



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SOUTHERN IDAHO EMPLOYERS INVITED TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

The event will educate local employers about apprenticeship programs available through the College of Southern Idaho's Workforce Development and Training Center

TWIN FALLS, ID – November 7, 2018 – The College of Southern Idaho's Workforce Development and Training (CSI) program will commemorate [National Apprenticeship Week](#) on Wednesday, November 14. In collaboration with Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization (SIEDO), the event will educate local employers about the benefits of apprenticeship programs in preparing a highly-skilled workforce, how to get involved and the resources CSI has to offer.

"With record-low unemployment rates creating historic talent gaps for local industry, we are partnering with employers in our region to deploy apprenticeship programs where employees LEARN while they EARN," said Brandi Turnipseed, Executive Director of CSI's Workforce Development & Training program. "This model has proven to grow local talent and fill industry needs by merging related classroom training and work experience in one cohesive strategy that benefits both the employee and employer."

The event will be held Wednesday, November 14 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Applied Technology and Innovation Center on the CSI campus. Employers who attend the event will:

- Tour the Workforce Development & Training program training facilities and meet with program instructors
- Hear success stories from local industry sponsors currently participating in the program
- Have a chance to meet with John Russ from the Idaho Department of Labor, who will discuss the importance of apprenticeship programs in creating a steady pipeline of job-ready employees
- Learn how to become a registered apprenticeship sponsor

The CSI Workforce Development and Training Center currently serves over 100 employers in the Magic Valley and offers apprenticeship programs in electrical, plumbing, maintenance, HVAC and machine operation.

“Apprenticeship programs are crucial to building a strong and successful workforce for years to come,” said Connie Stopher, SIEDO Executive Director. “It’s an honor to collaborate with CSI to assist local employers in getting the most out of the resources available to them and raise awareness about the valuable partners we have here in Southern Idaho.”

National Apprenticeship Week is a national celebration that offers leaders in business, labor, education, and other critical partners a chance to demonstrate their support for apprenticeship. The week-long event highlights the benefits of apprenticeships in preparing a highly-skilled workforce to meet the talent needs of employers across diverse industries.

If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please contact Katrina Oksten by phone at (208) 732-6382 or email KAOksten@csi.edu.

For more information about the event, please visit: <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/naw/>

Find out more about the College of Southern Idaho’s Workforce Development and Training program [online here](#).

To learn more about SIEDO and/or the Southern Idaho region, please visit us online at southernidaho.org.

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About Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization

Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization (SIEDO) is a joint venture of public and private sectors in the communities of Buhl, Burley, Filer, Glens Ferry, Gooding, Heyburn, Jerome, Lincoln County, Paul, Rupert, Shoshone, Twin Falls, and Wendell formed to help diversify and strengthen the local economy by retaining and attracting business to the Southern Idaho region. SIEDO works closely with each of these communities to promote economic development through expansion of existing business and to implement a focused consistent program to attract new businesses to the region. For more information about SIEDO and/or the Southern Idaho region, please visit southernidaho.org.