

Idaho Dental Education Program

STRATEGIC PLAN

2021 – 2025

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Idaho Dental Education Program is to provide Idaho residents with access to quality educational opportunities in the field of dentistry. We provide Idaho with outstanding dental professionals through a combination of adequate access for residents and the high quality of education provided. The graduates of the Idaho Dental Education Program will possess the ability to practice today's dentistry. Furthermore, they will have the background to evaluate changes in future treatment methods as they relate to providing outstanding patient care.

VISION STATEMENT

The Idaho Dental Education Program envisions an elite educational program; graduating competent and ethical dentists who benefit the residents of Idaho as professionals.

Goal 1: Provide access to a quality dental education for qualified Idaho residents

Objective A: Access - Provide dental education opportunities for Idaho residents

Performance Measures:

- I. **Contract for 4-year dental education for at least 8 Idaho residents**
Benchmark: Contract in place with Creighton University School of Dentistry or another accredited dental school.

- II. **Number of students in the program per year**
Benchmark: Increase the number of students in the program per year to 10.

Objective B: Quality education – Deliver quality teaching to foster the development of students within the program.

Performance Measures:

- I. **First time pass rate of National Dental Boards Part I**
Benchmark: Pass rate will meet or exceed 85%

- II. **First time pass rate of National Dental Boards Part II**
Benchmark: Pass rate will meet or exceed 85%

- III. **First time pass rate of Clinical Board Exam**
Benchmark: Pass rate will meet or exceed 85% on clinical board exam necessary for licensure in Idaho.

Goal 2: Maintain some control over the rising cost of dental education

Objective A: Idaho Value - Provide the State of Idaho with a competitive value in educating Idaho dentists.

Performance Measures:

I. State cost per student

Benchmark: Idaho cost per student will be <50% of the national average cost per DDSE (DDS Equivalent). The cost per DDSE is a commonly utilized measure to evaluate the relative cost of a dental education program.

Objective B: Participant Value - Provide program participants with a competitive value in obtaining a dental degree

I. Student Loan Debt

Benchmark: Student loan debt for IDEP participants will be <80% of the national average.

Goal 3: Serve as a mechanism for responding to the present and/or the anticipated distribution of dental personnel in Idaho.

Objective A: Availability - Help meet the needs for dentists in all geographic regions of the state.

Performance Measures:

I. Geographic acceptance of students into the program

Benchmark: Students from each of 4 regions of Idaho (North, Central, Southwest, and Southeast) granted acceptance each year.

II. Return rate

Benchmark: Greater than 50% of program graduates return to Idaho.

Goal 4: Provide access for dental professionals to facilities, equipment, and resources to update and maintain professional skills.

Objective A: Quality Care - Provide current resources to aid the residents of Idaho by maintaining/increasing the professional skills of Idaho Dentists.

Performance Measures:

I. Continuing Dental Education (CDE)

Benchmark: Provide continuing dental education opportunities for regional dental professionals when the need arises.

II. Remediation of Idaho dentists

Benchmark: Successfully aid in the remediation of any Idaho dentist, in cooperation with the State Board of Dentistry and the Idaho Advanced General Dentistry Program, such that the individual dentist may successfully return to practice.

Key External Factors

Funding:

Most Idaho Dental Education Program goals and objectives assume ongoing, and in some cases additional, levels of State legislative appropriations. Availability of these funds can be uncertain. Currently with State budget considerations that specifically impact our program, the goal to increase the number of available positions within the program from 8 to 10 has not been feasible. This will remain a long-term goal for the program.

Program Participant Choice:

Some IDEP goals are dependent upon choices made by individual students, such as choosing where to practice. Even though this is beyond our control, we have had an excellent track record of program graduates returning to Idaho to practice.

Idaho Dentist to Population Ratio

The more populated areas of Idaho are more saturated with dentists, making it difficult for new graduates to enter the workforce in these areas. With this in mind, we have still seen a good percentage of program graduates return to Idaho to practice.

Educational Debt of Graduates

The average educational debt of IDEP graduates continues to be an area of concern. This amount of debt may limit the ability of graduates to return to Idaho initially.

Student Performance

Some of the goals of the program are dependent upon pre-program students to excel in their preparation for the program. However, we have not encountered difficulty in finding highly qualified applicants from all areas of the State.

Evaluation Process

The Idaho Dental Education Program utilizes annual department strategic planning meetings to establish and revise program objectives and goals.

Red Tape Reduction Act

The State Board of Education, through the Office of the State Board of Education, runs all administrative rules governing the postsecondary institutions and special and health programs. The State Board of Education strategic plan outlines the reduction efforts for the public education system.