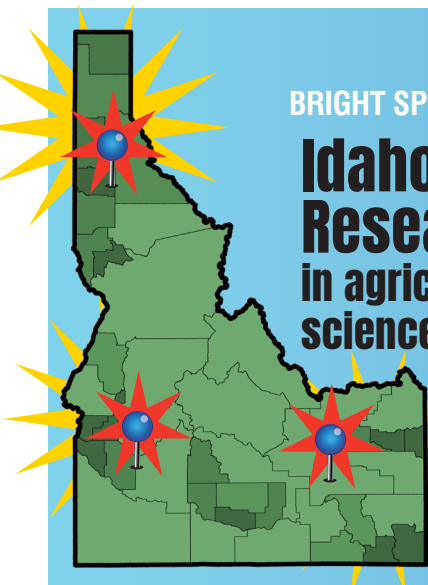


BRIGHT SPOT STEM CAREERS IN SIGHT

Idaho Student Researchers Shine in agriculture, technology, physical sciences, and behavioral sciences



IDAHO STEM ACTION CENTER AND PARTNERS HOST IDAHO SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIRS

Each spring, Idaho STEM Action Center and its partners proudly host 3 regional high school science and engineering fairs for grades 9-12 across Idaho. Students present their findings at EISEF (Eastern Idaho Science and Engineering Fair) in partnership with Idaho National Laboratory (INL) held at Idaho State University, WISEF (Western Idaho Science and Engineering Fair) held at Boise State University, or NISEF (Northern Idaho Science and Engineering Fair) held at Coeur d'Alene Resort. All science fairs will be virtual in 2021.

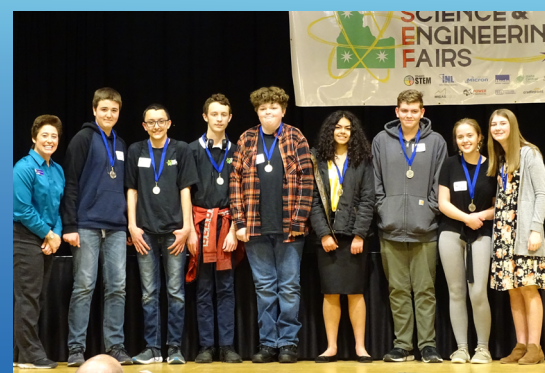
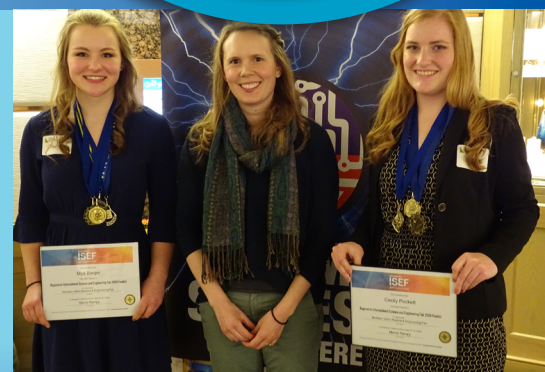
STEM professionals from Idaho STEM Action Center, industry, and university partners volunteered as judges, doing their part to inspire the next generation. Employees and company leaders from Micron, INL, Idaho Central Credit Union, Applied Materials, Microsoft, Schweitzer, Boise State University, Idaho State University, Northern Idaho College, and many others gave their time to support these young scientists as they move one step closer to choosing their career futures.

Best in Fair winners and top schools from the 2020 Idaho Science and Engineering Fairs regional competitions which were held in person in February and March were:

- "Effectiveness of Lavandula Scents on Deterring Odocoileus Virginianus and Cervus Canadensis from Harming Agricultural Crops" by Kamiah High School junior Cecily Puckett, an NISEF Best in Fair award.
- Kamiah junior Mya Barger's "Comparing the Effectiveness of Two Types of Equine-assisted Therapy on Anxiety and Stress in Humans" garnered the other NISEF Best in Fair award.
- "Constructing a Multi-rotor Compatible Water Sampling Apparatus and Associated Water Quality Analysis System" by Nicola Medapalli and Jimin Ryu, sophomores at Timberline High School, earned a WISEF Best in Fair award.
- Nampa Christian senior Tavian Robertson's "Quarks" garnered the other WISEF Best in Fair award.
- Pocatello High School junior Rhea Kalivas earned an EISEF Best in Fair for her research project, "How Well do Household Disinfectants Kill E.coli Bacteria?"
- Idaho Falls High School sophomore Elias Sanders garnered the other EISEF Best in Fair award for his research project, "What is the Most Effective Way to Train an AI?"
- Top schools recognized at the regional science fairs were Grangeville High School, Emmett High School, and Idaho Falls High School.

These winners were among 170 projects, 201 students, and 18 schools participating in the 2020 Idaho regional science fairs.

Idaho's STEM jobs pay well, nearly twice the median wage of non-STEM jobs. Competitions like the Idaho Science and Engineering Fairs are important to the state's future because they offer students opportunities to engage in original research projects aligned with their interests and meet and learn with other motivated students in their area.



STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It's in these subjects that students learn the skills of critical thinking, problem-solving and collaboration—skills that translate to success in many fields. The STEM Action Center is here to support this development and provide Idaho with the talent pipeline it needs for its economy to thrive. Idaho can generate a strong, STEM-competent and competitive workforce that will make us become a prime STEM business destination.





We build STEM through:

EDUCATOR ACCESS

to STEM professional development throughout Idaho

22,000
EDUCATOR
INTERACTIONS

WORKFORCE

development-focused partnerships with **INDUSTRY** and **UNIVERSITIES**

8,000
STEM EDUCATION
interactions through
communities and
businesses

Student STEM COMPETITIONS and camp support

164,000
STUDENT
INTERACTIONS

Today's students will be tomorrow's workforce, and the STEM Action Center has been created to develop the STEM-skilled talent that Idaho employers need.

Our Partners



Idaho Student Researchers Shine



TODAY'S EFFORTS. TOMORROW'S SUCCESSES.

Industry participation is essential for success, and we're here to help make that participation easier. We've created many ways for Idaho businesses to engage with STEM education. From mentoring and volunteering to donating and partnering, you can help move the economy forward by closing the gaps in Idaho's workforce. Let us help you help Idaho!

LEARN MORE

To learn more about the STEM Action Center's strategies, success stories, and positive impacts in your community, email: admin@stem.idaho.gov.



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