

Brigham Young University-Idaho is rethinking education in order to serve more students and to prepare them for lifelong learning, for employment, and for their roles as citizens and parents. Innovative educational concepts help prepare graduates to contribute significantly to the Church, community, and workplace.

At BYU-Idaho:

- The “Spirit of Ricks” is preserved and enhanced.
- A two-tiered institution allows students to choose between associate and bachelor’s degrees.
- Integrated degrees are tailored to fit students’ interests.
- A year-round track system allows more students to attend.
- Internships enhance marketability.
- The Activities Program provides students with opportunities to lead and serve.
- The faculty is focused on teaching and student learning.

The “Spirit of Ricks” is preserved and enhanced.

Brigham Young University-Idaho is a bachelors degree granting university. While looking to the future, we work to preserve and enhance the “Spirit of Ricks.” Simply stated, this entails upholding a tradition of service, hard work, friendliness, and compassion—the same things that bonded the students, faculty, and administration for more than 100 years as Ricks College.

President Kim B. Clark has stated: “Our mission, our very purpose, is to educate, develop, and prepare disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. This purpose is deeply rooted in this university. The Lord watches over this university in a powerful way. Our purpose is to help them become His true followers, His true disciples, a light to the world.”

**A two-tiered institution allows students to choose between associate or bachelors degrees.**

A variety of associate degrees offers students specialization in a major field of study along with a carefully selected curriculum of general education. With an associate degree, a student can be ready for employment in about two years.

Integrated and specialized bachelors degrees, which require 120 credit hours and takes three to four years to complete, are also offered. Specialized bachelors degrees require a maximum of 70 credit hours within the major area of study. Students majoring in secondary education complete an educational core in addition to exploring their content area.

**Integrated degrees are tailored to fit students’ interests.**

Integrated bachelors degrees, which are a unique feature to our academic offerings, give a broader spectrum of educational experience and are the backbone of curricula.

These degrees require a maximum of 45 credit hours in a major area of study with the remainder of credits being filled by a minor or being tailored from clusters of courses that fit the student’s specific postgraduate intentions and interests. By linking core curriculum with complementary areas of study and internships, BYU-Idaho degrees provide unique educational opportunities and greater marketability in the workplace.

**A year-round track system allows more students to attend.**

BYU-Idaho operates on an expanded year-round basis to allow more students the opportunity to attend. This creative academic calendar revolves around a three-track system: summer/fall, fall/winter, and winter/summer. Qualified students are admitted to one of the three tracks. They stay on the same track through graduation.

Year-round options are available as students enter their upper coursework. Fall/Winter track students may apply to go in the summer after they have completed 24 credits. If accepted, students continue year-round (summer, fall, and winter) until graduating. (The 24-credit limit for Fall/Winter track students attending in the summer is based on space availability and subject to review annually.)

**Internships enhance marketability.**

An academic internship is a valuable, integral component of a BYU-Idaho education. In most cases, an academic internship is a required element of both associate and bachelor degree-seeking students. An academic internship is a cooperative program between the students, the university, and approved experience providers (employers).

Internships enable students to obtain practical and valuable work experience, to apply skills and knowledge learned in school, and to gain exposure to various job opportunities. Many internships are paid experiences and typically last one semester. Students are generally encouraged to complete a full-time internship. BYU-Idaho is one of the largest internship producing universities in the nation.

**Activities Program provides opportunities for more students**

BYU-Idaho’s unprecedented Activities Program meets the needs and interests of a broad and diverse student body. An array of year-round activities is offered in the areas of: outdoor, social, service, talent, fitness and sports. Each area is structured to give students numerous opportunities for active involvement at various levels of interest and commitment. At BYU-Idaho, students choose their own life-changing experiences.

Within Activities, students are participants, not just spectators.

Innovative programs help students develop character and enhance leadership skills.

**The faculty is focused on teaching and student learning.**

Faculty and students at BYU-Idaho are engaged in a wide range of academic opportunities. The primary focus of faculty is always on teaching and student learning. As part of this unique approach, a low student to faculty ratio is maintained and there is a serious commitment to the belief that everyone at BYU-Idaho is a teacher. Unlike most institutions of higher education, BYU-Idaho has no distinctions such as assistant professor, associate professor, and full professor.

**Always Rethinking ...**

Elder Henry B. Eyring, former Commissioner of the Church Educational System, stated, “... change will not end. The phrase ‘rethinking education’ is not to be only a slogan for the transformation from a two- to four-year status, the school is to be a place of educational innovation—permanently.”

University employees, faculty members, students, parents, community residents, alumni and Church members are encouraged to share ideas on how to provide even better educational offerings at BYU-Idaho.

For more information contact BYU-Idaho at (208) 496-1150 or visit [www.byui.edu](http://www.byui.edu).