

# Idaho Dental Education Program

## STRATEGIC PLAN

2022 – 2026

### 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

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Benchmark:** Contract in place with Creighton University School of Dentistry or another accredited dental school.

##### II. Number of students in the program per year

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
8	8	8	8	10

**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

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
100%	100%	100%	87.5%	>85%

**Benchmark:** Pass rate will meet or exceed 85%

##### II. First time pass rate of National Dental Boards Part II

2017	2017	2019	2020	Benchmark
100%	100%	100%	100%	>85%

**Benchmark:** Pass rate will meet or exceed 85%

**III. First time pass rate of Clinical Board Exam**

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
100%	100%	100%	100%	>85%

**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**

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
33%	43%	35%	40%	<50%

**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**

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
68.2%	78%	49%	62%	<80%

**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**

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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

**II. Return rate**

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
67%	67%	100%	25%	>50%

**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)**

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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

**II. Remediation of Idaho dentists**

2017	2018	2019	2020	Benchmark
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**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**

**COVID-19**

From March 2020 to the present, COVID-19 has directly affected operations and student learning throughout Idaho State University. The university has taken every conceivable precaution to reduce the exposure of its students, faculty, staff and the community to COVID-19. Following the CDC guidelines, ISU transitioned to distance learning classrooms in the spring of 2020 and continued with hyflex classes for the 2020 – 21 academic year.

**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.