

First Steps Standards Professional Development Course Overview

Welcome to Career Technical Education (CTE)! In accordance with [33-1614, Idaho Code](#), this board-approved professional development course prepares Idaho teachers to deliver the First Steps Standards in required career exploration courses for seventh or eighth grade students.

The First Steps Standards Professional Development Course is a 15-hour, three-week course with three sequential modules delivered online through Canvas.

Choose a cohort and [register now!](#) Registration closes at noon (MT) the Friday prior to the start date of each cohort. If you are registering someone other than yourself, please share this document with them!

COHORT	START DATE	REQUIRED ZOOM MEETINGS*	END DATE
41	August 25, 2025	August 26 & September 9, 5:00-6:00 pm	September 14, 2025
42	November 3, 2025	November 4 & November 18, 5:00-6:00 pm	November 23, 2025
43	February 2, 2026	February 3 & February 17, 5:00-6:00 pm	February 22, 2026
44	May 18, 2026	May 19 & June 2 5:00-6:00 pm	June 7, 2026

*All times are MT

Course Outline

Week 1: Module 1 Foundations of CTE

- **Tuesday, 5:00-6:00 pm (MT) – Required Zoom Meeting**
 - Course Overview
 - CTE in Idaho
 - Next Steps Idaho's Curriculum Resources
- **Due Thursday by 11:59 pm (MT) - Module 1 Discussion post**
- **Due Sunday by 11:59 pm (MT) – Participants respond to two discussion posts**
- **Due by Sunday at 11:59 pm (MT) – Capstone Project Part 1: Participants create and upload a contact list of CTE and career development partners.**
- **Due Sunday at 11:59 pm (MT) – Module 1 Reflection**

Week 2: Module 2 Foundations of Career Development

- Lesson 2.1 Overview of Career Development Theories
Presentation & Five Question Quiz
- Lesson 2.2 Idaho's Career Development Initiatives
Presentation & Five Question Quiz

- Lesson 2.3 District Career Development Plan Presentation & Five Question Quiz
- Lesson 2.4 Messaging CTE with Students and Parents/Guardians Presentation & Five Question Quiz
 - **Due Thursday by 11:59 pm (MT)** – Capstone Project Part 2: Participants create an original lesson plan based on standards in an assigned domain and upload it to a Discussion Board.
 - **Due Sunday by 11:59 pm (MT)** - Participants provide feedback on two lesson plans
 - **Due by Sunday at 11:59 pm (MT)** - Module 2 Reflection

Week 3: Module 3 Teaching the First Steps Standards

- **Tuesday, 5:00-6:00 pm (MT) – Required Zoom Meeting**
 - Instructional Resources
 - Career Pathway Plan
 - Delivery Methods
- **Due Thursday by 11:59 pm (MT)** - Module 1 Discussion post
- **Due Sunday by 11:59 pm (MT)** – Participants respond to two discussion posts
- **Due by Sunday at 11:59 pm (MT)** – Capstone Project Part 3: Participants review the feedback received, revise lesson plan as needed, and submit a final version.
- **Due by Sunday at 11:59 pm (MT)** – Module 3 Reflection

Allowances

Educators assigned to teach the career exploration course who qualify for one of the allowances below must register for the First Steps Professional Development Course, but will receive SkillStack® badge(s) accordingly upon validation:

1. Served in the First Steps Pilot Group
2. Served on the First Steps for Next Steps Idaho Project
3. Taught 8th Grade Career Exploration for IDLA between Fall 2020-May 2023
4. Upload clear evidence of prior learning, **per module**, in 'Optional: Allowance 4 Evidence Submissions' under Module 1 by **Wednesday at 11:59 pm (MT) of Week 1**. The evidence required is:
 - **Module 1** – Unofficial transcript of completion of Foundations of CTE course
 - **Module 2** – Two pieces:
 - Unofficial transcript or certificate of completion of non-credit bearing Career Guidance/Development course
 - **AND** certificate of completion of professional development related to implicit bias
 - **Module 3** – Two pieces:
 - 21-22 or 22-23 course syllabus identifying the instruction of each of the First Steps Standards
 - **AND** submission of Parts 1 and 2 of the Capstone Project, as required

Documentation of Completion through SkillStack®

Progress toward and course completion is documented through Idaho's microcredential platform, [SkillStack®](#). Sub-badges are awarded upon completion of each module and stack to a First Steps badge upon completion of the course. Participants will have access to their badges through SkillStack®.

Optional Professional Development Credit

One credit is available through the University of Idaho for \$60.00. One additional credit is available for submission of a reflective essay following the course for an additional \$60.00. More information will be shared in the course.