

**Office of the State Board of Education  
Rural Physician Incentive Program  
Strategic Plan  
2012-2016**

**Mission Statement**

To recruit and attract primary care physicians to medically underserved areas of rural Idaho.

**Goal I**

Develop the necessary administrative structure for effective administration of the RPIP program.

**Objective 1**

Establish ongoing procedures for managing the RPIP program.

**Performance Measure**

The procedures are established for processing applications and payments.

**Benchmark**

Board staff develops instructional guidelines for complying with established procedures.

The RPIP Committee Chair and Board staff approves procedures.

**Objective 2**

Develop the next priority list of eligible physicians for consideration and selection by the Board for debt payment awards.

**Performance Measure**

Selection of debt repayment award recipients is completed and funds are disbursed.

**Benchmark**

The next group of physicians to receive debt payment awards is selected by the Board not later than April, 2012 for fund disbursement in July, 2012. Award recipients will be processed so as to be identified annually in April of each subsequent year.

**Objective 3**

Establish a reporting process to the committee and Board which maintains the confidentiality of individual recipients while providing an overview of program effectiveness in regions.

**Performance measure**

A service area report will be completed and presented to the Board by June 2012.

**Benchmark**

Review of reporting guidelines by Attorney General to assure that the reporting process maintains confidential personal information of recipients, while providing adequate information on service area needs by December 2011.

The RPIP oversight committee will approve of the reporting process and format by spring 2012.

**Goal II**

Explore options to enhance the RPIP.

**Objective 1**

The Oversight Committee will conduct an annual survey of physicians/communities receiving payments under the RPIP.

**Performance Measure**

The Oversight Committee will include an analysis of RPIP effectiveness for recruiting and retaining physicians in medically underserved areas of Idaho.

**Benchmark**

Effectiveness data is included in the annual January-February report to the Board.

**Key External Factors Beyond Agency Control**

- Funding for the RPIP is derived from fees assessed Idaho supported medical students at the University of Washington and the University of Utah. Future funding of the program depends of continued financial support from the Legislature to these medical students.
- The ability to recruit physicians into rural Idaho depends on the general supply and demand for physicians throughout the country and the availability of other competitive incentive programs.
- Statute limits the dollar amount of disbursements to \$50K over five years. Over time these program constraints could reduce the competitiveness of the RPIP.
- The remoteness of some Idaho rural communities may make it difficult to attract qualified physicians to some of these communities, even with a debt repayment program.