

INCLUDE
IMPROVING ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY,
AND MENTAL WELL-BEING



College of Arts and Letters

INCLUDE Project Report October 2024

HOW ISU'S INCLUDE PROJECT IS TRANSFORMING RURAL EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH

What is INCLUDE?

In 2017, ISU launched a pilot program offering 12 Southeast Idaho high school students a unique opportunity to attend college classes on ISU's campus. This allowed them to experience the commitment and requirements of college firsthand, interacting with professors and preparing for the challenges that lie ahead.

Since then, the program has grown significantly, with over 550 students taking on-campus dual enrollment courses by Spring 2021.

However, students in rural areas have been disadvantaged due to their distance from campus, lacking access to the same educational opportunities.

To address this disparity, ISU has introduced the INCLUDE project, leveraging

revolutionary distance learning technology. Through live-streaming college classes directly to rural high schools, ISU's INCLUDE program enables high school students to actively participate alongside college students.

They benefit from mentorship by ISU faculty and enjoy the advantages of being part of the college community.

ISU is forging partnerships with rural high schools, working together to prepare Idaho's youth for college and increase the go-on rate in the state.

The university is committed to boosting student confidence and providing greater access to education for these young individuals, paving the way for a brighter future.



OUR STORY SO FAR...

Our Mission

Our vision is to establish equitable access to low-cost dual enrollment classes to communities across Idaho, increase individual perseverance and academic achievement, and better prepare students for post-secondary education and career.

Creating Opportunity, Equity, and Educational Access to Idaho Learners

Funding

Grant: \$1.29 Million

External Partners and Donors: \$220,456

ATC Communications

Bayer Fund

Blackfoot Communications

Direct Communications

Idaho Humanities Council

Steele-Reese Foundation

USDA



ACCESS. OPPORTUNITY. SUPPORT.

Scan for more information.



DUAL ENROLLMENT COLLEGE COURSES

EDUCATIONAL ACCESS THAT'S PAYING OFF

The INCLUDE Program offers Idaho high school students increased opportunities to participate in select ISU dual enrollment classes, regardless of their location. By utilizing advanced distance learning technology, the program aims to replicate the in-person college classroom experience within the students' own school, eliminating the need for travel.

Thanks to generous donations and a grant from the USDA, high schools receive the necessary equipment and technology at no cost.

Through INCLUDE, dual enrollment, and Fast Forward funds, Idaho high school students can earn college credits without any cost.

The distance learning equipment allows faculty, staff and community members to access college courses, professional

development opportunities, and training beyond their rural community, including school board meetings, seminars, and collaboration between school districts statewide.

The INCLUDE Program supports high school administrators and teachers in their efforts to provide dual enrollment classes, aiding the transition of students from high school to college and increasing their chances of success.

The program not only benefits high school students by providing access to college courses, but also extends its use to community members seeking to earn their ISU degree, advance professionally, or pursue personal interests.



EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

A DUAL APPROACH TO WELL-BEING

INCLUDE has grown to include mental health resources for students, teachers, administrators, parents, and their communities.

INCLUDE schools, situated up to 211 miles away from ISU, face significant barriers in addressing student well-being. Through the implementation of mental telehealth services and the provision of educational resources, ISU aims to address these persistent issues, improving the overall well-being of students and their communities.

INCLUDE provides training and workshops for teachers, administrators, coaches, parents, and students with goals of preventing opioid abuse, improving mental health, and reducing the occurance of suicide.

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PARTICIPANTS ACROSS SOUTHEAST ID HAVE RECEIVED YMHFA TRAINING

Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainings

Offered to eleven schools/districts as of September 2024

- Aberdeen High School
- Aberdeen Middle School
- American Falls High School
- Malad High School
- North Fremont High School
- Shoshone Bannock Jr-Sr High School
- Soda Springs High School
- South Fremont High School
- West Side High School
- Clark County School District
- Grace School District
- Leadore School District

Scheduled for upcoming trainings

- Shelley High School
- North Gem High School
- Rockland School District

The United Methodist Church in Blackfoot hosted the training for all community members involved with youth.

Albion Center is providing no-cost professional development credit for educators.

INCLUDE SCHOOLS

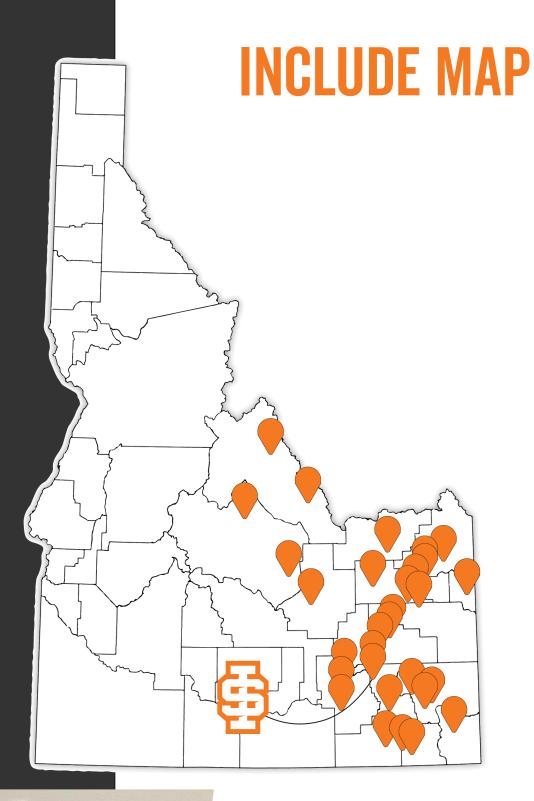
The INCLUDE Program is currently operational in 28 Idaho high schools:

- 1. Aberdeen High School
- 2. American Falls High School
- 3. Bear Lake High School
- 4. Butte County High School
- 5. Challis Junior-Senior High School
- 6. Clark County Junior-Senior High School
- 7. Firth High School
- 8. Grace High School
- 9. Leadore High School
- 10. Mackay Junior-Senior High School
- 11. Malad High School
- 12. Marsh Valley High School
- 13. North Fremont High School
- 14. North Gem High School
- 15. Preston High School
- 16. Rigby High School
- 17. Ririe Junior-Senior High School
- 18. Rockland High School
- 19. Salmon High School
- 20. Shelley High School
- 21. Shoshone Bannock Junior-Senior High School
- 22. Snake River High School
- 23. Soda Springs High School
- 24. South Fremont High School
- 25. Sugar Salem High School
- 26. Teton High School
- 27. West Jefferson High School
- 28. West Side High School

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DISTRICTS WILL IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

USDA Rural Utilities Service Grant The ISU INCLUDE Project is funded by a USDA Rural Utilities Service grant ID0707-B62, under the FY2020 Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program; and grant number 2020633 from the Idaho Humanities Council.





"If we have the knowledge sooner we could know where we're going to go in life and understand what it's like to be in college." —Jordyn from Downey, ID ISU freshman, INCLUDE services recipient

PARTNERS ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

College of Education

College of Nursing (Meridian)

College of Pharmacy

Counseling

Department of Anthropology and Languages (Spanish)

Department of Physician Assistant Studies

Department of Psychology

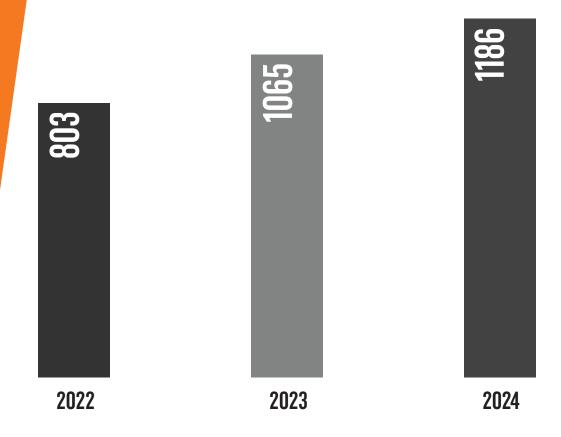
Department of Social Work

In coordination with the Early College Program



IMPACT

"The training we received has given me increased confidence that I can personally make a difference." —INCLUDE Teacher



The number of incoming ISU freshmen from INCLUDE schools increased by 48% in two years.

"In high school I struggled with harsh thoughts, suicidal ideation. The mental health provided to our school is one of the reasons
I'm with you all today."
—INCLUDE Student

IMPACT

"Together we can prepare Idaho's youth for college. We are passionate about increasing student confidence and access to education for these young people, building a path to a brighter future." —Dean Kandi Turley-Ames



"Suicide is not an uncommon concern almost everyday in my classes, and mental health warning signs are prevalent." —INCLUDE Student "I feel that the knowledge I gained has allowed me to be more present with students while also doing things to take care of myself."

—INCLUDE Teacher

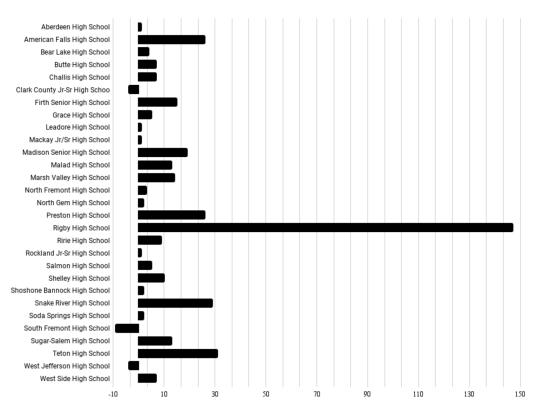
"My town has been advocating more for mental health.

We know a lot of students are struggling and now they're
willing to open up and talk about it.

I'm glad my community is open to accepting this."

—INCLUDE student

Net gain of students from each INCLUDE school (2022-2024).



High schoolers who utilized INCLUDE services in high school are now attending ISU majoring in programs across the university, including psychology, computer science, business, the health sciences, and more.

of Mental Health Support for rural schools in Idaho, sharing the impact that the INCLUDE

Program has had and the continued needs of rural communities.



WANT TO BE INCLUDED?

We acknowledge challenges like sustainable funding, program expansion, and equipment updates. Despite these challenges, our vision remains unchanged.

We are committed to maintaining and expanding support, fostering collaboration, and strengthening connections among these communities to create a safe and supportive network.

We need partners who can help us expand our reach and secure sustainable funding. With more support, we can continue to improve these outcomes!

Scan to Get Involved.



High Schools

To provide access to ISU classes in your district or school...

ISU Faculty/Staff

To instruct, support, or simply know more about the program from the ISU perspective...

Donors

To collaborate with ISU and nearby high schools in aiding the INCLUDE Program, or to make a direct donation...

Community Members

To get involved with the program or learn more about what's going on in your community...

Holly Kartchner