



IDAHO ADVANCED ENERGY CONSORTIUM

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February 24, 2026

The Honorable Mike Simpson

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: Support for CWI's FY26 Community Project Funding Request – Boise Center Development

Dear Representative Simpson,

On behalf of the Idaho Advanced Energy Consortium (IAEC), I am writing to express our strong support for the College of Western Idaho's request for \$1,894,130 in FY26 Community Project Funding to replace and upgrade critical technology for its proposed Boise Campus. CWI is instrumental in Idaho's workforce pipeline.

CWI's new Boise Center, slated to open in Fall 2027, will serve as a state-of-the-art educational hub housing seven degree programs in Computer Science and Information Technology—including Cybersecurity, AI and Cloud Computing, Networking, and Software Development. Once complete, these programs will relocate from their current home at the Blackeagle Business Park to a more strategically aligned location near Boise's downtown tech corridor.

The IAEC recognizes this project as a timely and strategic investment in Idaho's future workforce. As digital transformation continues to reshape industries across our state, the Boise Center is positioned to help bridge the growing gap between employer demand and available talent, strengthening both our regional economy and our long-term competitiveness.

We strongly encourage your support for this funding request. The Boise Center's reach will extend well beyond the classroom, equipping students with the skills today's high-demand fields require and giving Idaho businesses the workforce foundation they need to grow and thrive.

Christi Gilchrist
Executive Director



Idaho Technology Council

877 W Main St, Ste 503

Boise, ID 83702

April 10, 2025

The Honorable Mike Simpson

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: Support for CWI's FY26 Community Project Funding Request – Boise Center Development

Dear Representative Simpson,

On behalf of the Idaho Technology Council, I am writing to express our strong support for the College of Western Idaho's request for \$1,894,130 in FY26 Community Project Funding to replace and upgrade critical technology for its proposed Boise Campus. As a long-standing partner of CWI, the Council recognizes this initiative as a pivotal investment in Idaho's technology ecosystem and workforce pipeline.

CWI's new Boise Center, slated to open in Fall 2027, will serve as a state-of-the-art educational hub housing seven degree programs in Computer Science and Information Technology—including Cybersecurity, AI and Cloud Computing, Networking, and Software Development. Once complete, these programs will relocate from their current home at the Blackeagle Business Park to a more strategically aligned location near Boise's downtown tech corridor.

This move places future technology professionals within arm's reach of many of Idaho's most innovative companies and startups, strengthening the talent pipeline between education and industry. Additionally, the facility's secure operations center (SOC) and cyber defense center (CDC) will address both educational and regional cybersecurity readiness needs—benefitting students, local employers, and the broader community.

The Idaho Technology Council sees this project as a forward-thinking response to Idaho's growing need for highly skilled tech professionals. With our state's ongoing digital transformation, we believe the Boise Center will play a critical role in closing the workforce gap, fostering innovation, and supporting economic growth in the Treasure Valley and beyond.

We respectfully urge your support for this important funding request. The impact of the Boise Center will be felt far and wide, preparing students for high-demand fields and empowering Idaho's businesses with the skilled workforce they need to succeed.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to advancing education and innovation in Idaho.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chad Kavan', written in a cursive style.

President and CEO



Idaho Career Technical Education Foundation

February 16, 2026

Representative Mike Simpson
U.S. House of Representatives
2084 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. Simpson,

On behalf of the Idaho Career Technical Education Foundation (ICTEF), I am pleased to offer our strong support for the College of Western Idaho's (CWI) River District capital project and its FY26 Congressionally Directed Funding request.

ICTEF has long valued its partnership with CWI in advancing high-quality Career Technical Education (CTE) opportunities across Idaho. As a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening CTE programs and expanding access to postsecondary training, we work closely with institutions like CWI to ensure students are equipped with the skills, credentials, and support necessary to succeed in high-demand career fields.

Through our competitive scholarship programs, ICTEF provides financial assistance to students enrolled in postsecondary CTE fields of study, including programs in information technology, advanced manufacturing, health professions, and other workforce-aligned disciplines offered at CWI. These scholarships reduce financial barriers and enable more Idaho students to complete certificates and degrees that directly meet employer needs. CWI's strong CTE programming and commitment to hands-on, career-focused education make it a vital partner in this work.

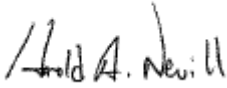
The River District project represents a significant investment in the future of career technical education in the Treasure Valley. This modern academic center will enhance student learning, strengthen employer partnerships, and help ensure Idaho's workforce remains competitive and responsive to evolving industry demands.

CWI's request for \$2.16 million in federal support toward the total \$42 million project cost will help accelerate completion of this important regional asset. The investment will directly support high-quality CTE instruction and improve access to state-of-the-art training environments for Idaho students pursuing in-demand technical careers.

Idaho CTE Foundation, P.O. Box 2324, Boise, Idaho 83701-2324

ICTEF is proud to support CWI's River District project and respectfully urges your full consideration of its FY26 Congressionally Directed Funding request. We appreciate your commitment to strengthening education and workforce development across Idaho.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harold A. Nevill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'H'.

Harold Nevill, Ph.D.
President, Idaho CTE Foundation

February 20, 2026

Representative Mike Simpson
U.S. House of Representative
2084 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. Simpson,

On behalf of the Idaho Division of Career Technical Education (IDCTE), I am writing to express our strong support for the College of Western Idaho's (CWI) River District Project—an important investment that will significantly strengthen Idaho's Career Technical Education (CTE) system and expand the state's technology workforce pipeline.

High-quality CTE depends on strong alignment between secondary and postsecondary programs of study. Across Idaho, K-12 CTE pathways in computer science, networking, and information technology introduce students to foundational technical skills and industry-recognized credentials. To ensure successful transitions and continued credential attainment, students must have access to modern, industry-aligned postsecondary programs that build on those foundations.

The River District Project directly supports this alignment by establishing a permanent, state-of-the-art academic center for seven high-demand Computer Science and Information Technology (CSIT) programs. The new 100,000-square-foot facility will include advanced instructional labs, collaborative learning environments, and technology-rich classrooms designed to mirror real-world IT and cybersecurity settings. This purpose-built facility will strengthen dual credit and technical credit opportunities, support stackable credentials, and create clear, seamless pathways from secondary CTE programs into postsecondary certificates and degrees.

As the state agency responsible for administering the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), IDCTE recognizes this project as a meaningful enhancement to Perkins-funded programs of study. The River District facility will expand capacity, modernize equipment and instructional infrastructure, and improve access to high-quality postsecondary CTE programming in cybersecurity, networking, software development, and IT support. These enhancements directly support Perkins V priorities, including program quality, alignment with workforce needs, expanded access and equity, and increased attainment of recognized postsecondary credentials.

CWI's longstanding cybersecurity programming and its designation as a U.S. Department of Defense Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense further demonstrate its leadership within Idaho's CTE ecosystem. By investing in updated datacenter infrastructure, classroom computing systems, and interactive instructional technologies, the River District will ensure that Perkins-supported programs remain current, rigorous, and responsive to industry standards.

IDCTE strongly supports CWI's FY2027 appropriations request of \$2.16M to equip the River District education and training center with essential instructional technologies and infrastructure. These investments will enhance the effectiveness of Perkins-funded programs, strengthen statewide programs of study in Computer Science and Information Technology, and reinforce Idaho's coordinated K-12 to postsecondary workforce pipeline.

For these reasons, the River District Project aligns squarely with Idaho's statewide CTE priorities. We respectfully urge your favorable consideration of this important initiative.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to Career Technical Education in Idaho.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AS Miguel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "S" that are connected.

Adrian San Miguel
Assistant Administrator, Programs
Idaho Division of Career Technical Education