

For basic information on using statutes and codes, see the **Using Annotated Codes** research guide.

Finding the Text of Idaho Laws

a. **SESSION LAWS.** The text of the laws of each session of the Idaho Legislature is published in the Session Laws of the State of Idaho. These laws are arranged in order of enactment. The volumes contain a broad Subject Index and a Code-Title Index. The Code-Title Index indicates code sections modified by that session of the legislature.

Session laws are in various locations in the library. Consult the Finding List at the Circulation Desk for specific shelf locations.

The Session laws for the current year are available on the Idaho Legislature website (www.legislature.idaho.gov).

b. **IDAHO CODE.** The Idaho Code contains the text of the general laws of Idaho currently in effect. It is compiled under the supervision of the Idaho Code Commission and is kept up to date by pocket parts, replacement volumes, and advance annotation service pamphlets.

The Idaho Code contains the following features:

1. A two-volume General Index is published each year for the entire Code; each volume of the Code has an individual index;
2. Code sections annotated with cases interpreting the section, references to West Key Numbers, history of the statute, and other useful material;
3. Tables of amendments, repeals, and additions arranged by code section;
4. A popular names table; and
5. A numerical list of bills that became law with reference to the code section where the provision is codified.

The Idaho Code is available on the Idaho Legislature website (www.legislature.idaho.gov). This is an unannotated code. Neither the General Index nor the individual Title indexes to the Idaho Code are available online; searching is by Keyword or by looking at individual Title table of contents.

c. **IDAHO RULES OF COURT.** There is a two-volume set labeled *Idaho Court Rules* that is published with the Idaho Code. It contains annotated versions of:

1. Idaho Rules of Civil Procedure
2. Idaho Rules of Evidence
3. Idaho Criminal Rules
4. Idaho Misdemeanor Criminal Rules
5. Idaho Infraction Rules
6. Idaho Juvenile Rules
7. Idaho Administrative Rules
8. Idaho Appellate Rules

The Rules of Court are not enacted by the legislature, but are promulgated by the Idaho Supreme Court. The State Bar of Idaho magazine, the *Advocate*, is used to give formal notice of proposed rules. Modifications also appear in the advance sheets for the *Pacific Reporter*.

All of the Idaho Rules of Court are available online at the Idaho State Judiciary website (www.isc.idaho.gov).

Copies of the *Idaho Code* are found in various locations. Consult the Finding List at the Circulation Desk for specific locations. Two copies of the Idaho Code are kept on Reserve at KFI30.1947.A2.

Finding the Text of Specific Idaho Code Provisions by Subject

Index Method

- a. Use the General Index to the Idaho Code to locate appropriate sections of the code for your research.
- b. There is also an index in each volume of the code. This index is located at the end of the volume. The volume index is sometimes more detailed but it is not updated in the pocket parts.

Topic Outline

Use the list of titles at the beginning of each volume of the *Idaho Code* to find a topic (subject). Then use the "Table of Contents" of that particular title to find the specific area.

Finding Cases Interpreting an Idaho Code Provision

- a. The annotations following an Idaho Code provision list cases interpreting the provision.
- b. The *Idaho Digest* can be used to find cases. Use the Index or the Topic/Outline method to find the appropriate subject area. Once found, the case digests list citations of statutory provisions construed.
- c. Shepard's *Idaho Citations* has a section collecting cases which cite provisions of the Idaho Code.
- d. Lexis and Westlaw can be used to search for references to Idaho Code provisions. Both are subscription only services requiring a password for access.

Finding Secondary Materials Relating to an Idaho Code Section

- a. *Idaho Law Review* often contains articles on Idaho legislation. For many years the *Idaho Law Review* contained an "Annual Survey of Legislative Changes" which discussed legislative changes.
- b. Legal periodical indexes, legal encyclopedias, and ALR annotations can provide access to secondary materials on the Idaho Code.

Finding the Text of Recently Enacted Legislation

Until the Session Laws are published in June following each legislative session, the text of new laws is available as the final draft of the bill. These bills are on Reserve at KFI6.H6.

Final drafts are also available on the Idaho Legislature website (www.legislature.idaho.gov).

Each July following the legislative session, new pocket parts arrive for the Idaho Code. These pocket parts contain the text of new laws.

Finding Text of Other State Provisions That Are Similar to Idaho's Statutory Provisions

Subject Compilation of State Laws, Reference KFI.F67

This set consists of a base volume and non-cumulative supplemental volumes. It indexes by subject references to law review articles and books which collect citations to statutes.

Shepard's Acts and Cases by Popular Name, Shepard's table
Lists state statutes with the same popular name together.

Uniform Laws Annotated, Master Edition, Reserve KF165.A5

This contains the text, comments, and case annotations from many states interpreting the provisions of various uniform laws. Idaho has adopted many of these uniform laws. There is a table indicating which states have adopted a particular uniform law. The comments often indicate variations in a particular state's enactment.

Finding Judicial Interpretations of Similar Provisions

Once you have located a similar provision in another state's statutes, the annotated code for each state contains case annotations.

The Shepard's volume for each state also contains citations to cases interpreting provisions of the state code.

Lexis and Westlaw

Both Lexis and Westlaw have Advance Legislative Services for Idaho online. The Advance Legislative Service contains the text of the law as it will appear in the Session Laws.

Both Westlaw and Lexis have the Idaho Code and other state codes online in annotated and unannotated versions.

Lexis and Westlaw are subscription only services requiring a password for access.

City Codes and Ordinances

The following Idaho city codes and ordinances are available on Reserve. Some cities have published their codes and ordinances online:

Boise: KFX1129 B6 A35 1993 vol. 1 & 2

<http://www.cityofboise.org>

Idaho Falls: KFX1516 I32 A35 1994

<http://www.ci.idaho-falls.id.us>

Jerome: <http://www.ci.jerome.id.us>

Lewiston: KFX1611 L4 A35 1993

McCall (zoning ordinances only): <http://www.mccall.id.us>

Moscow: KFX1909 M6 A35 1998

<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us>

Twin Falls: http://www.tfid.org/city_management/city_code

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