



North Idaho College

NORTH IDAHO COLLEGE — ESTABLISHED 1933 — COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO — HOME OF THE CARDINALS

Report to the Community 2025





From the President

At North Idaho College, we believe every student deserves access to life-changing educational opportunities—whether they're a recent high school graduate, working adult, or community member eager to learn new skills. As we navigate today's shifting enrollment trends and workforce needs, NIC's commitment to innovation, partnership, and student success has never been stronger.

Guided by our new Strategic Plan, we're putting students at the center by:

- **Removing Barriers:** NIC is simplifying admissions and financial aid processes to ensure getting started is easier than ever. Our targeted outreach and robust support services help students of all backgrounds reach their educational goals.
- **Flexible, Career-Aligned Pathways:** Are you looking to transfer to a university, earn a career credential, or stack certificates while you work? Our programs are designed with input from Idaho's employers and education partners, connecting students directly to high-demand careers.
- **Building Partnerships:** We're strengthening relationships with regional schools, tribal nations, community organizations, and businesses so students have access to internships, apprenticeships, and real-world learning across North Idaho.
- **Investing in Service:** From Coeur d'Alene to rural communities, our unified college system ensures every learner has a consistent, cohesive NIC experience—on campus, online, or at one of our centers.
- **Enhancing Support and Infrastructure:** With investments in employee development, facilities, and modern campus technologies, we're cultivating an environment where teaching and learning thrive. Initiatives to expand student housing, transportation, and essential resources ensure no one is left behind.

Recent enrollment growth—such as our 16.4% summer increase and 29.5% jump in new full-time students—reflects the real impact of these efforts. But numbers only tell part of the story. Every success at NIC is built on partnership: educators, staff, employers, tribal leaders, and community champions working together to meet North Idaho's evolving needs.

NIC's vision is clear—empower every student. Build bridges to opportunity. Drive regional vitality.

If you're an organization interested in collaboration, a potential student exploring options, or just curious about how our new plan supports talent and economic growth, let's connect. Together, we're shaping a future where success is accessible to all.



President Nick Swayne

Enrollment for College Credit & Student Demographics



41%

Male



59%

Female

19

Median Age

14:1

Student-to-Faculty Ratio

4,590

NIC Students

(2,635 FTE Fall 2024)

College Transfer: 2,386

Career and Technical: 478

Dual Credit: 1,726



1,562

Full-Time Students

3,028

Part-Time Students

17%

Enrollment increase
from Fall 2023 to Fall 2025



Degrees Conferred

2023-2024

688

Associate Degrees

732

Certificates

64

GED Credentials Awarded

Largest Enrollment By Program

1,079

General Studies*

* Includes all Nursing and Health Professions students prior to completion of pre-requisites.

208

Business

154

Pre-Medical Related Fields

108

Education

NIC Services in North Idaho

Coeur d'Alene

- Main Campus
- Adult Education Center / GED® Testing Site
- (3) Head Start Centers

Bonniers Ferry

- Adult Education Center
- Head Start Center

Fernwood

- Head Start Center

Kellogg

- Head Start Center

Post Falls

- Workforce Training Center
- Head Start Center

Rathdrum

- Parker Technical Education Center
- Head Start Center

St. Maries

- Head Start Center

Sandpoint

- NIC at Sandpoint
- Adult Education Center / GED® Testing Site
- Head Start Center
- Workforce Training Center

22,032 Total
Lives Touched*

**A small number of students may fall into more than one category.*



Tuition Rates

	Per Credit	Per-Semester (12 Credits)	Per-Year (24 Credits Total)
Kootenai County	\$147	\$1,764	\$3,528
In-State	\$221	\$2,552	\$5,104
WA Resident	\$252	\$3,024	\$6,048
WUE**	\$293	\$3,516	\$7,032
Out of State	\$370	\$4,440	\$8,880

**Rate is for full-time at 12 credits for a Kootenai County resident*

***Western Undergraduate Exchange. WUE (pronounced woo-wee)
is a tuition savings program for out-of-state students.*





Our Next Chapter: Strategic Plan 2025-2030

In November 2024, North Idaho College launched a comprehensive process to chart its future. Over the course of several months, the college gathered both quantitative data and qualitative insights through surveys, listening sessions, and community engagement. This inclusive effort drew on the perspectives of students, faculty, staff, and partners across the region.

The result is a five-year strategic plan that sets a clear vision for the future of NIC. Adopted by the Board of Trustees in May 2025, the plan is anchored in five strategic goals supported by 16 objectives, with concrete action steps and timelines for implementation. Beginning in Fall 2025, the plan will guide decision-making, align resources, and measure progress in ways that directly benefit students and the communities NIC serves.

How We Got Here

A Strategic Planning Steering Committee, comprised of campus and community representatives, led the development of the plan. Through its work, NIC identified key priorities, refined objectives, and established mechanisms for accountability. Each objective has a designated lead, measurable outcomes, and a timeline for progress. Updates will be shared in regular NIC Board of Trustee meetings to ensure transparency and community trust.

Looking Ahead

The Strategic Plan 2025-2030 is more than an internal roadmap—it is a commitment to student success, workforce readiness, and community impact. It positions NIC to respond to evolving educational needs and regional priorities with agility and focus.

As this plan launches in Fall 2025, NIC looks forward to advancing partnerships, investing in student services, and creating pathways that empower learners to thrive. Together, with the support of our community, we are building the next chapter of North Idaho College's legacy of excellence.

**The full Strategic Plan 2025-2030 is available at
nic.edu/planning/nic-strategic-plan**

Updates to Strategic Plan Goals will be provided as progress is made on each goal.

1 out of every 39 jobs in the region is connected to NIC and its students

\$273.2
million

In economic impact
*(the equivalent of supporting
nearly 4,000 jobs)*

\$38.1
million

Taxpayer savings and
added revenue in the
past year alone

\$1 invested ≈
\$4.50 return

For every dollar invested in NIC, the
community receives an estimated
\$4.50 in return

Strengthening Our Economy, Supporting Our Community

North Idaho College continues to be a powerful driver of economic growth in the region. A recent study found that in fiscal year 2023–24, NIC generated **\$273.2 million in economic impact**, the equivalent of supporting nearly **4,000 jobs** in its five-county service area.

Much of this impact comes from former students who are now part of the regional workforce, contributing more than \$205 million in added income. College operations, student spending, and the ripple effect of NIC's presence add tens of millions more each year. In fact, **one out of every 39 jobs in the region is connected to the college and its students.**

The benefits extend beyond wages and business activity. Taxpayer savings and added revenue totaled \$38.1 million in the past year alone.

For every dollar invested in NIC, the community receives an estimated \$4.50 in return, underscoring the value of higher education as both an individual and collective investment.

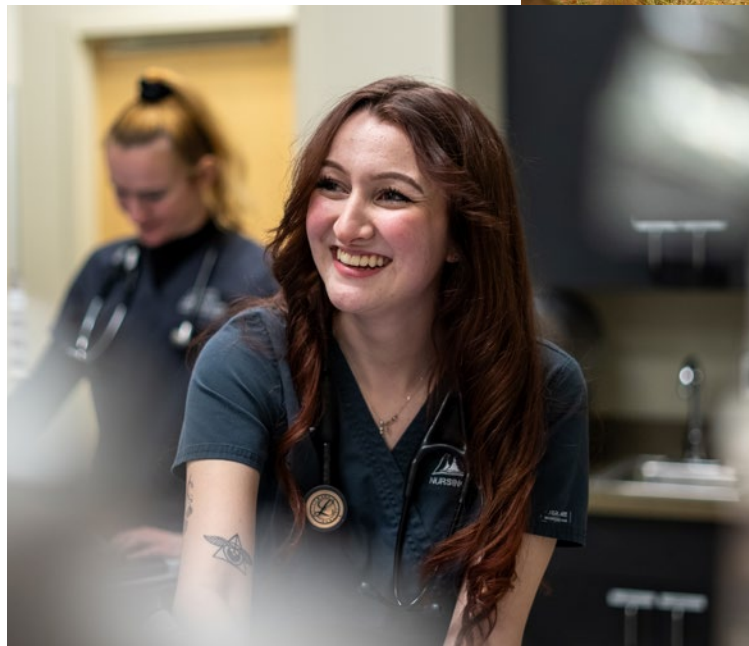
These findings reinforce the importance of NIC's mission and align closely with the goals of the **2025–2030 Strategic Plan**, which emphasizes building strong partnerships, anticipating workforce needs, and preparing students to meet the challenges of a changing economy.

North Idaho College's impact is clear: the college not only transforms lives through education, but also strengthens the economy, supports families, and fuels the future of the region.

Program Highlights

Outdoor Recreation Leadership

NIC's Outdoor Recreation Leadership program is one of the most unique programs in the state, offering students immersive training in leadership, environmental education, and recreation management. With North Idaho's lakes, rivers and mountains as a classroom, graduates are prepared for careers in guiding, parks, youth programs and outdoor education.



Nursing (RN)

North Idaho College's Associate Degree Nursing program is recognized as Idaho's top-ranked RN program, preparing graduates to meet the region's growing health care needs. Of Idaho's 13 nursing schools, NIC's ranks No. 1 in pass rates on the first attempt on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) licensure examination. With strong clinical partnerships and a curriculum grounded in patient-centered care, teamwork, and evidence-based practice, NIC nursing graduates consistently achieve excellent NCLEX pass rates and are in high demand across the state.





Cybersecurity and Information Security Administration (INFOSEC)

NIC's INFOSEC program equips students with the technical expertise to defend against today's growing cyber threats. With a curriculum that emphasizes both theory and applied security, graduates are prepared for in-demand roles in information technology, system administration, and network security.



Graphic and Web Design

NIC's Graphic and Web Design students regularly earn top regional honors and professional recognition for design projects benefiting nonprofits and community organizations. With an emphasis on portfolio development and real-world client work, graduates leave prepared for careers in digital media, graphic design, and marketing.





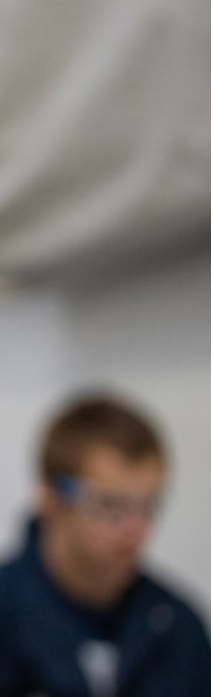
Culinary Arts

North Idaho College's Culinary Arts program blends classic training with innovation, preparing chefs for restaurants, food trailers and more. Students in the program operate Emery's restaurant, a unique lab that provides them a space to practice their skills by providing delicious, creative and industry-quality meals to the community. Students can also take advantage of NIC's new apprenticeship program, which connects them with local kitchens for hands-on experience that blends classroom instruction and paid on-the-job training.



Theatre

NIC's Theatre program offers students the opportunity to perform, design, and direct in a dynamic learning environment that includes mainstage productions open to the community each semester as well as other student-led projects. With dedicated faculty and hands-on experience in acting, stagecraft, and production, students develop skills that transfer to both professional theatre and a wide range of creative fields.



Autobody and Paint Technology

North Idaho College's Autobody and Paint Technology program equips students for careers in collision repair and refinishing. The nine-month program gives students hands-on experience in gas metal arc welding, plastic and fiberglass repair, sheet metal replacement, damage analysis, refinishing techniques and more. Graduates are prepared for entry-level positions in the automotive repair industry.

Radiography Technology

North Idaho College's Radiography Technology program prepares students for skilled imaging careers with entry-level employment as radiographers. All 2025 graduates passed the national board exam on their first attempt, with six scoring in the 99th percentile or higher compared to the 79% national average. Nearly all graduates secured employment before graduation, beginning their careers at local hospitals and clinics.

Surgical Technology

North Idaho College's Surgical Technology program prepares students for high-demand roles in hospital operating rooms, surgery centers, and specialty clinics. The program has maintained a five-year pass rate of nearly 99 percent on the national certification exam, far above the 67 percent national average, and was recently ranked the top program in Idaho by College Factual. Students receive classroom, lab and clinical experience. Nearly all secure employment before graduation.



Student-athletes shine during seasons, in class, in the community

From sports to studies to service, North Idaho College student-athletes rose to the occasion in 2024-2025.

Seasons of Success

Cardinals competed with pride and purpose:

- **Women's Soccer** earned a third seed in the Region 18 Championships and had four athletes selected to the SWAC All-Region Team.
- **Men's Soccer** earned a Top 20 national ranking and a third seed in the Region 18 Championships, with nine athletes selected for SWAC All-Region honors.
- **Volleyball** finished with two SWAC All-Region selections.
- **Wrestling** secured three All-Americans and finished eighth at nationals.
- **Women's Basketball** finished 17-13, earning a fourth seed to Region 18 Championships and two SWAC All-Region picks.
- **Men's Basketball** finished 18-13, earning a Region 18 Championship berth as the third seed and placing two players on the SWAC All-Region team.
- **Softball** earned a Region 18 Championship berth as the fourth seed with two players selected to the SWAC All-Region team.





All-Academic Performances

NIC had 56 student-athletes recognized by the National Junior College Athletic Association on its 2024-25 All-Academic Teams, including seven on the First Team (4.0 GPA), 20 on the Second Team (GPAs between 3.8 and 3.99) and 29 on the Third Team (GPAs between 3.6 and 3.79).

Giving Back

In the community, Cardinal student-athletes inspired young learners by reading to elementary school students and nurtured future athletes at youth camps and clinics. They participated in the Autism Walk, pitched in at the NIC Beach Clean-Up, volunteered with Brighter Life Foundation and CoPow Foods as well as at the regional Special Olympics. They made Christmas crafts with students at Winton Elementary, handed out food to those in need during the holidays and walked in the St. Paddy's Day Parade downtown.



Boosting Athletics

The North Idaho Booster Club Board is the largest it's been in several years. Members are reinvigorated and very active about supporting the athletic program. To sign up or for more information, visit nicboosters.org.

NIC Workforce Training Center

North Idaho College Workforce Training provides demand-driven, industry-specific learning opportunities that empower students to achieve economic self-sufficiency, enhance business productivity, and contribute to community prosperity.

The center offers hundreds of courses and serves thousands of students each year. In 2025, NIC Workforce Training had 8,038 class enrollments and served 5,382 students.

Programs offered include apprenticeships in construction, electrical, HVAC, plumbing, heavy equipment, airframe and powerplant mechanic, and logging equipment operation. Health and emergency services training includes CNA, medical assistant, phlebotomy, firefighter, EMT, and more. Other options include CDL, flagger and forklift certifications, driver's education, welding, and a wide range of business and leadership courses.

NIC Workforce Training courses are non-credit and lead to licensure or certification. They are designed to launch or advance careers through the delivery of short-term, high-quality, accessible, affordable training.

Several NIC Workforce Training programs allow students to turn their non-credit training into a degree. The following NIC Workforce Training courses can be transcribed for credit, at no cost to the student, and applied toward a North Idaho College associate degree: Plumbing, Electrical, HVAC, Heavy Equipment Operator and Construction apprenticeships, Phlebotomy, and Firefighter 1 Academy. Additional general education courses are required to complete the degree.

The NIC Workforce Training Center is based in Post Falls in the Riverbend Commerce Park. Classes are offered at the center in Post Falls, at the North Idaho College Parker Technical Education Center in Rathdrum, and in Sandpoint for programs such as Commercial Driver's License (CDL), welding, and health careers.



Lead Plumbing Instructor Gary Williams congratulates a student who received his certificate during NIC Workforce Training's first apprenticeship graduation ceremony in June 2025.



Medical Assistant Apprenticeship students practice skills during a training class at the center in Post Falls.

For more information about NIC Workforce Training programs or to browse through the most recent course catalog, visit nic.edu/wtc.

Reach the center by phone at (208) 769-3214 or visit in person at the Post Falls center, 525 S. Clearwater Loop, or the Sandpoint Center, 515 Pine St.

Get involved! Help students achieve their dreams

As the NIC Foundation approaches its 50th anniversary in 2027, its dedication and commitment to funding scholarships for students remains stronger than ever. The impact of scholarships can be seen in the lives of students as they forge their future through education and training.

Students frequently share that without the financial support of scholarships, higher education and training would not be possible. They also speak about the powerful encouragement that comes from knowing others believe in their potential. Combined, this support creates opportunities for students to build a brighter future for themselves and their families.

The need for scholarships continues to grow. Not every eligible student receives a scholarship, and the rising cost of living presents additional challenges for those working hard to make ends meet. Some students choose to forgo their education because they simply cannot afford it.

"Thanks to your generosity, we're awarding scholarships to more than 1,000 NIC students each year, empowering them to overcome financial barriers

and pursue their dreams. But we're not stopping there," said Peter J. Smith IV, NIC Foundation President. "We're setting a bold new goal: increase our scholarship funding by \$500,000 annually. With your continued support, we can reach even more students, change more lives, and make tomorrow better than today."

The Foundation invites the community to partner in investing in dreams. Contributions of any size make a significant impact, helping create opportunities for students, the college, and the wider community. Financial investments will expand access, change lives, and fuel futures.

Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today!

Contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at nic.edu/give.



NIC Development and Foundation

Thanks to generous donations made through NIC Foundation, Inc.

\$1,620,425

was invested in North Idaho College
July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 as follows:

Student Scholarships

\$1,380,854

1,574 Scholarship Awards

Program Enhancements

\$239,571

Are you an NIC alum and want to learn more about the NIC Alumni Association?

"The Alumni Association is working hard to actively engage our graduates and build stronger connections between past and present. NIC is investing in programs that reflect the needs of today's students by supporting innovation while honoring the long-standing traditions that shaped us," said Jim Lien, NIC Alumni Association President.

Membership is free! The Alumni Association is open to anyone who has completed at least 12 academic credits or the first semester of a certificate or apprenticeship program at NIC. You don't have to be a graduate to become a member. Benefits include membership eligibility at the Student Wellness and Recreation Center, 50% discount for home athletic events, 10% discount on logo merchandise at the Cardinal Bookstore, and more.



Join today at nic.edu/alumni or scan the QR code.



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