

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

Mission Statement

“To advance innovative opportunities for educators, students, communities, and industry to build a competitive Idaho workforce and economy through STEM and computer science education.”

Vision Statement

“A diverse STEM-literate workforce to support the long-term economic prosperity of Idaho”

During the 2015 Idaho legislative session, a group of legislators, education leaders, and industry stakeholders began a STEM Caucus that led to legislation creating the Idaho STEM Action Center ([Idaho Code §67-823](#)). House Bill 302 became law on July 1, 2015. Guided by this legislation the Center coordinates STEM education opportunities aligned to Idaho’s workforce needs from PreK to career. Decisions about the STEM Action Center are guided by a nine (9) member Board appointed by the Governor. The STEM Action Center is staffed by an Executive Director and five professional staff that support STEM and computer science (CS) programming, grants and contracts management, financial management, and data analytics.

STEM education is an interdisciplinary approach to learning that provides opportunities for students to build problem-solving tied to real-world applications through the integration of science, technology, engineering, and math. Coordinated statewide STEM-focused efforts support Idaho as an in-demand business destination and supports a workforce with the necessary STEM skills that employers are demanding. A highly skilled STEM workforce leads to increased investment and business opportunities throughout Idaho. Through STEM Action Center’s work, educators have the necessary STEM skills and resources to engage students and students have equitable access to STEM education. STEM education provides students with the 21st century skills that all Idaho employers require: critical thinking; problem-solving; collaboration; and innovation. The STEM Action Center’s collaborative efforts can lead to an increase in the number of businesses throughout the state and an increased number of jobs available to Idahoans. In turn, these strategic partnerships bolster Idaho’s economy and lead to long-term economic prosperity for the state and its citizens.

Core Functions and Idaho Code

STEM AC’s enacting legislation ([Idaho Code 67-823](#)) focuses on five broad areas: 1) coordination of regional and state-level STEM-related activities; 2) promotion of STEM through promising practices in education; 3) support of high-quality professional development and grants for educators; 4) support of STEM-related competitions, fairs, camps, and student programs; and 5) engagement of private industry and non-profits in the development, implementation, and sustainability of STEM opportunities. Fulfilling legislative intent is accomplished through collaboration with partners to create alignment and efficiencies among stakeholders. In addition, legislative intent is accomplished by coordinating grant and professional development opportunities to educators, programming for students, and opportunities for communities, and measuring outcomes from those activities.

STEM AC collaborates with other state agencies and employers to fulfill the following STEM legislation:

- Computer Science Initiative** ([Idaho Code 33-1633](#), passed 2016). This legislation directs STEM AC to focus on critical training and educational needs to help populate Idaho’s growing need for a tech-savvy workforce.
- STEM School Designation** ([Idaho Code 33-4701](#), passed 2017). In collaboration with the Office of the State Board of Education (OSBE), this designation is formally recognized by OSBE and the Governor’s Office.
- CS for All** ([Idaho Code 33-1634](#), passed 2018). This legislation requires all Idaho high schools to offer at least one computer science course starting in 2020.
- STEM Diploma** ([Idaho Code 33-523](#), passed 2018). This legislation provides recognition for students who have taken STEM course work that is significantly more rigorous than state graduation requirements.

Revenue and Expenditures

| Revenue | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| General Fund | 4,489,500 | 2,575,900 | 2,536,700 | 3,047,100 |
| Dedicated* | 750,547 | 3,340,500 | 2,796,112 | 2,346,094 |
| Total | 5,240,047 | 5,916,400 | 5,332,812 | 5,393,194 |
| Expenditure | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |
| Personnel Costs | 390,185 | 482,169 | 569,802 | 576,211 |
| Operating Expenditures | 3,603,507 | 5,072,591 | 4,658,166 | 4,597,398 |
| Capital Outlay | 7,054 | 11,437 | 5,285 | 550 |
| Trustee and Benefit Payments | 2,018,994 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Total | 6,019,740 | 5,566,197 | 5,233,254 | 5,174,159 |

*Dedicated Revenue numbers have been corrected to reflect actual cash revenue, versus appropriation amounts which were previously reported.

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

The STEM Action Center serves as a coordinator for stakeholders in STEM education and workforce development and to align STEM education with workforce needs. As such, our primary customers are organizations and educators that provide STEM learning opportunities, and industry partners who want to help. We meet associated needs for the state's STEM workforce through competitive funding opportunities, high-quality educator professional development, and opportunities for networking and collaboration, among other methods.

In FY21, the STEM Action Center refocused its role as a coordinator of regional and statewide STEM education opportunities, rather than a program provider, to create efficiencies among partners, leverage existing resources, and increase collaborations. To that end, we coordinated 29 educator peer-to-peer instructional workshops at Idaho's largest STEM professional development program (i-STEM), held 47 statewide collaborative meetings for the Idaho STEM Ecosystem, and co-funded 48 independently generated program proposals bridging employers needs with educational practice.

| Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of Professional Development workshops offered at i-STEM Institutes | ----- | ----- | ----- | 29 |
| Number of statewide STEM stakeholder meetings facilitated | ----- | ----- | ----- | 47 |
| Number of Public-Private Partnership funding opportunities | ----- | ----- | ----- | 48 |

FY 2021 Performance Highlights

The i-STEM libraries have STEM resources and materials (e.g. 3D printers, robotics kits, lesson plans) for educators to check out free of cost. These resource libraries are housed in six colleges and universities throughout the state. The STEM Action Center manages these libraries and recognizes that access to materials is a common barrier to implementing high-quality, effective STEM programming and instruction. This barrier became especially evident during the last year, when some students did not have access to learning materials through their schools, libraries, and other local organizations. To that end, the STEM Action Center used GEER funding to increase the inventory in the libraries and build out a common platform for cataloguing, renting, and tracking materials. As a result, the libraries and their inventories are easier to access and educators have more material to choose from to support STEM teaching and programming.

As part of a coordinated statewide strategy to encourage stakeholder involvement in STEM education and workforce development initiatives, the STEM Action Center developed the Idaho STEM Ecosystem. This effort

allows for more strategic coordination between educators, administrators, out-of-school organizations, state agencies, employers, and more. To ensure this effort reduces barriers and provides opportunity at the local level, STEM Action Center has supported the development of locally-led regional hubs within the Ecosystem.

Part II – Performance Measures

| Performance Measures (new) | | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
|---|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Goal 1: Increase awareness of the importance of STEM+CS education and workforce development | | | | | | |
| 1. Value of earned media for STEM-related efforts in Idaho. | actual | ----- | ----- | ----- | \$742,005 earned media value | ----- |
| | target | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | \$800,000.00 earned media value |
| 2. Reach of earned media for STEM-related efforts in Idaho. | actual | ----- | ----- | ----- | 2,537,523 consumer impressions | ----- |
| | target | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 3,000,000 consumer impressions |
| Goal 2: Advance equitable access to high-quality STEM + CS opportunities for educators, students, and community members. | | | | | | |
| 3. Number of educator utilizations of i-STEM regional library materials. | actual | ----- | ----- | ----- | Established common tracking platform | ----- |
| | target | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 60 educator utilizations of i-STEM library materials |
| 4. Number of STEM designated schools | actual | ----- | ----- | ----- | 6 | ----- |
| | target | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 9 |
| Goal 3: Align STEM+CS education with workforce needs | | | | | | |
| 5. Number of independently generated Public-Private Partnership proposals funded that involve collaboration of education, government, employer and/or other stakeholders. | actual | ----- | ----- | ----- | 48 | ----- |
| | target | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 50 |
| 6. Number of externships run to connect educators and college and career counselors with employers. | actual | ----- | ----- | ----- | 26 | ----- |
| | target | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 30 |

| Performance Measures (old) | | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
|--|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Goal 1: Advance equitable access to high-quality STEM+CS opportunities for educators, students, and communities | | | | | | |
| 1. Number of student engagements | actual | 406,239 | 442,318 | 164,687 | ----- | ----- |
| | target | 204,000 | 406,239 | 331,000 | 331,000 | ----- |

| Performance Measures (old) | | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
|---|--------|--|--|--|--|---------|
| 2. Number of educator interactions | actual | 12,633 | 35,768 | 22,369 | ----- | ----- |
| | target | 5,000 | 12,633 | 26,800 | 26,800 | ----- |
| 3. Total number of grant opportunities offered | actual | 35 | 10 | 4 | ----- | ----- |
| | target | 12 | 35 | 4 | 4 | ----- |
| 4. Percentage of applicants receiving funding via grant opportunities | actual | 68% | 67% | 70% | ----- | ----- |
| | target | 70% | 70% | 50% | 50% | ----- |
| Goal 2: Align STEM education and workforce needs throughout Idaho | | | | | | |
| 5. Value of industry contributions, grants, and donations (as cash, in-kind, and cash equivalent) | actual | \$736,928 cash + \$1,742,217 cash equivalent and in-kind donations | \$1,340,500 cash + \$4,446,511 cash equivalent and in-kind donations | \$1,750,583 cash + \$4,880,204 cash equivalent and in-kind donations | ----- | ----- |
| | target | \$500,000 cash + \$750,000 in-kind and cash equivalent | \$1M cash + \$1.7M in-kind and cash equivalent | \$1M cash + \$2M in-kind and cash equivalent | \$1M cash + \$2.5M in-kind and cash equivalent | ----- |
| 6. Number of opportunities for workforce engagements in high-demand fields | actual | 32 | 48 | 43 | ----- | ----- |
| | target | 2 | 40 | 36 | 40 | ----- |
| 7. Number of mentors involved in STEM AC's educational programming | actual | 60 mentors | 833 mentors serving 18,824 students | **To be reported in Nov. 2020 | ----- | ----- |
| | target | Platform launched | 500 mentors | 800 mentors and 18000 students | 800 mentors and 18000 students | ----- |
| Goal 3: Increase awareness of the importance of STEM throughout Idaho | | | | | | |
| 8. Number of monthly communication efforts | actual | Newsletters reached 4,768 subscribers ; 1,600 social media followers | 4,941 newsletter subscribers, 2,476 social media followers, 2,365 monthly website visits | 5,475 newsletter subscribers, 4,064 social media followers, 3,000 monthly website visits | ----- | ----- |
| | target | Newsletters will reach 5,000 subscribers by 2021 | Newsletters will reach 5,000 subscribers by 2021; continued increase in social media presence; track website utilization | Newsletters will reach 5,000 subscribers, 2,800 social media followers; 3,000 monthly website visits | Newsletters will reach 5,500 subscribers, 4,300 social media followers; 3,000 monthly website visits | ----- |
| 9. Percentage of grants and PD opportunities which | actual | 100% | 100% | 100% | ----- | ----- |
| | target | 50% | 100%** | 100%** | 100%** | ----- |

| Performance Measures (old) | | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
|--|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| include support for traditionally underrepresented populations in STEM | | | | | | |
| 10. Resources and Best Practices Database Utilization | actual | Database was designed and developed | 179 visitors/month | 291 visitors/month | ----- | ----- |
| | target | N/A | Database launch | 500 visitors/month by 2023 | 500 visitors/month by 2023 | ----- |

Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

The updated order of goals and metrics reflected in this report are a result of the agency’s maturity, as well as guidance received from JFAC and DFM to adjust metrics towards impact-based rather than event-based measures. These new metrics were adapted to reflect the impact of the agency’s work, rather than previous event-based metrics. Additionally, metrics were consolidated to reflect the direction the agency will take under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Kaitlin Maguire.

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