

Supporting schools and students to achieve

At the heart of Idaho's accountability system is support for schools identified for assistance to improve learning for students.

What accountability identification designates a school for assistance?

Three identification areas qualify a school for assistance:

- Underperforming (CSI Up) – A school is identified when its overall performance on key academic and school quality and student success indicators is among the lowest 5% of schools in its category. Categories are: K-8, high school, or alternative school.
- Graduation (CSI Grad) – A school is identified when its three-year average graduation rate is lower than 67%.
- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) – A school is identified annually based on the performance of one or more subgroups.

How will Idaho support CSI Up and CSI Grad schools?

CSI schools will receive three years of support. The support is based on a partnership between the state technical assistance team (STAT) and the local leadership team and includes:

- Leadership professional development including the Idaho Superintendents Network, the Idaho Principal Mentoring Project, and the Idaho Principals Network;
- Support from a capacity builder (CB), extensively trained in school improvement efforts and in systems change;
- Assistance with developing a schoolwide improvement plan (SWIP) which includes a comprehensive needs assessment;
- Other state support that may be identified through the needs assessment; and
- Regular progress monitoring through phone check-ins and state trainings with the STAT

What is the role of a local school's leadership team?

Forming an effective school leadership team, comprised of teachers, school and district administrators, parents, and others is essential to improving student learning, is the first step for any school identified for CSI support.

The school leadership team will be responsible for:

- Working with the STAT team and the school's CB;
- Involving stakeholders in improvement efforts;
- Developing the schoolwide improvement plan including completing a needs assessment and identifying specific improvement strategies; and
- Implementing the plan including progress monitoring with the STAT and CB.

What is the role of the state technical assistance team (STAT)?

STAT is comprised of staff from the department of education and others who provide guidance and support in school improvement, leadership, assessments, content and curriculum, communications, and more. Guided by a strengths-based philosophy, the STAT will be responsible for:

- Coordinating support for schools;
- Partnering with school leadership team and their CBs to support planning;
- works closely with CBs and school leadership teams to support planning;
- Reviewing for approval recommendation the school's three-year plan to improve; and
- Monitoring the school's plan implementation and progress toward improvement.

Is there other support for CSI Up schools that serve disadvantaged students?

In addition to the services in the statewide school improvement system of support, CSI Up schools that are part of the Title I-A program will qualify for improvement funds for three years.

Idaho annually receives \$2.1 million for Title I schools that are identified as CSI Up. For 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21, each CSI Up school serving fewer than 20 students will receive a base amount of \$20,000 and larger schools 20 or greater will receive a base amount of \$50,000. Each school will also receive an additional per student amount. These funds used to support the plan created by the school leadership team to improve student learning.

CSI identified based on the performance of all students, what about subgroups?

Every year, the state will review the performance of subgroups of students in schools. A school is identified for targeted assistance and support (TSI) when the performance gap of 35% or more for a subgroup of students compared to their peers is identified or the value for the subgroups performance falls in the lowest 5% of all schools performance.

How will local education agencies (LEAs) and the state support TSI schools?

The LEA (a school district, or sometimes a charter school) will provide TSI assistance and ensure the school forms a leadership team and creates an improvement plan for its approval. LEAs also can access state technical assistance available to support their TSI schools including the Idaho Superintendents Network, the Idaho Principal Mentoring Project, and the Idaho Principals Network and other supports.

Important dates

- CSI Up schools meeting Sept. 10-11, 2018
- CSI Grad schools meeting Oct. 30, 2018
- CSI Schoolwide Improvement Plans (SWIP) due Jan. 18, 2019

