

MEMO

Date: Aug. 26, 2020

To: Technical college deans, Workforce Training Network, CTE staff, fire community, College of Eastern Idaho, Office of the State Board of Education

From: Clay Long, Ph.D., State Administrator 

Subject: Fire Service Training (FST) Administration Relocation

The Idaho Division of Career Technical Education (IDCTE) has undergone significant restructuring over the past nine months to provide better support and services for our diverse stakeholders. While much of the reorganization was made possible by the Legislature providing a new position to focus on Professional Development during the 2020 Legislative Session, the changes will allow IDCTE to meet the needs of the vast number of services provided throughout the state.

The College of Eastern Idaho (CEI, formerly Eastern Idaho Technical College) had administered Fire Service Training (FST) since January 2014, when it was transferred to the technical college system to gain efficiencies.

We intend to bring FTS back to the IDCTE to provide a statewide framework system that allows institutions to meet the needs of their region and industry starting in July 2021. FST will use IDCTE's existing SkillStack® system for student record management, and institutions will have the flexibility to deliver needed training to their region. FST will continue to provide training and services for regions without fire training programs at their technical colleges.

FST will be housed within the Federal and Related Programs unit supervised by James Barrett-Spencer. This unit is part of the Program Services team.

Over the past several months, IDCTE has had many conversations with a variety of stakeholders, including CEI, the College of Southern Idaho, the Technical College Leadership Council, the Idaho Fire Chiefs Association, and the State Board of Education. In each conversation, we have committed to ensuring this transition is transparent, collaborative, and provides a sustainable FST system for Idaho.

We have a lot of work ahead of us during this transition to ensure Idaho's FST provides a statewide system that allows institutions to function and operate to meet the needs of their region and industry.

Amy Lorenzo, IDCTE's Director of Policy and Organizational Planning, is assigned as the transition manager. She will foster ongoing collaboration with stakeholders to ensure we accomplish our goal and vision.

Please look for future communication and a kick-off meeting for this project. I appreciate your commitment and support, now and in the future. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.