Division of Continuing Education and Workforce Training

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Continuing Education

Continuing Education encompasses three areas within our division. First, some of our courses help businesses and educators grow and develop in their respective fields. Several bodies throughout campus offer programs awarding Continuing Education Units (CEUs), and we support them administratively with our central repository of course data. We also work with other ISU departments and outside entities for conference support and courses that award CEUs. For more information on professional development courses with CEUs, please contact Shirley Hockett at mcelshir@isu.edu.

We incorporate non-credit community outreach courses within Continuing Education. These courses engage and enrich our community through cultural, social, and economic development. Course topics, including culinary arts, dancing, arts and crafts, physical fitness, and others meet the needs of our young and adult audiences.

Lifelong Learning is supported through the Continuing Education office. Idaho State University has supported Elderhostel and Road Scholar programs for Idahoans 50 years of age and older for several years. These programs feature member-directed, peer-led programs throughout the fall and spring semesters on a wide variety of topics. Members join for one semester at a time, which allows them to attend any of the offerings for that group in that given semester. Currently, there are three lifelong learning chapters we support: New Knowledge Adventures in Pocatello (https://cetrain.isu.edu/enrollment/course/nka-membership/), Friends for Learning in Idaho Falls (https://cetrain.isu.edu/enrollment/friends-learning/), and New Knowledge Adventures in Treasure Valley (https://cetrain.isu.edu/enrollment/new-knowledge-adventures-treasure-valley/).

Workforce Training

Workforce Training encompasses four areas within our division. One focus is on entry-level health programs such as Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Phlebotomy, and Dental Assisting, with supplemental programs in AHA BLS Provider CPR and Assistance with Medications. These non-credit programs are offered multiple times a year and help individuals begin new careers or maintain certifications needed for positions they currently or will potentially hold. Contact RaeLyn Price at pricrael@isu.edu to learn more about our health programs.

Second, we have trade courses and apprenticeship programs, which help students gain entry into new careers or upgrade existing training. The trade courses include welding, motor operated valve (MOV) design basics, and flagging. Our core apprenticeship programs include Electrical, HVAC, and Plumbing, each providing four years of in-class related training while the students also work in their industry occupations. Currently Electrical and Plumbing have pathways to an Associate degree via the Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) process. We also help develop tailored apprenticeship programs with companies in our region.

Third, we offer courses meant to upgrade skills and boost resumes on business related topics. Each semester we have a core offering of courses on the Microsoft Office Suite. We also cover topics like QuickBooks, marketing, building a business, computer coding, cyber security, dealing with difficult people, and many others. These courses are taught by professionals with years of experience to help attendees get real-life examples of how to put these tools to use in their current positions or when seeking new career opportunities.

Last, our division also meets community needs through our customized training offerings. Our Business Consultant, Scott Stephens, works with local and regional businesses to create custom programs on almost any topic and can be provided during the day, evening, or on weekends. Contact Scott Stephens at stepscot@isu.edu to learn more about our customized training opportunities.

Conferencing Services

Continuing Education and Workforce Training also hosts and provides services to assist with conferences. Our conference services are customizable to meet University and local needs. We have experience with small groups as well as larger enrollments of 500+ in attendance. We help manage the logistics such as registration, budget management, presenter coordination, space reservations, catering, and much more. Contact Shirley Hockett at mcelshir@isu.edu to learn more about our conferencing services.

For all other program information and current course offerings visit https://cetrain.isu.edu/.

Contact Paul Dickey at pdickey@isu.edu to learn more about setting up a new apprenticeship program to meet your needs.