

“All Idahoans with disabilities have the right and responsibility to work and contribute to their community.”

Employment First

means that having a job in the community should be what we expect and plan for people with developmental, intellectual, and other disabilities.

It is a national movement and many states have changed their policies, services, and systems to align with Employment First principles.

Consortium Partners:

*Idaho Dept. of Labor
Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Idaho Division of Medicaid
Idaho Dept. of Education
Idaho State Independent Living Council
Disability Rights Idaho
Center on Disability and Human Development, U of I
Idaho Parents Unlimited
ACCSES Idaho
Vocational Services of Idaho
Idaho Self Advocate Leadership Network
Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities*



For more information:

**Idaho Council on
Developmental Disabilities
www.icdd.idaho.gov**

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Often a person with a disability is the right person for the job.

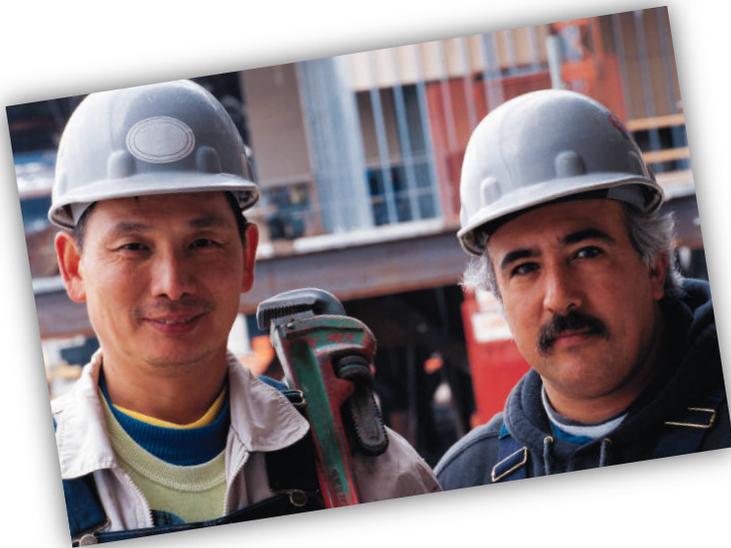


Right now in Idaho

67.4% of working-age adults (age 16-64) are employed compared to only 24.8% of working-age adults who have an intellectual disability.

Many people with disabilities who want to work are not able to for various reasons including public and employer misperception about the talents and skills of people who have disabilities and what they can bring to business and their community.

You can help us change this by supporting a new vision for our state.



A Positive Vision for Idaho

- All communities expect people with disabilities to work
- Everyone can work and there is work for everyone
- Full employment results in higher quality of life and strong economy for Idaho
- People have equal opportunity for meaningful work and career growth...

...are supported and accommodated in the workplace

...are empowered to contribute to their community and the community values that contribution

...have the opportunity for advancement, responsibility, and a fair/equal wage

...have the opportunity, training, and support to realize financial self-sufficiency

The **Idaho Employment First Consortium** was established in April 2012 and is supported by the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities for the purpose of improving how employment services and systems work in Idaho so that people with developmental disabilities are able to reach their career goals. It includes representatives from state agencies, advocacy organizations, service providers, parents, and self-advocates.

Through various strategies we hope to increase the number of individuals with developmental disabilities working in integrated community employment; increase the number of employers who hire people with disabilities; and increase the employment rate of young adults with disabilities completing high school.