



CEI Sees Continued Growth at Start of 2023

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho — As College of Eastern Idaho (CEI) wraps up the second week of the semester, CEI continues to buck the national trend of enrollment declines, instead announcing a 4.7 percent increase in credit student enrollment over spring 2022. 1,510 students are enrolled in credit seeking courses this spring, up from 1,442 this time last year. Notably, the College is likely to see an even higher increase in credit-seeking students as the semester continues due to the later registration period for early college students – high school students taking college courses – which aligns with their trimester system.

College-wide enrollment stood at 21,248 in fiscal year 2022 (fall 2021 – summer 2022), and CEI is on track to surpass this total in 2023. This total is comprised of students taking classes for credit (3,225) as well as classes for certifications and upgraded work skills through Workforce Training (17,494) and College and Career Readiness (529). And, with 90.8% of students rating their fall 2022 courses as “excellent” or “very good”, CEI’s growing student body is pleased with their choice of school.

As the region’s community college, CEI supports working adults. 56% of the College’s credit-seeking students are attending part-time this semester so they can improve their job potential while staying employed. In addition, CEI’s 97% positive placement rate for its Career and Technical Education graduates demonstrates that area employers agree with its approach to quality, in-demand, employer-driven education.

CEI President Dr. Rick Aman stated — *“I am thrilled with CEI’s continued growth and our ability to change generations of lives. We are honored to help more and more of our local community get a top-rate education while paying rent here, working here, and feeding our local economy in a million different ways.”*

For every \$1 students invest in tuition they receive \$4.20 in higher future earnings and overall, resulting in a 16.6% annual rate of return on their higher education investment.ⁱ Idaho taxpayers also enjoy these benefits with an annual return of 4.6% for every dollar spent on higher education.ⁱⁱ Importantly, local property taxpayers paid 38% less to support CEI in 2022 than they did in 2017, going from \$15.00/\$100,000 of assessed property value to \$9.31/\$100,000. CEI is proud to deliver high-quality education at a great value for students and the region alike.

ⁱ Idaho State Board of Education, January 2022, *Economic Value of Idaho Public Colleges and Universities*, <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/resources/the-economic-value-of-idaho-public-colleges-and-universities-fact-sheet/>.

ⁱⁱ Ibid.