

# Education Discussion Forum

## Meeting Notes, Apr 16



Find/register for upcoming forums via the Next Steps Idaho calendar.

### 12 IACRAO Panelists

Enrollment experts from Idaho public and private higher-ed institutions gave updates on their newly adjusted admissions processes. While many deadlines and scholarship opportunities have been extended, all schools are planning on the Fall term starting in-person and on-campus in August. Next Steps Idaho will help to communicate if those expectations change as the pandemic, and the public response thereto, continues to evolve.

Download a PDF of each institution's presentation on the right side of the Next Steps Idaho archive.

-OR-

Watch a recording of each admissions presentation by selecting the "Source" link under the PDF presentation for institution.

*Special thanks to the Idaho Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (IACRAO) for their assistance in organizing this event!*

### Q&A Recap

The following are general questions that were not directly posed to any specific institution(s).

**IF A SCHOOL CHANGES TO A P/F GRADING SYSTEM FOR THIS LAST HIGH SCHOOL GRADING PERIOD, HOW WILL COLLEGES LOOK AT THAT? IF WE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL DO NOT FIGURE IT IN TO GPA, WILL THE COLLEGE DO THE SAME, SO IT NEITHER HURTS NOR HELPS A STUDENT GPA?**

**NIC:** North Idaho College is an open admissions institution. For that reason, we just need a transcript with a graduation date. We are excited to welcome your students.

**C of I:** At The College of Idaho, we are anticipating that some schools will move to pass/fail. This will not harm a student's standing or affect their scholarship. If a student was very close to bumping up to the next scholarship level, we encourage them to reach out to their admission counselor so that we can review their file on a case-by-case basis.

**ISU:** Idaho State will still be accepting pass/fail and, similarly to other institutions, it neither hurts nor helps a student's GPA. Students, of course, can reach out to their Admissions Advisor if this has directly impacted their opportunities. We want to be sure to be flexible, and can work with students to explore their options.

**CWI:** Correct, CWI is looking to hold students harmless.



## Q&A Recap (Continued)

WHAT IF A STUDENT NEEDS THAT LITTLE EXTRA BOOST IN GPA TO QUALIFY FOR A CERTAIN SCHOLARSHIP?

**U of I:** The University of Idaho will accept P/F grades and as you stated, those grades will neither hurt nor help their GPA. However, we will work with students individually if they feel that they P/F grading system limited their ability to increase their GPA.

**OSBE:** P/F and GPA is an ongoing topic of conversation, with all institutions, at the Office of the State Board of Education. Formal actions from State Board of Education may happen later in April.

HOW WILL FAFSA PRIORITY DEADLINES BE AFFECTED, IF AT ALL?

**NIC:** Most schools are addressing this in their presentation and you will be provided with the presentations tomorrow. I know - it's a lot to keep up with! NIC will be accepting applications for fall throughout the fall semester.

**U of I:** The University of Idaho will be providing full financial aid awards to students regardless of when they are able to get things in.

**C of I:** The College of Idaho awards full

financial aid packages regardless of when we receive their application and FAFSA.

**CWI:** CWI continues to accept FAFSA information.

ARE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS THAT HAVE BOTH GPA AND SAT SCORE REQUIREMENTS GOING TO CONTINUE TO BE THAT WAY FOR THE CLASS OF 2021, OR WILL SAT/ACT SCORE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS BE WAIVED DUE TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE STATEWIDE SCHOOL SAT DAY? THANKS!

**NIC:** Good question. I don't think your question has been answered yet because many haven't made decisions for the class of 2021. We're getting there!!

**BSU:** As of now, our scholarships (BSU) will still have the same GPA and test score requirements for fall 2021. I know College Board recently announced that they will offer a digital option for students to take the test SAT at home if the in-person tests continued to get canceled.

**C of I:** The College of Idaho will have a Test Optional route for all upcoming academic years. In lieu of ACT or SAT scores, students will have the option to submit writing samples. We will also review their academic GPA as part of this process.

**U of I:** The University of Idaho applies scholarships based on the students GPA...



## Q&A Recap (Continued)

**U of I (cont.):** ...through their junior year. As P/F information comes out, we are more than willing to work with students on an individual basis.

**CWI:** We don't use test scores, just GPA for scholarship consideration.

**BBC:** BBC uses GPA as the main bar for consideration in scholarship eligibility as well.

**BYU-I:** For BYU-Idaho, scholarship requirements will be the same. But, if this changes, counselors will be notified via email from their admissions rep.

**ISU:** At Idaho State, for Fall 2021 scholarship requirements including GPA and test scores will remain the same.

**IS THERE SOMETHING BEING DONE TO FACILITATE GETTING PAPERWORK TO THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICES? STUDENTS HAVE LESS ACCESS TO FAX MACHINES, PRINTERS AND SCANNERS. STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR FAFSA VERIFICATION HAVE THE MOST ISSUES. WILL ALL SCHOOLS BE ABLE TO USE THE ONLINE VERIFICATION PROCESS THAT BSU IS USING?**

**NIC:** We are working on it! For NIC right now, we are accepting the completed PDF with a picture of the student's signature. This eliminates the need to print and fax.

**CWI:** We have online verification, but I'm not sure if it is the same interface that one would see at Boise State.

**U of I:** Yes. The University of Idaho allows students to complete and send in all of their paperwork online. This includes online signatures, etc. There is no need for students to print anything off, scan it and send it back in. All of that can be done through their student portal (VandalWeb) in the Financial Aid tab.

**ISU:** For some verification forms at Idaho State there are electronic submission options, as well as an opportunity to upload sensitive documents to a private DropBox. Instructions for students can be found in Bengal Web.

**C of I:** For The College of Idaho, all verification forms can be filled out online and sent directly to the financial aid office, so there is no need to print or fax anything.

## Reaching Students | Ed Discussion Forum

The next Education Discussion Forum will host a panel of high school counselors and advisors from all across Idaho. Gather insights about current junior and senior students, as well as the best tools & methods to help them.

 Register for this Forum (at one of two times) via the Next Steps Idaho calendar.



## Q&A Recap (Continued)

**BBC:** For Boise Bible, the entire application process can be done online, even verification forms, save for international students. This changes on a case by case basis also.

**WHAT ABOUT THE PARENT'S TAX INFORMATION THAT MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE BEEN PROCESSED BY THE IRS? THE STUDENT REQUESTED IT BY MAIL, BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED ANYTHING YET.**

**NIC:** By the looks of the IRS website, tax transcripts are currently only available online. They may find it at [www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript](http://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript) I'll check on those who don't meet the guidelines to get a transcript online.

i. Late breaking info from our (NIC) FA Director: Direct students and parents back to the data retrieval tool in the FAFSA. This eliminates the need for the tax transcript. If students and parents are unable to do this, please call Cardinal Central at 208-769-3311 and we will help them troubleshoot.

**CWI:** Please contact Financial Aid staff at [financialaid@cw.edu](mailto:financialaid@cw.edu) or 208.562.300 for assistance at CWI.

**ARE ALL THE COLLEGES ASSUMING THEY MAY BE ONLINE ONLY FOR THE BEGINNING OF FALL TERM?**

**U of I:** I don't want to speak for everyone, but we recognize that is definitely a possibility. There are conversations happening everyday on campus, including contingency plans for this Fall. Should those decisions be made, we will communicating directly with students and their families as to how we can best support and transition our students/families.

**C of I:** The College of Idaho: Same as with University of Idaho, certainly a possibility.

**BBC:** Boise Bible College is in the same boat. we are planning on Fall semester moving forward on campus as usual, but are prepared to change if it is needed.

**SINCE YOU ARE EXTENDING DATES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS, WHEN WILL YOU LET STUDENTS KNOW ABOUT AWARDS? I HAVE SEVERAL STUDENTS WHO ARE MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT WHERE TO ATTEND BASED UPON SCHOLARSHIPS.**

**OSBE:** The Opportunity scholarship deadline is not extended. We anticipate being able to notify students next week.

**NIC:** NIC is in the process of awarding students now. Your students can expect to hear about scholarship awards at the beginning of May.



## Q&A Recap (Continued)

**U of I:** The University of Idaho is awarding students upon acceptance and having all relevant financial information (FAFSA). If students are not filing a FAFSA, any institutional aid will already be listed in the VandalWeb account. Missing docs/FAFSA information will not hinder a student seeing what they have received in academic or institutional aid.

**ISU:** Idaho State has been awarding our automatic scholarships (i.e. Resident Grid Scholarship, Step Ahead) to those students who qualified and completed their applications by the Feb 15 deadline. Students have until July 1 to accept these awards.

**LCSC:** LC State has already awarded our merit scholarships from our March 1 Priority Deadline. General scholarships will be mailed out next week and students have until May 8 to accept those scholarships offers.

## QUESTION ABOUT THE CLASS OF 2021; HOW WILL PASS/FAIL, AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS AFFECT THEM?

**U of I:** Regarding the Class of 2021, we will be using the cumulative GPA on the high school transcript, including any pass/fail grades to make admissions decisions. Any student with a cumulative GPA through their junior year of a 3.0 or higher will be admitted. If a student falls below that, and they feel that P/F has hindered their ability to increase their GPA, as of now we will work with them individually to provide the best decision we can. That being said, the SBOE will be meeting and communicating how we (colleges/universities) should be working with P/F grades. Any missing documents will not hinder a student from being awarded institutional aid, including academic scholarships.

**BSU:** For Fall 2020, Boise State University has awarded all automatic scholarships. However if a student is looking for an appeal if being affected by COVID 19, they can reach out to [scholarships@Boisestate.edu](mailto:scholarships@Boisestate.edu) For Fall 2021, we have not made a decision yet but are having active conversations regarding scholarships and how P/F effects or doesn't affect GPA.

Questions?

| Email: [info@NextSteps.Idaho.gov](mailto:info@NextSteps.Idaho.gov)



## Q&A Recap (Continued)

**WILL YOU BE LOOKING AT PROVIDING A SPREADSHEET TYPE FORMAT WHERE WE CAN REFER TO CONCERNING THE P/F AND WITHDRAWAL DEADLINES?**

**OSBE:** We will have an FAQ section coming on the Next Steps Idaho website that will address this for each institution.

\* \* \*

The following are institution-specific questions and answers.

**NIC WHEN ARE YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARDS COMING OUT?**

Our awards are being made on a rolling basis, but we are up to date. If your students submitted a FAFSA prior to April 10th and have listed NIC, they should have already been awarded or alerted that they have been selected for verification. Emails have been sent to Cardinal Mail. If you have a student with a specific issue, let's talk! 208-769-3311.

**WILL ANY COURSE TAKEN WITH THE P/F OPTION BE ASKED TO REDO THE CLASS AT BSU? IE., CHEM101, KINE140; ESPECIALLY IF A PRE-REQUISITE FOR ANOTHER COURSE?**

No, they will not have to re-take the course at Boise State.

**CWI, DOES THIS MEAN YOU WILL REOPEN THE SAME SCHOLARSHIP APP AS BEFORE?**

Yes, the window will open again June 1

**WHAT IS CWI DOING ABOUT MATH PLACEMENT TESTS? CAN THEY BE DONE ELECTRONICALLY FROM HOME?**

The Assessment Center is starting those this week. They will be online via a lock-down browser. We have a waiting list and are reaching out to them first.

**WILL THE CWI SCHOLARSHIPS STARTING JUNE 1 BE A DIFFERENT SET OF SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE FIRST GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION? IN ESSENCE, COULD A STUDENT APPLY FOR BOTH AND POTENTIALLY RECEIVE DIFFERENT SCHOLARSHIPS?**

The CARE information are grants that do not go through our scholarship process. We are finalizing those criteria. Regarding the scholarships, yes, a student could obtain scholarships from each pool.



### Survey Results & Analysis

This summary is provided by RISE TVEP.

Participants in four virtual meetings hosted by the Office of the Idaho State Board of Education outreach team were asked to respond to a four-question poll at the beginning of each meeting. Fifty-eight participants responded, providing a total of 164 discreet data points.

RISE is conducting EDF Instant Polls as part of an Idaho Workforce Development Council Outreach Grant project.

#### Q1: Choose your county.

Counties with the most respondents hailed from Ada, Bonneville, Canyon, Cassia, Kootenai, Twin Falls, Clearwater, Latah, and Nez Perce. 7 additional counties were tallied, however each demonstrated fewer respondents/area.

#### Q2: Affiliation

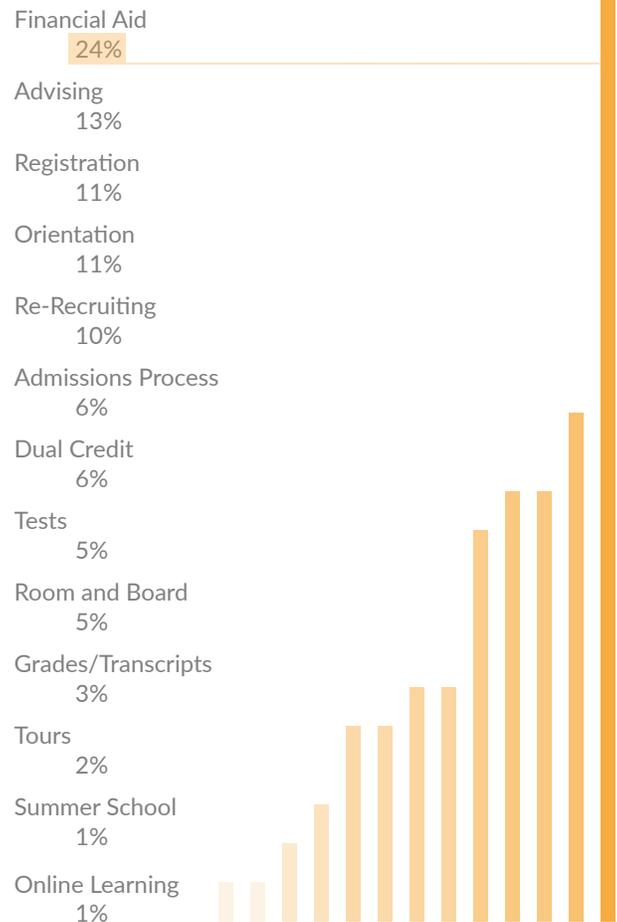
Secondary . . . . .	39
Postsecondary . . . . .	16
Other* . . . . .	2

\*Other: TRIO/Talent Search and Advanced Opps regional representative

### Survey Results & Analysis (Continued)

This summary is provided by RISE TVEP.

**Q3:** What services are most important for postsecondary institutions to provide right now and in the summer to help students accomplish their goals after high school?

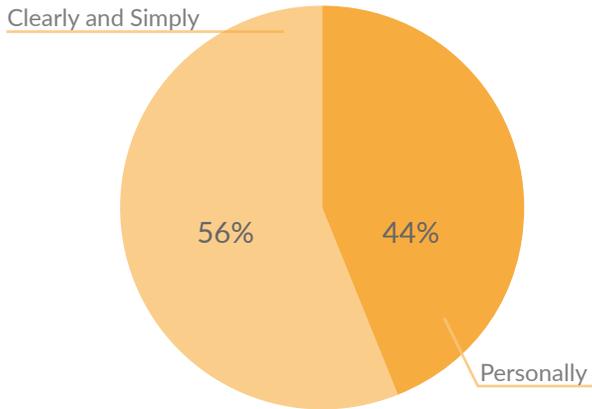




### Survey Results & Analysis (Continued)

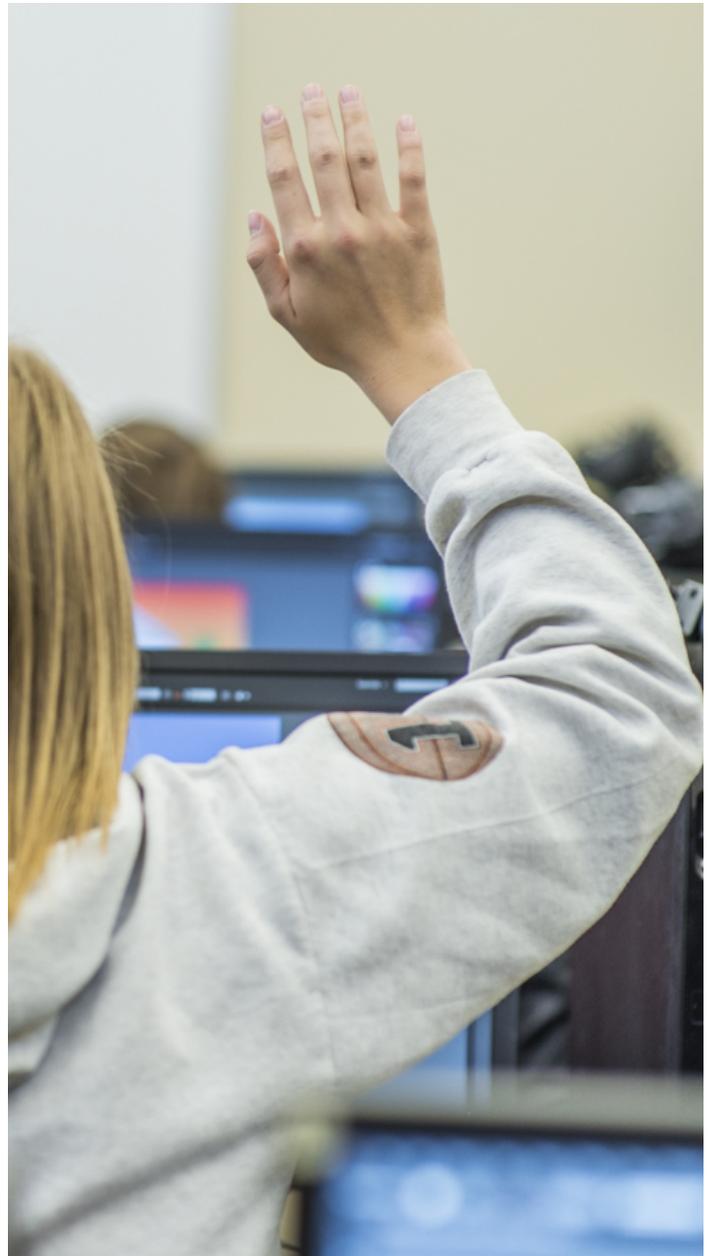
This summary is provided by RISE TVEP.

**Q4:** How should postsecondary institutions communicate with students?



Summative Analysis by Jean Henscheid, RISE TVEP:

“Institutions would need to staff up to provide close to one-to-one support for the kinds of questions and concerns students and families have and are going to have for a long time. It’s like a big wave has washed away the college and university sand castles and these poor institutions are going to need to describe what’s replacing them as new ones are being built. Heroes all!”





## Resources

The resources provided here are an aggregation of tools recommended by forum participants, discussed during the Q&A portion of the meeting(s), or may be a post-facto response to issues that were mentioned in the Chat.

This list does NOT imply endorsement by the Office of the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, or Next Steps Idaho. Resources given in no particular order.

<https://www.uidaho.edu/>

<https://cwi.edu/>

<https://www.csi.edu/>

<https://www.boisestate.edu/>

<https://www.nic.edu/>

<http://www.cei.edu/>

<https://www.lcsc.edu/>

<https://www.isu.edu/>

<https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/resources-for-schools/>

<https://www.sde.idaho.gov/>

<https://www.sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/advanced-ops/>

<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/>

<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/>

<https://www.nacacnet.org/news--publications/newsroom/virus-response-resource-directory/>

<https://www.facebook.com/PathwaysInEducationID/>

<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/>

<https://www.smore.com/>

<https://www.unitedwaytv.org/covid-19-treasure-valley-community-resource-page>

<https://www.edx.org/>

<https://zoom.us/>

<https://www.scholar-box.com/>

<https://hope4college.com/>

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid19.html>

<https://web.seesaw.me/>

<https://www.idahodigitallearning.org/>

"We are a Google School and it serves us well with the online. All the functions work great."

<https://www.google.com/forms/about/>

<https://voice.google.com/about>

"Adobe Connect. It is free for 90 days, is 504 compliant and has tools such as a whiteboard, chat, video, recording, etc..."

<https://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect.html>

"Calendly is a virtual scheduler. You can get a free account to set meetings without an email/phone back-and-forth."

<https://calendly.com/>