

# CWI students get the Reboot

Free remediation program aims to increase long-term success

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NAMPA — Before Jose Yanez entered the Reboot program at the College of Western Idaho last year, he was at the pre-algebra level in math skills, unfamiliar with financial aid and even unsure about where the library was located.

Now Yanez, of Caldwell, is in year two of the four-week summer program, learning even more. Reboot was a pilot program last year, when

Yanez first became a CWI student studying Cisco Network and Security Technologies.

"I've been finding every resource that's available very helpful," he said. "It's been able to give me a better foundation to be able to go to a regular class and be better prepared."

Jac Webb, director of the Adult Basic Education Department at CWI, said 20 students participated in the program last year. Reboot is offered free of charge to admitted students, and this year it runs from this week through Aug. 1. Each student completes an intake exam and a post-assessment, and last year, Webb

said about 50 percent of the students jumped at least one course level in their knowledge of math or English — sometimes both. But it's about more than just test scores and hard skills.

"It's really looking at the whole student," Webb said. "We know that even if they have deficiencies, they also have a lot of great internal resources, and we try to build their self-efficacy so they realize they can actually do what they thought they couldn't do. Half of what we do is making them feel confident in themselves to be successful."

Please see **Reboot**, A11

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Submitted photo

Graduates from the 2013 pilot session of "Reboot" — a free, four-week remedial session for admitted College of Western Idaho students — stand with their certificates of achievement. The program is one week into its second year.

## Reboot

Continued from A1

The class started out with 30 participants but has already whittled down to 17. Will Fanning, dean of Professional Technical Education, said that's partly because it requires a significant amount of time.

"It starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m., so it does take a lot of commitment from the student," Fanning said. "They have to arrange their life to be able to make that work, but that commitment and dedication pays off in the long run."

### ADMISSION DEADLINES

Starting this fall, the admissions deadline at the College of Western Idaho is Aug. 8. Class registration must be completed by Aug. 22. For a detailed calendar, go to [www.cwidaho.cc/important-dates](http://www.cwidaho.cc/important-dates).

Fanning said the college uses existing resources to provide the program for free, making it cost efficient, but it still requires two instructors for basic skills and 10 others from across the institution. From his view, it helps with retention efforts and student success if a student doesn't need remediation by the time fall

semester starts.

"We believe strongly that if we invest in them on the front end, they're much more likely to be successful in the long term. And that's a wise investment for the institution and the student to make," Fanning said.

In the future, starting with this semester, Fanning said he and Webb hope to see more than 50 percent of Reboot students achieving higher scores in math and English. They also plan to provide another program for students beginning their coursework in the spring.

"It's a wonderful program that we're passionate about, that we really want to get off the ground," he said.