

NEWS RELEASE

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Idaho Career Connect Can Give Employers an Edge in Hiring

As Idaho's economy begins its slow climb out of the recession, the competition among employers for quality workers will intensify, and the Idaho Department of Labor has a tool that can help businesses do just that.

Idaho Career Connect is a free web-based tool that allows businesses to outline their role not only in the economy but their communities along with their philosophies and their goals to the tens of thousands of people looking for new or better jobs including high school and college students, especially graduating seniors.

With Idaho Career Connect businesses can post profiles that describe their operations, specify their core occupations, discuss the skills and education they want in employees and what employees can expect in return and provide direct Internet links to their websites.

"Idaho Career Connect gives employers a chance to put the spotlight on their businesses that can give them an edge in attracting the best and brightest talents Idaho has to offer," Department of Labor Regional Business Specialist Ricia Lasso said. "These profiles are available to over 120,000 high school students, more than 80,000 college and other post-secondary students and tens of thousands of job seekers."

Students and others can access the profiles through the Idaho Career Information System, the only comprehensive source of Idaho specific information on a broad array of topics including jobs, career requirements and post secondary schools. It contains the most current information on other sources of education or training needed to qualify for specific jobs, financial assistance and scholarships.

In addition to posting profiles, businesses can use Idaho Career Connect to link people on their payrolls with educators who are seeking volunteers to discuss specific businesses and business in general with their students.

"Through this voluntary program business professionals have the opportunity not only to be guest speakers before student groups but also to participate in career fairs, provide company tours, mentor student interns and host job shadows," Lasso said.

Employers can access Idaho Career Connect at <http://idahocareerconnect.org/Login/login.asp>. It just takes a matter of minutes to complete a profile.

For interested employers in northern Idaho, free workshops on Idaho Career Connect are scheduled for June 27 at noon at the Post Falls Chamber of Commerce office, 201 East 4th Ave., and July 19 at 7:30 a.m. at Red Lion's Templin's Resort, 414 East First Ave. in Post Falls.

Registration for the sessions is online at <http://www.postfallschamber.com/>.

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