education partnership
1987	University names its School of Music for jazz legend Lionel Hampton, creating the nation's first school of music named after a jazz musician
2010	College of Law begins offering its third-year legal education program in Boise, expanding professional education in the state's capital
2019	U of I acquires Rinker Rock Creek Ranch near Hailey, creating a major research and education facility focused on rangeland management, and watershed restoration
2022	Center for Intelligent Industrial Robotics launched in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
2025	New five-year strategic agreement signed with the INL to expand research in nuclear energy, power systems and cybersecurity
2025	Achieves Carnegie R1 classification.
2026	Adopts 2026–2030 Strategic Plan; launches new AI-related degrees.

Strategic Plan: 2026–2030

AI is embedded in each pillar of the strategic plan as a tool to elevate student success, partner with Idaho industry, accelerate discovery, enhance operational excellence and extend the university's impact. The plan is executed across Five Pillars:

- **Ignite Student Success** — improve student access, retention, completion, affordability, and postgraduation success through innovative educational experiences, personalized support systems, and student-centered engagement.
- **Drive Experiential Learning for All Students** — ensure all students participate in meaningful experiential learning opportunities that prepare them for professional success, civic engagement, and lifelong learning.
- **Adapt the Educational Model** — expand flexible, accessible, workforce-aligned educational opportunities that meet the needs of traditional students, adult learners, and Idaho communities.
- **Harness Research Innovation and Partnerships** — expand research excellence, strategic partnerships, and innovation that improve the economic prosperity, health, and quality of life of Idaho and beyond.
- **Optimize Operational Excellence** — strengthen institutional effectiveness through data-informed decision making, operational efficiency, employee engagement, and responsible integration of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies.



CARNEGIE R1 CLASSIFIED UNIVERSITY

60% six-year graduation rate

77.3% First-year retention rate

FY27 FINANCES

STATE APPROPRIATIONS:
$265,820,500

BUDGET
$518,494,805

151.5 Million (FY25)
in research expenditures.

$56,670
Median starting salary of graduates

FALL 2026 ENROLLMENT
12,275

Philanthropy

- **Brave. Bold. Unstoppable**. Campaign concluding December 31, 2025
  - **CAMPAIGN TOTAL: $550,631,380**
  - **OVER 39,000 DONORS**
- **Alumni** - **OVER 117,000** living alumni
- **Foundation Quick Facts**
  - **Overall Assets - $622.8 million** (largest in Idaho) (June 30, 2026)
  - Consolidated Investment Trust endowment pool - **$529.4 MILLION** (June 30, 2026)
  - FY 26 Fundraising Total - **$59.4 MILLION**

more than **200 areas**
of academic study across
10 colleges

more than **$30 million** per year
in **SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT**

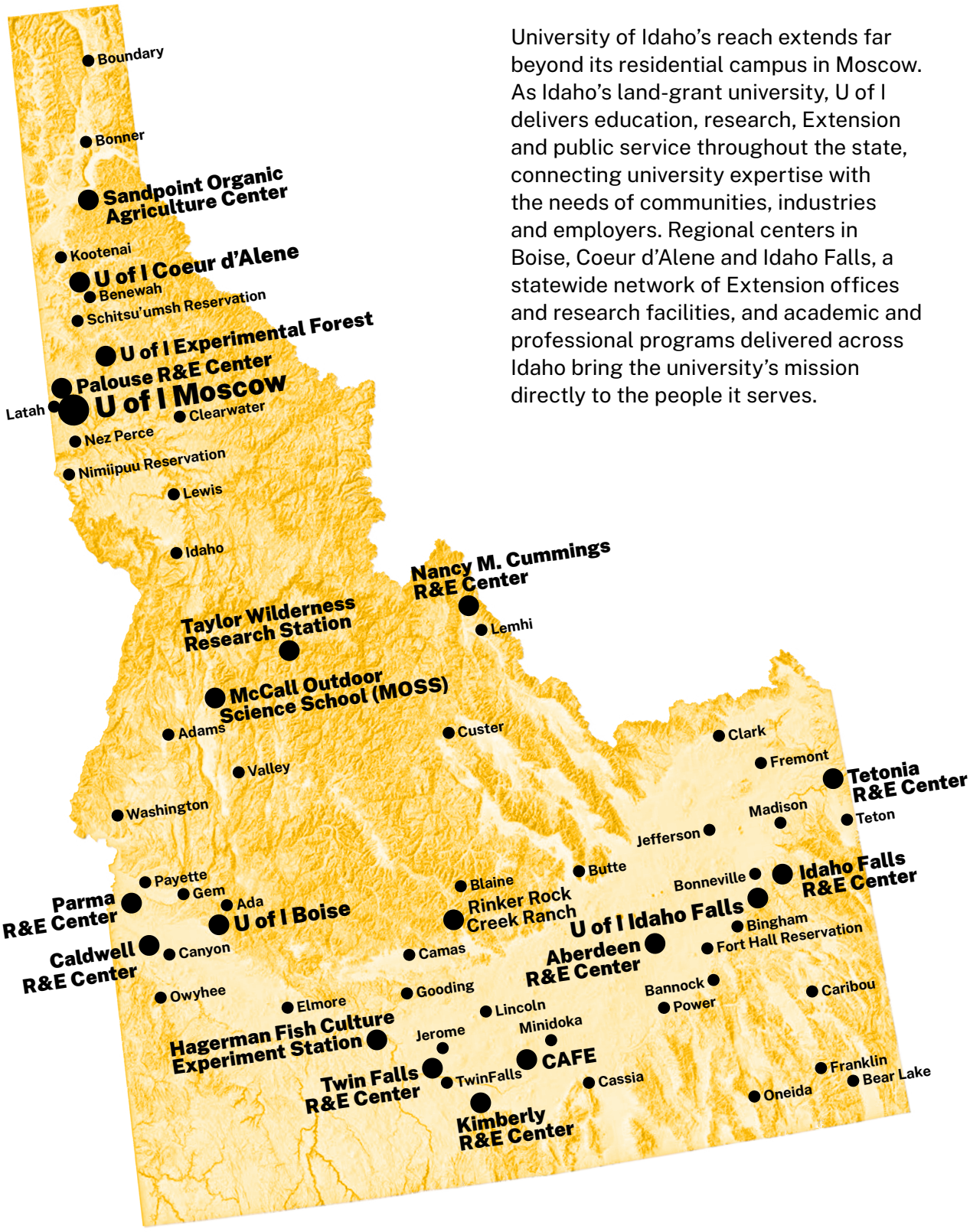
Degrees
and statewide reach

- Students attend the U of I from **ALL 44 IDAHO COUNTIES.**
- The university conferred **3,074 DEGREES** in 2025-2026.
- **1,261 ONLINE STUDENTS** (Fall 2026)

Faculty

773 Full-time faculty | **142** part-time faculty
915 total faculty | **15** Endowed Faculty positions

PARTNERSHIPS AND STATEWIDE IMPACT

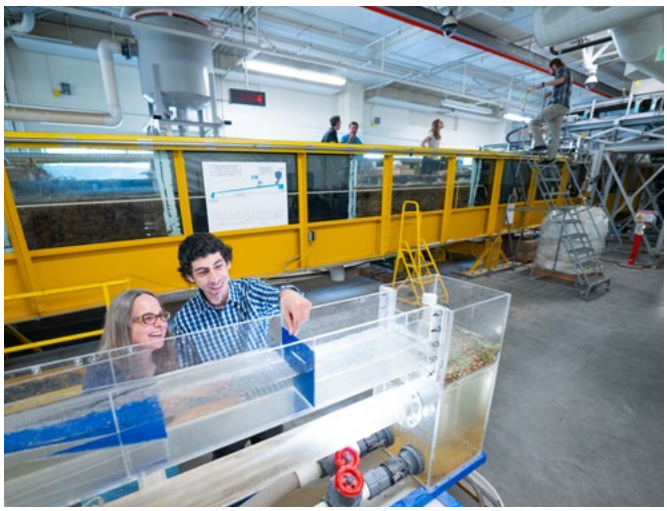


University of Idaho's reach extends far beyond its residential campus in Moscow. As Idaho's land-grant university, U of I delivers education, research, Extension and public service throughout the state, connecting university expertise with the needs of communities, industries and employers. Regional centers in Boise, Coeur d'Alene and Idaho Falls, a statewide network of Extension offices and research facilities, and academic and professional programs delivered across Idaho bring the university's mission directly to the people it serves.

University of Idaho Boise

Located in Idaho's capital and largest metropolitan area, U of I Boise connects the university's teaching, research and outreach missions with state government, industry and communities throughout southwest Idaho. Its academic offerings include graduate and professional education, engineering, natural resources, education, architecture and interdisciplinary programs designed to serve working professionals and emerging workforce needs.

U of I Boise is also home to significant research and public service initiatives, including work in water resources, public policy, engineering and community development. Its location provides important opportunities for collaboration with government agencies, employers, other higher education institutions and community partners.







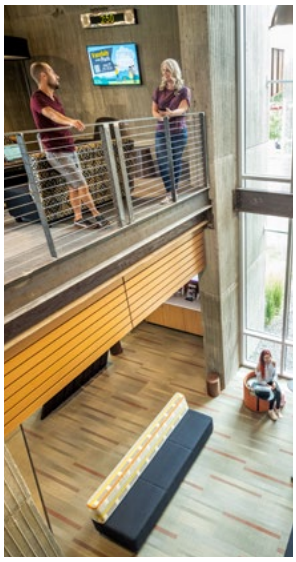


University of Idaho Coeur d'Alene

Serving North Idaho, U of I Coeur d'Alene expands access to bachelor's and graduate education through flexible in-person, hybrid and online programs. Partnerships with North Idaho College and other regional organizations create pathways for students to complete university degrees close to home while supporting regional workforce development.

The center is also a hub for innovation and applied research, including the Center for Intelligent Industrial Robotics, water resources research, advanced manufacturing and education. Its programs address regional needs and expand economic opportunity.







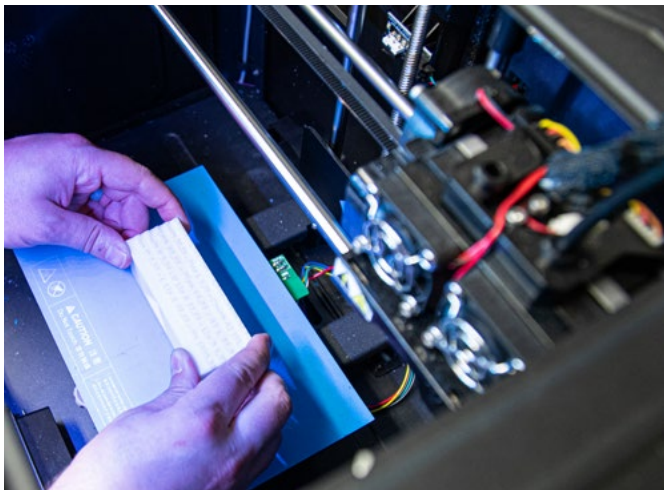


University of Idaho Idaho Falls

U of I Idaho Falls connects advanced education and research with eastern Idaho's growing energy, engineering and technology sectors. Located near Idaho National Laboratory, the center offers undergraduate and graduate programs in engineering, computer science, cybersecurity, education and other disciplines, with flexible opportunities for working professionals.

A Partnership with Idaho National Laboratory connects students and faculty with nationally significant research in energy, nuclear science and emerging technologies. The center also works collaboratively with Idaho State University to serve the educational and research needs of eastern Idaho.







University of Idaho Extension and Research Centers



University of Idaho Extension is among the most visible components of the university's land-grant mission. U of I Extension serves all 44 Idaho counties and three federally recognized tribal communities, bringing practical, research-based education and information directly to Idaho communities. Extension programs address agriculture, forestry and natural resources, water, horticulture, health and wellbeing, community development and youth education through 4-H. This work creates solutions that help Idaho's people, businesses and communities, solve problems, develop skills and build a better future.



The Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station (IAES) operates 10 research and Extension centers and 5 affiliate centers across the state, managing over 15,000 acres of land. Researchers are working on issues directly impacting Idaho producers, including potatoes, cereals, beef cattle, dairy, sugarbeets and hops. These efforts support Idaho's agricultural economy, which makes up 17% of the state's total economic output. Scientific discoveries at research and Extension centers are shared directly to Idaho communities through U of I Extension's statewide network, ensuring that practical applications are reaching those who need it most.



College of Law:
Serving Idaho from Moscow and Boise

The University of Idaho College of Law is home to Idaho's only Juris Doctor program, offering students the opportunity to complete their legal education in either Moscow or Boise. With more than a century of experience preparing legal professionals, the college combines rigorous academic preparation with practical training and a commitment to public service.

Its Boise location places students in Idaho's center of government, law and public policy, creating opportunities for experiential learning, professional engagement and partnerships with the legal community. Across both locations, students benefit from legal clinics, externships, pro bono service and areas of emphasis including business law, Native American law, and natural resources and environmental law.

The College of Law plays a distinctive statewide role in preparing attorneys, judges, public servants and business leaders while expanding access to legal services and contributing to Idaho's civic and economic life.







Idaho WWAMI and Complementary Programs

The University of Idaho contributes to preparing Idaho's healthcare workforce through Idaho WWAMI, a longstanding partnership with the University of Washington School of Medicine, and its School of Health and Medical Professions (SHAMP), established in 2024. WWAMI provides medical education and clinical training opportunities for Idaho students, including experiences in rural and underserved communities, while SHAMP supports graduate-level education in fields such as nursing, clinical psychology, athletic training, gerontology and anatomical sciences. Together with educational and clinical partners across the state, these programs contribute to addressing Idaho's healthcare workforce needs and improving access to care.







Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (Idaho CAFE)

The University of Idaho's Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (Idaho CAFE) represents a landmark investment in agricultural research, innovation and industry collaboration. Located in Minidoka County, in the heart of one of the nation's most productive dairy regions, Idaho CAFE advances research supporting Idaho's dairy industry, the state's leading agricultural commodity, and its position as the nation's third-largest dairy producer. The center features state-of-the-art dairy facilities, including classroom, maternity, research and commodity barns, and serves as a premier research hub focused on sustainable agricultural production, water-use efficiency, nutrient management and environmental stewardship.







McCall Field Campus

A beautiful location on the shores of Payette Lake is home to a unique master's degree in environmental education and communications. The master's students teach thousands of Idaho elementary school students at the McCall Outdoor Science School, during one-week educational retreats. This hands-on learning environment sparks interest in young scientists and showcases what it means to learn where you live.





ECONOMIC IMPACT

University of Idaho is responsible for generating directly and indirectly nearly $3 billion in output (sales), over $1.7 billion in added gross state product to the Idaho economy, as well as supporting 33,885 jobs annually. These economic outcomes include contributions of $162.1 million in state and local taxes.

University of Idaho's economic impacts on the economy can be quantified and understood most appropriately through the increases in gross state product (GSP) and sustained employment.

U of I Expenditure Impacts

- $500.4 million in GSP
- 9,766 Jobs

U of I Research Impacts

- $163.7 million in GSP
- 3,218 Jobs

Student Spending Impacts

- $174.5 million in GSP
- 2,914 Jobs

Visitor Impacts

- $61.1 million in GSP
- 1,500 Jobs

U of I Alumni Impacts

- $891.8 million in GSP
- 16,486 Jobs

Key Partnerships

University of Idaho maintains strong partnerships with Idaho's leading industries, connecting research, education and workforce development to the state's economic needs.

U of I also maintains important relationships with Idaho's tribal nations through education, research, Extension, natural resource stewardship and community partnerships. These longstanding relationships support the university's land-grant mission while creating opportunities for collaboration, learning and service across the state.





ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

University of Idaho offers comprehensive undergraduate, graduate and professional education across ten colleges, complemented by the independent School of Health and Medical Professions. As Idaho's land-grant research university, U of I combines the personalized experience of a residential campus with the breadth of a Carnegie R1 research institution.

Facts and Figures

College	Academic Focus	Students
Agricultural and Life Sciences	42 academic programs in agriculture, food systems, natural resources, health and Extension	943
Art and Architecture	10 academic programs in architecture, design, arts, landscape architecture	613
Business and Economics	14 academic programs in business, management, accounting, entrepreneurship	1,299
Education, Health and Human Sciences	21 academic programs in education, health, recreation and human services	994
Engineering	47 academic programs in energy, cybersecurity, robotics, computing and industry research	1,657
Graduate Studies	More than 130 graduate degree programs including advanced degrees, doctoral study and interdisciplinary scholarship	
Law	Juris Doctor program in Moscow and Boise	553
Letters, Arts and Social Sciences	67 academic programs in humanities, social sciences, communication, arts	2,299
Natural Resources	20 academic programs in forests, wildfire, range, wildlife and stewardship	995
Science	39 academic programs in physical, biological, mathematical and earth sciences	821
School of Health and Medical Professions (SHAMP)	5 academic programs	76

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

As Idaho's Carnegie R1 research university, University of Idaho is a leader in discovery, innovation and applied research that serves communities, industries and economies throughout the state and nation. U of I's comprehensive research enterprise spans a full range of sciences, engineering, humanities, and social science topics with particular focus in agriculture and food systems, forestry and wildfire, water and natural resources, energy, data science, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, health and biomedical sciences. Through partnerships with federal agencies, national laboratories, industry and other universities, researchers are addressing complex challenges while creating meaningful opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to participate in discovery.

The university's research enterprise continues to demonstrate significant strength. In fiscal year 2025, U of I reported $151.5 million in research expenditures and secured $111 million in new sponsored awards. Its Carnegie R1 classification recognizes the scale of its research activity and doctoral education, while its statewide land-grant mission connects research to the practical needs of Idaho's communities.



Selected Major Research Grants and Initiatives

Innovative Agriculture and Marketing Partnership — $59 million, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The largest grant in U of I history supports agricultural producers in adopting innovative practices and marketing approaches. The initiative demonstrates the university's capacity to coordinate a major statewide agricultural partnership.

Deep Soil Ecotron — $18.9 million, National Science Foundation (NSF). This award supports the development of a first-of-its-kind research facility that enables scientists to study soil ecosystems at depths of up to 10 feet. The facility advances research in soil health, carbon sequestration, climate resilience and sustainable agriculture, positioning U of I as a national leader in soil ecosystem research.

Center of Biomedical Research (COBRE) in Nutrition and Women's Health — $11.2 million, National Institutes of Health (NIH). This award supports capacity building in the area of women's nutrition and health, including the build out of the new Nutrition Analytics Core Laboratory (NACL) allowing for the study of lifespan nutrition, bioactive, obesity, fertility, eating disorders, chronic disease and mental health.

Artificial Intelligence for Research Administration — $4.5 million, NSF. Through the NSF GRANTED program, U of I is developing generative AI tools to streamline research administration and reduce administrative burdens. Building on the university's Vandalizer platform, a homegrown AI tool, the initiative aims to improve institutional efficiency and share innovations with other universities nationwide.

Wildland Fire Research and Graduate Education — $1.4 million, NSF. This award supports doctoral researchers studying wildfire behavior, mitigation, forest regeneration and community resilience, connecting advanced research training with challenges facing Idaho and the West.

OneMineralogy Research Initiative — $1.25 million, NSF. In partnership with Rutgers University and Carnegie Mellon Science, U of I researchers are developing an intelligent open-data platform to accelerate mineral science, expand research capabilities and support innovation relevant to Idaho's mining and technology sectors.





VANDAL ATHLETICS

Vandal Athletics unites students, alumni, donors and communities through a shared commitment to excellence, competition and Vandal pride. As an NCAA Division I member of the Big Sky Conference, University of Idaho continues to build on a tradition of success both athletically and academically, recently earning its first-ever Big Sky Presidents' Cup recognizing overall academic and athletic excellence. The department's nationally distinctive facilities help define the Vandal experience, including the award-winning ICCU Arena and the iconic P1FCU Kibbie Dome, a uniquely recognizable indoor stadium that has been at the heart of Idaho athletics for nearly five decades. These venues support championship-caliber competition, enrich the student experience and create gathering places that strengthen connections across the university and the state.

Vandal Athletics at a Glance

ATHLETES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Student athlete	324
Varsity Sports	16
Student athlete GPA	3.49
Recent championships and achievements	▪ Big Sky President's Cup Winners (2024-25) ▪ 24 straight semesters of overall GPA of 3.0 or higher ▪ Football postseason appearances (2022, 23, 24) ▪ Men's Basketball Big Sky Tournament Champions & NCAA appearance (2026) ▪ Women's Basketball Big Sky Regular Season Champions, Tournament Champions & NCAA appearance (2026) ▪ Women's Soccer Big Sky Tournament Championship & NCAA Appearance (2023) ▪ Men's Tennis Big Sky Tournament Champions & NCAA Appearances (2022 & 2023).







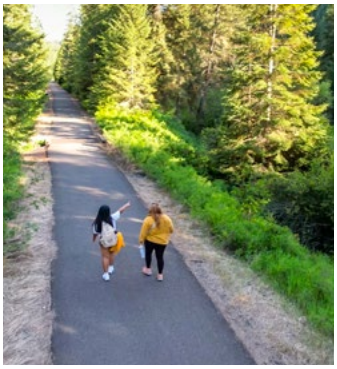
ABOUT MOSCOW

Nestled in the rolling hills of northern Idaho's Palouse region, Moscow (pronounced MOSS-koh, not MOSS-kow) sits in the rolling Palouse of northern Idaho. The city offers a lively downtown, thriving arts and music scene, year-round outdoor recreation and deep Vandal traditions contribute to an exceptional quality of life. Just eight miles away, Washington State University in Pullman provides opportunities for collaboration between two neighboring land-grant research universities.

Moscow consistently earns national recognition as one of the most desirable places to live. Ranked the **No. 1 Best City to Live in Idaho** by ChamberofCommerce.org, it also places in the **top 10% nationwide for livability** and No. 2 in Idaho by AreaVibes. The city has been named among Livability's **Top 100 Best Places to Live** and earned an overall **A rating** in Niche's 2026 Best Places to Live rankings. With 26,721 residents in Moscow and 41,842 in Latah County as of July 2025, the community offers an appealing balance of small-town accessibility and university-town amenities.










ABOUT IDAHO

From the jagged peaks at its center to the rolling hills and lakes of the panhandle and the rich farmland of the Snake River Plain, Idaho is a land of striking contrasts. Mt. Borah rises to a dramatic 12,662 feet, while the Port of Lewiston – at just 738 feet above sea level is the most inland seaport on the West Coast. Idaho is home to sand dunes, lava fields and the aromatic sagebrush steppe. Eastern Idaho is a gateway to Yellowstone Teton Territory, which includes some of the most stunning landscapes in the world.

Each year, more than 20 million visitors come to experience Idaho's unspoiled beauty, including 3,500 miles of rivers – more than any other state in the Lower 48. Nearly two-thirds of Idaho is public land, offering vast spaces to explore and experience quiet solitude – even in one of the fastest-growing states in the union.

Key industries include agriculture, food processing, technology, mining, and tourism. As of 2024, the state had a population of just over 2 million people. **VisitIdaho.org**







POSITION SUMMARY AND LEADERSHIP AGENDA

The president reports to the Idaho State Board of Education, serving as the Board of Regents of the University of Idaho, and is the university's chief executive officer. As Idaho's land-grant university and its first and only Carnegie R1 research university, U of I requires a bold, visionary leader who will advance its distinctive mission of teaching, research and Extension while strengthening its contributions to the state and positioning the university for continued success.

The next president must connect authentically with Idaho's broad and independent communities, from rural and agricultural regions to tribal nations and growing population centers. The president will build strong relationships across the state, serving as both an educational leader and a trusted voice in conversations about Idaho's future. The president must also bring a systemwide perspective to institutional leadership, working collaboratively with Idaho's other public institutions, respecting their distinct missions and statewide responsibilities, and advancing shared solutions that make effective use of limited public resources. Success will require a commitment to the university's statewide responsibilities, productive collaboration with Idaho's other educational institutions and an ability to translate the university's strengths into meaningful benefits for Idahoans.

The president oversees an administrative leadership team that includes:

- Provost and Executive Vice President
- Vice President for the Division of Finance and Administration
- Vice President for Research and Economic Development
- Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer
- Senior Director of Marketing and Creative Services and Co-Chief Marketing Officer
- Executive Director of Communications and Co-Chief Marketing Officer
- Executive Director Tribal Relations
- Director of Athletics
- Special Assistant to the President for Government Affairs
- Chief of Staff
- General Counsel
- Director McClure Center for Public Policy
- University Ombuds

Higher education faces significant shifts in enrollment, public funding, technology, research support and expectations for institutional performance. The next president must be an adaptable and resilient leader who can anticipate change, make thoughtful decisions and bring people together around a clear direction. Success will require balancing the university's longstanding traditions with the willingness to innovate, stewardship of public funds, measurable progress toward strategic goals and open communication with the board, campus community and stakeholders across Idaho.

Opportunities and Challenges

The University of Idaho enters its next chapter with significant momentum and substantial opportunities. As Idaho's land-grant and Carnegie R1 university, U of I requires a president who can build on its strengths while positioning the institution for long-term success in a rapidly changing higher education environment. The next president must demonstrate sound judgment, strategic discipline, financial acumen and the ability to build trust across diverse constituencies. Success will require setting clear priorities, navigating complex challenges, making difficult decisions and delivering measurable results while remaining grounded in the university's mission and statewide responsibilities.

Advance the Land-Grant Mission and Statewide Impact. The next president must embrace U of I's distinctive responsibility to serve Idaho through teaching, research and Extension. This requires more than maintaining existing programs and relationships. The president must articulate a compelling vision for how the university's expertise, educational offerings and statewide presence can respond to Idaho's evolving needs. Success will require visible engagement across the state, meaningful partnerships with rural, agricultural and tribal communities, and the ability to demonstrate the value of the land-grant mission to Idahoans.

Build Trust, Relationships and Public Confidence. The next president must be an effective relationship builder and trusted public leader who can engage constructively across differing perspectives and interests. Success will require strong relationships with the Idaho State Board of Education, Governor, Legislature, alumni, donors, employers and communities throughout Idaho. The president must communicate the university's value clearly, navigate complex political and public policy environments, and demonstrate transparency, sound judgment and accountability. As a leader within Idaho's unified public higher education system, the president must bring a systemwide perspective, recognizing that institutional success and the effective stewardship of limited state resources require collaboration, coordination and respect for the distinct missions of other institutions. An equally important responsibility will be cultivating philanthropic support and external investment that advance the university's strategic priorities.

Deliver Student Success and Distinctive Educational Experience. The next president must build on U of I's reputation for a high-quality, personalized residential experience while ensuring students are prepared for success beyond graduation. This includes continuing to improve recruitment, retention, completion, affordability and post-graduation outcomes while expanding access for transfer students, graduate students, working adults and lifelong learners. The president must advance the university's commitment to experiential learning, ensuring students have meaningful opportunities to apply their education through research, internships, industry partnerships and other hands-on experiences. Success will require measurable improvements in student outcomes and a willingness to adapt educational approaches to changing student needs.

Demonstrate Financial Acumen and Strategic Resource Management. The next president must have the experience and judgment to lead a complex institution through increasing financial pressures, changing enrollment patterns and uncertainty in public and federal funding. The president must establish clear priorities, make disciplined resource allocation decisions, diversify revenues and align

investments with the university's core mission and long-term objectives. This includes evaluating existing programs and operations, managing institutional risks, protecting affordability and ensuring transparent reporting and accountability. Financial stewardship must extend beyond balancing annual budgets to building a resilient institution capable of sustaining academic excellence, research and statewide service.

Sustain R1 Excellence and Advance Research That Benefits Idaho. Having achieved Carnegie R1 classification, U of I must now sustain and leverage its position as a leading research university. The next president must articulate clear priorities and a financially sustainable vision for research, strengthen faculty and graduate research capacity, and expand competitive funding and strategic partnerships. Success will require navigating changes in federal research support, making thoughtful investments in research infrastructure and demonstrating how fundamental and applied research contribute to innovation, economic opportunity and improvements in quality of life. The president must ensure that R1 status translates into lasting benefits for Idaho students, industry, communities and the state.

Lead Innovation and Institutional Transformation. The next president must build on U of I's growing work in artificial intelligence and emerging technologies to improve educational outcomes, research capacity and institutional effectiveness. The university's AI-powered research administration initiative, supported by a $4.5 million National Science Foundation grant, illustrates the potential to reduce administrative burdens, improve efficiency and develop solutions with applications beyond Idaho. The president must advance the responsible integration of AI into teaching, research and operations while translating the university's 2026–2030 Strategic Plan into clear priorities, disciplined investments and measurable results. Success will require a willingness to rethink established practices, support innovation across the institution and ensure that technological advances produce meaningful benefits for students, faculty, staff and the state.

Advance Idaho's Workforce Through Strategic Partnerships. The next president must strengthen U of I's contributions to Idaho's economic development and workforce needs by building innovative educational pathways and partnerships with employers, community colleges, universities and other organizations. Opportunities include expanding industry-connected programs, applied research, and collaborative initiatives in high-demand fields, including medical education through WWAMI and other partnerships. As part of Idaho's unified public higher education system, the president must demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the distinctive missions, roles and statewide responsibilities of other institutions. Success will require identifying opportunities for collaboration, avoiding unnecessary duplication and pursuing approaches that advance educational quality, cost-effectiveness and long-term sustainability.

Application and Nomination Process

The Idaho State Board of Education is conducting this search with assistance from an executive search firm. The board will make the appointment consistent with applicable Idaho law and its governing responsibilities.

MILESTONE	TIMING
Search announced	November 6, 2026
Priority review of applications	January 12, 2027
Anticipated presidential appointment	Spring 2027
Anticipated start date	July 1, 2027

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

The Idaho State Board of Education has retained the services of Dr. Josh Ward at the executive search firm Korn Ferry. Nominations can be sent directly to Dr. Ward at the e-mail address below. Applicants should submit the following two documents (as two separate PDFs):

1. An up-to-date and detailed curriculum vitae.
2. A brief (2-4 pages) letter of interest describing why you are interested in becoming the next President of the University of Idaho, why you would be successful based on your professional and/or lived experience, and why now is a good time for you to consider this opportunity.

For priority consideration, please submit all application materials by Tuesday, January 12, 2027. The two documents (as separate PDFs) should be sent directly to:

Josh Ward, Ph.D.
Senior Client Partner

Higher Education and Academic Medicine
Korn Ferry

(405) 640-3994
Josh.Ward@KornFerry.com


University of Idaho