

Applicant Cover Page

Project Title: Inclusive Post-Secondary Education in Idaho (IPSI)

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Abstract:

Inclusive Post-Secondary Education in Idaho (IPSI)

Think College

The task force to grow and sustain Inclusive Post-Secondary Education in Idaho (IPSI) will (a) increase inclusive higher education opportunities for Idahoans with intellectual disabilities (b) envision a broader array of post-secondary experiences that foster individual talents across educational models and forums, (c) expand the number of communities offering post-secondary education programs, and (d) create support structures and agreements that sustain meaningful postsecondary outcomes for student with intellectual disabilities. The specific goals of the project are to: 1) promote greater knowledge across target audiences about quality higher education programs to improve outcomes for students with Intellectual Disabilities; 2) increase quantity and quality of existing higher education initiatives; 3) increase the participation of students with ID in competitive integrated employment, valued community membership, and independent living; and 4) align policy and guidance across local and state K-12 transition and higher education entities, and federal agencies. The specific outcomes of the project include the following.

- 1) A recharged, collaborative, sustainable IPSI task force.
- 2) An Idaho Think College website with multiple resources for growing, funding, and sustaining programs at the local level, new and emerging national models of inclusive post-secondary education, an interactive evolving map of programs available in the state with requirements, tuition, and support features, student outcome data such as job placements and student/family satisfaction ratings.
- 3) Presentations forums for communities, colleges, families, and other stakeholder groups about the benefits and returns at the local and state level from investments in postsecondary opportunities for transition age students.
- 4) Collaborations with institutions and communities that outline intentional sustainable support structures for on-going growth and development.

The Center on Disabilities and Human Development (CDHD) at the University of Idaho (UI) will coordinate all activities with the IPSI collaborative and assess outcomes through an articulated project evaluation. The IPSI task force includes members from Boise State University (BSU), Lewis and Clark State College (LCSC), Idaho State University (ISU),

University of Idaho, representatives from two year institutions (CSI, NIC, CWI), high school and/or college age students, family members, the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, Disability Rights Idaho, Idaho Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR), State Independent Living Council (SILC), Idaho Self-Advocate Leadership Network (SALN), Idaho Parents Unlimited (IPUL), Idaho State Department of Education, Treasure Valley Down Syndrome Association, and Treasure Valley Autism Society. To assure successful implementation and maintain momentum, the IPSI collaborative will meet regularly at a distance through an accessible conference platform such a Zoom and periodically face-to-face.