

## Part I – Agency Profile

### Agency Overview

The Office of Performance Evaluations (OPE), created in 1994, is a nonpartisan, independent office that serves the Legislature's information needs by conducting performance evaluations of state agencies and programs. The mission of OPE is to promote confidence and accountability in state government through these evaluations. Findings, conclusions, and recommendations from OPE evaluations are used by the Legislature to make policy and budget decisions and by agencies to improve performance.

Performance evaluations include assessing whether

- agencies or programs are complying with applicable laws and legislative intent;
- services are provided efficiently and cost-effectively; and
- programs and services are achieving intended results.

OPE works under the direction of the bipartisan Joint Legislative Oversight Committee (JLOC). The office is authorized for eight full-time equivalent positions.

### Core Functions/Idaho Code

Authorizing statutes: Idaho Code §§ 67-457 through 67-464

1. Conduct performance evaluations and report each evaluation to JLOC
2. Make recommendations to agencies for program improvements
3. Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions
4. Be responsive to the Legislature's information needs

### Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
General Fund	\$942,600	\$950,200	\$983,800	\$1,030,000
Dedicated	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$942,600</b>	<b>\$950,200</b>	<b>\$983,800</b>	<b>\$1,030,000</b>
Expenditures	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Personnel Costs	\$822,845	\$777,612	\$846,811.39	\$899,832.15
Operating Expenditures*	\$87,326	\$76,228	\$126,336.74	\$65,678.46
Capital Outlay	\$1,879	\$7,175	0	0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$912,050</b>	<b>\$861,015</b>	<b>\$973,148.13</b>	<b>\$965,510.61</b>

\* Some operating expenditures were appropriated in prior fiscal year.

### Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Number of performance evaluation projects completed	3	6	4	3
Number of follow-up reviews for previous evaluations completed	1	0	0	0

OPE reports may be accessed at <https://legislature.idaho.gov/ope/reports/>.

## FY 2023 Performance Highlights

OPE released the following evaluation reports:

- *K-12 Public Classified Employees*, December 2022
- *Judicial Compensation (Limited Scope Study)*, December 2022
- *Sustainability of Idaho's Direct Care Workforce*, March 2023

OPE received two awards:

- 2023 Impact Award of the National Conference of State Legislatures, *Volunteer Providers of Emergency Medical Services*
- 2023 Notable Document Award of the National Conference of State Legislatures, *Sustainability of Idaho's Direct Care Workforce*

## Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure		FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
<b>Goal 1</b>						
Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions.						
1. Performance is measured by the number of bills and resolutions introduced or enacted in response to OPE recommendations.	actual	8	2	4	8	7
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Goal 2</b>						
Respond to the Legislature's information needs.						
2. Performance is measured by the number of "24-hour" limited reviews completed.	actual	1	1	0	1	2
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
3. Performance is measured by the number of evaluation-related presentations made to the Legislature (does not include presentations to JLOC).	actual	7	2	2	2	4
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Goal 3</b>						
Promote confidence and accountability in state government through education and outreach to interested stakeholders and participation in professional associations.						
4. Performance is measured by the number of evaluation-related presentations made outside of the Legislature.	actual	11	11	4	5	6
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

### Bills introduced

In our 2020 report, *State Response to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias*, we found that the state had limited coordination and accountability to implement a statewide plan. As a result, Idaho has made little progress on its plan to address Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

- S. 1096 was passed and added to existing law to provide legislative intent and to direct the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to: (1) convene the Alzheimer's disease and related dementias alliance (ADRD), (2) annually report to the Legislature and Governor concerning gaps, recommendations, and progress towards meeting the needs of Idahoans with the ADRD and their caregivers, and (3) every five

years, to update the ADRD Strategic Plan for Idaho. Our recommendation to include the Legislature with ongoing oversight was cited in testimony for the bill.

We completed our 2021 evaluation, *Driving Authority for Unauthorized Immigrants*, in response to the request of fourteen legislators who wanted to understand: (1) how a driving authorization program for unauthorized immigrants would affect Idaho in areas of automobile insurance, road safety, and criminal justice system, and (2) the experiences of other states that have permitted unauthorized immigrants to legally drive. We presented a list of policy considerations.

- S. 1081 proposed that the state make Restricted Driver's Licenses available to all persons residing in Idaho as an alternative to the STAR Card, or REAL ID. The bill also proposed that class D driving privileges could be available to all persons who can verify their identity and that they live in Idaho. This bill was recommitted to the Senate State Affairs Committee.

In our 2021 evaluation, *Volunteer Providers of Emergency Medical Services*, we found that Idaho faces EMS funding and staffing challenges that could affect patient care, especially in rural communities.

- SCR. 101 was passed and cited the OPE report in recognition of the need for more robust data to address Idaho's growing population and demand for services. The resolution encouraged the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to develop a plan and draft legislation to address this statewide concern.
- S. 1182 appropriated \$350,000 to fund a work group to meet with stakeholders and develop a statewide funding model to be presented at the next legislative session.

In our 2022 evaluation, *K–12 Public School Buildings*, we found that Idaho did not have a current facility assessment and there was a backlog of deferred maintenance in K–12 public school buildings.

- H. 292 was passed and provided property tax relief and appropriations to school districts to be used for the following purposes in order of priority: (1) payment of school bonds, (2) payment of school levies, (3) saved for future school facility construction needs, and (4) used for new bonds.
- S. 1043 was passed and created the charter school revolving loan fund to assist charter schools in obtaining financing for school facility purchases, improvements, and construction. The bill addressed the challenge faced by newly established charter schools in securing school facilities as detailed in the report.
- S. 1103 proposed that revenues from Idaho Endowment Lands be specifically redirected and used for Idaho K-12 school facilities based on a distribution formula. This bill was printed and referred to the Senate Education Committee.

In our 2023 evaluation, *K–12 Classified Employees*, we found that the state salary-based apportionment formula covers about 60 percent of wages for qualifying classified employees. We also found that since 1994, the state has funded 0.375 qualifying classified full-time equivalent (FTE) positions per support unit through its salary-based apportionment formula.

- S.1206 increased the appropriation provided to Idaho school districts and charter schools for classified staff. The appropriation included a four percent adjustment in compensation and additional funding for health insurance and health benefit plans, pupil transportation, discretionary funding, technology support, and offset costs being borne by other fund sources including local and discretionary funds.

#### **Legislative presentations**

- Senate Education Committee, *K-12 Classified Employees* (two presentations)
- House Education Committee, *K-12 Classified Employees* (two presentations)

#### **Presentations made outside the Legislature**

- April 2023: OPE made three presentations of *Sustainability of Idaho's Direct Care Workforce* to the State Independent Living Council, Community Now!, and the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities
- May 2023: OPE presented an in-depth review of the recommendations contained in the *Sustainability of Idaho's Direct Care Workforce* to a joint meeting of the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities and the State Independent Living Council stakeholders.

- June 2023: OPE made two in-depth presentations of the *Sustainability of Idaho's Direct Care Workforce* to a joint meeting of the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, the State Independent Living Council stakeholders, and self-advocates.

**For More Information Contact**

Rakesh Mohan, Director  
Office of Performance Evaluations  
Idaho Legislature  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0055  
Phone: (208) 332-1470  
E-mail: [rmohan@ope.idaho.gov](mailto:rmohan@ope.idaho.gov)  
Website: [www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope](http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope)

## **Director Attestation for Performance Report**

---

In accordance with *Idaho Code 67-1904*, I certify the data provided in the Performance Report has been internally assessed for accuracy, and, to the best of my knowledge, is deemed to be accurate.

Department: Office of Performance Evaluations

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Signature

9/1/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return to:

Division of Financial Management  
304 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0032

FAX: 334-2438  
E-mail: [info@dfm.idaho.gov](mailto:info@dfm.idaho.gov)