

Background: The Semiconductor Industry in Idaho

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Semiconductor manufacturing facilities across the stateⁱ



The State of Idaho boasts a concentration of semiconductor manufacturing jobs **six times greater than the national rate**, ranking second in the nation

\$15B+

Private sector investment announced since passage of the CHIPS and Science Actⁱⁱ

7,500+

Jobs in the semiconductor industry across the stateⁱⁱⁱ



The **Idaho Semiconductors for America Act** provides qualifying Idaho semiconductor companies with a sales and use tax exemption on the purchase of qualifying construction and building materials

1,500+

Graduates in engineering and computer-science related programs across the state each year^{iv}

The Investing in America agenda is promoting growth of the semiconductor industry in Idaho including:

- CHIPS for America has announced proposed investments of up to **\$6.14 billion in proposed direct funding for Micron** to develop a high-volume manufacturing (HVM) fab for **leading-edge memory chips**, part of a multi-state investment; and
- The **Idaho Advanced Energy Consortium** is leading the **Intermountain-West Nuclear Energy Corridor Tech Hub** focused on small modular reactors (SMR) and advanced nuclear energy.

The CHIPS and Science Act (“CHIPS”) is spurring new investments in critical infrastructure, including:

- Innovative water treatment technology development at **Boise’s Advanced Water Treatment Pilot** to enhance infrastructure capacity and build water;
- **\$400+ million** for a **new recycled water program** to support future investments in Boise’s water supply, including supplying recycled water to industrial users;
- Establishment of the **Clean Energy Your Way** program that will share renewable electricity and help make progress toward clean energy commitments; and
- Dedicated **permitting guidance and expedited review services** by the City of Boise to ensure speed-to-market for semiconductor projects.

CHIPS is stimulating the growth of research and development assets including:

- Creation of the new **Institute for Microelectronics Education and Research** at **Boise State University** that will serve as a hub for microelectronics programs;
- Expansion of the **University of Idaho’s Next Generation Microelectronics Research Center** to support microelectronic device design, fabrication and packaging, cybersecurity, plant safety, and related technologies.

- The **UPWARDS Network** brings together universities in the U.S. (including Boise State University) and Japan with industry to develop next-generation workforce and research; and
- The **Northwest University Semiconductor Network**, which includes Boise State University and Idaho State University, aims to increase opportunities for experiential learning.

CHIPS is catalyzing new workforce development pipelines to connect residents with good-paying jobs in the semiconductor industry including:

- **\$75 million** in additional state funding for **Idaho LAUNCH**, established in 2023 to connect state residents with training programs in in-demand fields including semiconductor manufacturing;
- **\$4.2 million** grant from the state Workforce Development Council to expand the **College of Western Idaho’s Advanced Mechatronics Engineering Program**;
- A new **Registered Apprenticeship Program partnership** between the College of Western Idaho, Idaho Manufacturing Alliance, and Micron for Manufacturing Technician, Equipment Technician, and Lab Technician roles;
- Creation of new education pathways into the semiconductor industry through the **Semiconductor for All** program at **Boise State University**; and
- The use of a **Project Labor Agreement** with area and national trade unions for the construction workforce needed to build out Micron’s expanding semiconductor facilities.

CHIPS is mobilizing new initiatives to ensure economic benefits of semiconductor industry growth reach the whole community including:



Addressing the Childcare Crisis

The City of Boise recently announced a \$50,000 investment to provide in-home child care providers with a \$500 property tax rebate, in addition to leading efforts to **reduce childcare facility and licensing times for providers**; as well as streamlined zoning regulations to expand opportunities for development of childcare facilities across the city.



Supporting Workforce Housing

A **\$50 million state workforce housing trust fund** is financing six affordable housing projects throughout the Boise region; while the **City of Boise** has also created a housing land trust and providing certain fee exemptions.



Fostering Sustainable Growth

In 2023, the City of Boise adopted the **Modern Zoning Code**, which will ensure development in the city provides a variety of affordable housing options for residents, creates a development pattern connected to the city’s own climate goals, and supports enhanced mobility and transportation options.



Growing the STEM Pipeline

Idaho STEM Action Center is working to increase STEM exposure and awareness of kids across the state and build a more diverse STEM workforce that meets the changing needs of Idaho employers and supports long-term economic prosperity in the state.

Idaho Economic Development Contacts:

- **Idaho Department of Commerce**
 - **Contact Email:** cody.allred@commerce.idaho.gov
- **Boise Valley Economic Partnership**
 - **Contact Email:** info@bvpep.org
- **City of Boise Economic Development**
 - **Contact Email:** econdev@cityofboise.org

Note: This fact sheet provides examples of entities, programs, and initiatives that CHIPS for America is aware of in the State of Idaho to support its growing semiconductor industry. The information is based on CHIPS for America engagement with entities involved in Idaho's semiconductor industry and was collected in collaboration with the Idaho Department of Commerce and City of Boise. The City of Boise provided the list of state and local economic development organizations in geographies with leading-edge CHIPS Incentives announcements.

Inclusion in this fact sheet does not convey the CHIPS Program Office's approval, endorsement, sponsorship, or other evaluation of any entity, program, or initiative, nor does the exclusion of any entity on the list convey any disapproval. The CHIPS Program Office makes no claims, promises, or guarantees about the completeness, accuracy, or currency of information in this fact sheet. All examples are non-exhaustive and provided for informational purposes only.

ⁱ Provided by City of Boise

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ⁱⁱⁱ BLS QCEW, modified by Lightcast

^{iv} <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/meetings/board/archive/2023/101823/07%20IRSA.pdf>