



**SHERRI YBARRA**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

650 W. STATE STREET  
P.O. BOX 83720  
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

OFFICE: 208-332-6800  
FAX: 208-334-2228  
SPEECH/HEARING  
IMPAIRED: 1-800-377-3529  
WWW.SDE.IDAHO.GOV

#### **SDE PRESS KITS**

Jeff Church  
Chief Communications Officer  
OFFICE: 208.332.6934  
EMAIL: jchurch@sde.idaho.gov

# Idaho Reading Indicator RFP

Driven by recommendation made within Idaho's Comprehensive Literacy Plan, and the work conducted by the Task Force Literacy Implementation Subcommittee, the Idaho State Department of Education has conducted a Request for Proposal (RFP) using guidance and recommendations made by the Task Force Early Literacy Assessment Working Group.

The working group made recommendations to the Idaho State Board of Education on June 16, 2016, and provided a roadmap to support the department through the RFP process. The department not only utilized these recommendations, but also followed nationally recognized best practices to conduct the RFP process.

## Idaho Reading Indicator RFP Timeline

With the recommendations made by the Early Literacy Assessment Working Group, the department conducted the RFP through the following timeline:

- Original Issue Date of the RFP: **September 23, 2016**
- Pre-proposal meeting with potential respondents: **October 10, 2016**
- Department closes the RFP: **November 28, 2016**
- Established review committee conducts review process: **Nov 28th – Dec 6th, 2016**
- Department issues Intent to Award letter to Istation: **December 19, 2016**

## Who Was Involved?

To ensure that not only the most effective solution was chosen for Idaho, the Chief Procurement Officer administered the RFP process with evaluators from schools and district representing every region of the state, including several reading specialists, a literacy coach, a principal, a kindergarten teacher, and a Boise State University literacy, language, and culture specialist. There was also involvement of the department's English Language Arts (ELA) Coordinator, Director of Assessment, Director of English Learner and Migrant Education, and the department's Deputy Superintendent.

- Shelby Randklev, Fernan STEM Academy – Title 1 Reading Specialist
- Susan Mahoney, Moscow School District – Title 1 Reading Specialist
- Melissa Hanson, Genesee Elementary – Kindergarten Teacher
- Laura Reynolds, Garfield Elementary – Reading Specialist
- Cyndi Cooper, Popplewell Elementary – Principal
- Gretchen Kinghorn, Pocatello Chubbuck School District – Title 1/EL Coordinator
- Aisa Ricks, Madison School District – Literacy Coach
- Carolyn Loffer, Boise State University – Literacy, Language and Culture
- Deb Glaser, Independent Contractor – Consultant
- Diann Roberts, State Department of Education – ELA/Literacy Coordinator
- Karlynn Laraway, State Department of Education – Director of Assessment
- Christina Nava, State Department of Education – Director of EL and Migrant
- Tim McMurtrey, State Department of Education – Deputy Superintendent



**SHERRI YBARRA**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

650 W. STATE STREET  
P.O. BOX 83720  
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

OFFICE: 208-332-6800  
FAX: 208-334-2228  
SPEECH/HEARING  
IMPAIRED: 1-800-377-3529  
WWW.SDE.IDAHO.GOV

## Financial Overview (*Software Only*)

---

- **Proposed for Year 1:** \$64,350 (\$4.70 per student, supporting 10,500 students)
- **Proposed for Year 2:** \$435,150 (\$4.60 per student, supporting an estimated 90,250 students)
- **Proposed for Year 3:** \$426,125 (\$4.50 per student, supporting an estimated 90,250 students)
- **Proposed for Year 4:** \$426,125 (\$4.50 per student, supporting an estimated 90,250 students)
- **Proposed for Year 5:** \$426,125 (\$4.50 per student, supporting an estimated 90,250 students)
- **Total Estimated Cost: \$1,777,875**

## Program Overview

---

- **Proposed for Year 1:** Supports 10,500 students in preliminary testing and provides for professional development within the pilot year.
- **Proposed for Year 2:** Supports 90,250 students by conducting a field test and provides for implementation and professional development.
- **Proposed for Year 3:** Supports 90,250 students in on-going operational testing and provides for annual professional development.
- **Proposed for Year 4:** Supports 90,250 students in on-going operational testing and provides for annual professional development.
- **Proposed for Year 5:** Supports 90,250 students in on-going operational testing and provides for annual professional development.

## The Department and Istation

---

**From Istation's Proposal:** Istation is here to meet all of the SDE assessment needs and more. We have been providing states and school districts with our award-winning educational technology for over 18 years. Our online program offers a suite of research-based assessment and instructional tools for targeted intervention and instruction as well as multiple easy-to-use progress monitoring reports.

Our patented Istation's Indicator of Progress (ISIP) assessment provides feedback to both learners and teachers regarding student's current abilities, gaps in learning and intervention tools to increase student achievement. Assessments can be given three times a year (Beginning, Middle & End) as a universal screener as well as monthly for progress monitoring. On-demand assessments are also available and may be scheduled up to a weekly basis if desired.

Once student's needs are identified, our online program, teacher resources and at-home lessons provide for instruction that aligns with Idaho's Learning [Content] Standards. Academic growth, achievements and progress gained using Istation is accessible through multiple progress reports available for teachers, reading instructors, and/or state or district administrators.

## Intent to Award vs. Awarded Contract

---

While the Idaho State Department of Education has provided an Intent to Award letter to Istation—**this was not a contract award made on December 19, 2016**. This notice provided is an intent to award only and final contract documents will be negotiated at a later date, **pending an appropriation by the Idaho Legislature for fiscal year 2018**.



**SHERRI YBARRA**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

650 W. STATE STREET  
P.O. BOX 83720  
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

OFFICE: 208-332-6800  
FAX: 208-334-2228  
SPEECH/HEARING  
IMPAIRED: 1-800-377-3529  
WWW.SDE.IDAHO.GOV

## Additional References

---

- [Idaho's Comprehensive Literacy Plan](#)
- [Literacy Implementation Subcommittee Recommendations, August 13, 2015](#)
- [State Comprehensive Literacy Plan Approval, December 10, 2015](#)
- [Early Literacy Assessment Working Group Report, June 16, 2016](#)