

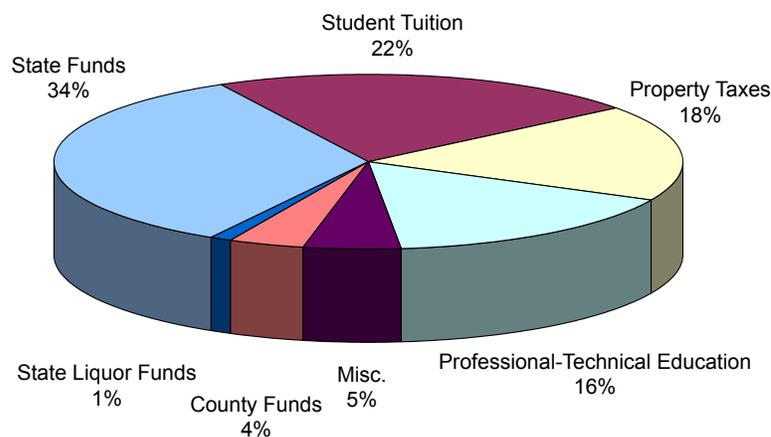
NEW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In early 2007, the southwestern region of Idaho was the largest metropolitan area in the United States that did not have a community college. On May 23, 2007, 68 percent of the Ada and Canyon County voters approved the creation of a community college. The college will serve the greater Boise-Nampa-Caldwell area, which is home to nearly 700,000 people. The proposed location of the community college is in Nampa at the Boise State University West campus.

The average cost of a four-year public university education is \$5,000 per year in the United States and private colleges are upwards of \$22,000 per year. These costs continue to rise each year, so many prospective students turn to a community college for a more affordable college education. Early predictions put the new community college tuition at approximately half of the cost of tuition at BSU each semester. BSU charges \$211 per credit; by comparison the new College of Western Idaho is projected to charge \$120 per credit.

Community colleges can provide the vocational training needed by businesses in the area, as well as training for jobs that are in high demand such as truck drivers and registered nurses. Due to the new community college, four-year universities will be able to focus their resources on undergraduate, graduate, and research programs.

Revenue Sources



Data Source: State Board of Education

Funding

Funding for this college will come from a variety of sources. Four million dollars is needed each year in property taxes to pay for the college. The estimated tax is \$11.39 per \$100,000 of taxable property value. The State's General Fund will be a significant source of funding. House Bill 283 was passed to provide up to \$5.0 million in start-up money.

The first five trustees who will oversee the community college have been appointed by the State Board of Education. The trustees will stand for election, should they choose, in the November 2008 General Election. The trustees will be responsible for shaping how the college will operate as well as what taxpayers will need to contribute.