



**MEDIA ALERT: June 13, 2022**

## **Magic Valley educators convene at i-STEM Institutes this week**

**WHO** Educators from throughout the state are convening at College of Southern Idaho for four days this week to learn STEM content and network at a workshop staged by Idaho STEM Action Center.

**WHAT** The i-STEM Institutes offer educators high-quality, relevant, hands-on professional-development opportunities at five flagship locations throughout the state in June. Each four-day session features independent strands conducted by educators focused on the 2022 theme, “Amplify STEM,” to help participants share their knowledge and passion for science, technology, engineering, and math within their schools and communities. This year’s strands include:

- “Earth’s Place in the Universe” for PK-8 educators
- “Making with Micro:bits” for educators teaching grades 5-12
- “Farm to Classroom: Connecting Students to their Food” for educators teaching grades 3-12
- “IDX: Engineering Solutions with 3D Design & Fabrication” for grade 5-12 educators
- “Ready, Set, Drones” for educators teaching grades 4-8

Participants will leave with a kit of materials related to the strand they attend, ready to implement what they have learned into their classrooms. Plus, they can register for continuing education credits.

**WHERE** The Rick Allen Room at College of Southern Idaho’s Herrett Center for Arts and Science, 315 Falls Ave., Twin Falls, ID 83301

**WHEN** June 13-16, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily with the most newsworthy opportunities including:

- **Monday afternoon** — Drones will start flying
- **Tuesday all day** — Drones will continue flying
- **Tuesday @ noon** — Luncheon with legislators, sponsors, and other VIPs
- **Tuesday afternoon** — Educators will be making cheese at CSI

**NOTE:** Participants will be offsite most of **Wednesday June 15** on field trips throughout the area.

**WHY** STEM jobs in Idaho are projected to grow 15.4 percent by 2030, outpacing the national average of STEM job growth at 10 percent. STEM jobs are broad and include careers in healthcare, engineering, software development, and agriculture, and STEM jobs pay nearly twice as much as non-STEM jobs. STEM education builds knowledge and skills that are important to the future of Idaho, because it helps students develop creative thinking, problem solving, innovation, and collaboration skills. These are skills that Idaho employers want and are needed to solve tomorrow’s problems.

**HOW** Idaho STEM Action Center was created in 2015 because Idaho citizens are not entering the STEM pipeline fast enough to meet current and future Idaho workforce needs. Its goals are to increase access to STEM opportunities, align education and workforce needs, and amplify awareness of STEM throughout Idaho. The organization is working with industry, government, educators, and students to develop new resources and support high-quality professional-development opportunities to foster a STEM-educated workforce that ensures Idaho’s continued economic prosperity. Visit [stem.idaho.gov](http://stem.idaho.gov) for more information, and visit <https://stem.idaho.gov/support-us/foundation> to make a tax-deductible donation to Idaho STEM Action Center Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, to enhance the investment the state has made in Idaho’s STEM community. Contributions provide greater access to STEM camps for children, student competitions, and many other life-shaping programs.

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