



**NEWS RELEASE – September 16, 2015**

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**CWI ACCEPTING STUDENTS FOR NEW MASONRY PROGRAM**

Nampa, ID – College of Western Idaho (CWI) is accepting students for a new Masonry Apprenticeship program that is set to begin classes in October. CWI will accept 30 students into the first class of the three-year program. The College will host an open house on Sept. 29 for anyone interested in learning more about the Masonry Apprenticeship program. The event will run from 5-7 p.m. at CWI's Micron Center for Professional Technical Education in Nampa.

The program, which is offered through CWI's Workforce Development division, is made possible by a \$25,000 grant from the Idaho Department of Labor. Classes will be held at Meridian High School and CWI is partnering with West Ada School District on instruction and curriculum.

"This program is built to address a growing industry in the Treasure Valley," says Christi Rood, executive director of Workforce Development at CWI. "The demand for skilled Masonry laborers is projected to increase substantially in the next several years and we are thrilled to be the resource to meet the training need."

According to the Idaho Department of Labor Occupational and Industry Projections, the number of jobs in the masonry professions is anticipated to grow over 40 percent between 2012 and 2022.

Students in CWI's Masonry Apprenticeship program will receive classroom and lab training while also experiencing on-the-job training. Registration for new students will run July through September each year.

Visit [www.cwidaho.cc/program/masonry-apprenticeship](http://www.cwidaho.cc/program/masonry-apprenticeship) for more information on the open house and program information.

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The College of Western Idaho is a public, open-access, and comprehensive community college committed to providing affordable access to quality teaching and learning opportunities to the residents of its service area in western Idaho. CWI has seven campus locations throughout Southwest Idaho providing higher education and 21st Century technical skills acquisition. The college is dedicated to

improving the community's economic well-being by responding with highly-educated and productive graduates. The foundation for the area's only community college was created by a supermajority of voters in Ada and Canyon counties on May 22, 2007. For more information about the college, visit [www.cwidaho.cc](http://www.cwidaho.cc) or call (208) 562-3000.

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