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|  | **Idaho Campus Choice: Getting into college has never been easier.** Idaho Campus Choice is a way to move more quickly through the college application process. Instead of submitting your college applications and waiting to hear back, you’ll learn up front which Idaho public colleges and universities you are already qualified for [pre-admission](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/campus-choice). |

**Curriculum Topic:** College and Career Exploration

**Learning Outcomes:** Students will be able to (SWBAT):

1. Identify Idaho Campus Choice and determine each level of pre-admissions
2. Prepare for the ISAT using practice tests
3. Use research from general search engines and Next Steps Idaho to explore Idaho colleges
4. Identify Apply Idaho schools and determine application requirements (11th grade focus)

**Activity Summary:** Share what Idaho Campus Choice is with students to better understand how they can begin planning their post-secondary options. Using the guided slide deck and additional shared resources, provide students with insight into ISAT scores being used as a metric for their Idaho Campus Choice status.

**Estimated Time:** 60-90 minutes (one full class period)

**Suggested Grade Level:** 8th and 11th grade

**Materials Needed:**

* Teacher Materials: Computer/projector, slide deck, Next Steps access to the Idaho Campus Choice webpage
  + 8th grade focus – provide students access to the Next Steps 8th grade checklist
  + 11th grade focus – provide students access to the 11th grade checklist and Next Steps college directory
* Student Materials: Access to Next Steps Idaho webpage, pen/pencil for notes, ISAT practice assessments

**Academic Vocabulary:**

* **ISAT Test:** Idaho’s Standard Achievement Test - assesses all students enrolled in an Idaho public school grades 3-8 and 11. Students are assessed on grade-level Idaho content standards in mathematics, English/Language Arts, and science\*. The summative ISAT is administered to Idaho students in March through May each school year.
  + *\*The science ISAT is only administered to students in grades 5, 8, and 11.*
* **Idaho Campus Choice** – Idaho’s direct admissions program that pre-admits students to college based on GPA and ISAT scores from student’s 11th grade year.
* **Graduation Requirements** - minimum requirements a high school student must meet in order to be eligible to receive a high school diploma [(State Department of Education)](https://www.sde.idaho.gov/topics/hs-grad-req/)
* **College Major** – a specific area of study that a student focuses on during their undergraduate degree program
* **Major Exploration** – the active process of researching and deciding on a college major that involves self-reflection, asking questions, and using campus resources

**Introduction:** In this lesson, you will learn about Idaho Campus Choice and how to use your ISAT scores for Idaho Campus Choice placement. We will explore the different Idaho Campus Choice levels and discuss your preparation for ISAT testing.

**Learning Activities/Procedures:** Use slide deck

1. Go through the slides on the ISAT ICC Lesson Plan Slide Deck.
2. Review and explain the definitions to students – give time for questions and uncertainty as you explain this process.

* 8th grade is about encouraging your students to do their best, helping them understand what direct admissions are, and guiding them to stay on track.
* 11th is about encouraging students to do their best and understand how their current scores can be used for direct admissions. Additionally, how their scores may impact post-secondary course placement.

1. Introduce Idaho Campus Choice and how this program supports students to create their post-high school plan.
   * **KEY POINTS: (Slides 1-3)**
     1. Idaho Campus Choice standards have been updated beginning with the class of 2025
     2. Students can qualify for pre-admission to all 8 public institutions based on:
        1. 3.0 unweighted high school GPA (determined end of junior year)
        2. Score a Level 3 (Proficient) or higher on both the 11th grade English and Math ISAT exams
     3. After students learn of their Idaho Campus Choice status, they will need to apply using the Apply Idaho application
2. Dive into the ISAT assessment and expectations for students **(Slide 5 & 6)**
   * Emphasize purpose of the assessment
   * Provide school resources and share sample questions or practice exams
   * SLIDE 6 – Highlight that even if students do not earn a 3 on either ELA or Math can still apply to various colleges and review the different Idaho Campus Choice levels
3. **(8th grade focus)** THINK - PAIR – SHARE: Consider having students write their thoughts before sharing
   * THINK: What are potential careers or fields of interest you have for your future? What high school course do you think/hope to take to help you learn more about your future?
   * PAIR: Pair with your elbow partner and discuss your top choices and why you selected them. Make sure each partner has a chance to share. Consider/discuss the similarities and differences you had.
   * SHARE: Group discussion. Share with the class why we selected the different pathways, consider having partners share on behalf of one another.
   * Can add in to the lesson for students to review high school courses and planning involvement for clubs or activities. Optional to invite a counselor to assist with a presentation.
4. **(11th grade focus)** THINK - PAIR – SHARE: Consider having students write their thoughts before sharing
   * THINK: What are potential careers or fields of study interest you for post-secondary? What have you previously learned about these careers/areas and why do they interest you?
   * PAIR: Pair with your elbow partner and discuss your top choices and why you selected them. Make sure each partner has a chance to share. Consider/discuss the similarities and differences you had.
   * SHARE: Group discussion. Share with the class why we selected the different interests, consider having partners share on behalf of one another.
   * Can add into the lesson for students to explore Apply Idaho and the college directory on Next Steps Idaho
5. Towards the end of class: How will I use my Idaho Campus Choice status?
   * Review the breakdown of each level that Idaho Campus Choice has (3 levels) and the corresponding requirements
   * Correlate college preparation to future planning about course selection for high school
     1. Highlight the ISAT scores attached to the first level that pre-admits students to all 8 public colleges
   * Remind students that no matter what their Idaho Campus Choice status is, they can still apply to any college in Idaho they are interested in

**Accommodations/Adaptations/Extensions:**

**Accommodation:** Provide English Language Learner resources for the ISAT and extended time with reviewing the 8th and 11th grade checklists.

**Adaptation:** Virtual: student can complete the lesson online and submit a reflection to the platform that is necessary in their district (or the Next Steps Idaho website). They should participate in a live session or a Q &A to receive support for this planning.

**Extension:** Allow students who finish early the opportunity to learn more about Idaho colleges and test/GPA requirements. Begin early interest profiler assessments to discuss major exploration concepts.

**Evaluation:** Students will reflect on how ISAT scores impact their Idaho Campus Choice status and provide insight to which Idaho colleges offer areas of study that interest them.

**Closing:** All the work you have done this year has prepared you for the ISAT. Studying and focused preparation will guide you and help hold you accountable throughout your time in high school. Idaho Campus Choice is a great opt-in program to guide you in making decisions about your post-secondary options. Regardless of your Idaho Campus Choice results, you can still apply to any college that interests you and offers what you major in for college. Remember, people grow and change constantly, and it isn’t unusual for goals to change over time as well. If you decide you want to take a different path, talk to a friend, teacher, mentor or counselor.

**Resources/References:**

* [ISAT ICC Lesson Plan Slide Deck](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/assets/uploads/2025/02/ISAT-ICC-Lesson-Plan-Slide-Deck.pptx)
* ISAT Testing Support: [<https://sampleitems.smarterbalanced.org/>](https://sampleitems.smarterbalanced.org/)
* Idaho Campus Choice: [<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/campus-choice>](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/campus-choice)
* Next Steps Idaho College Directory: <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/college-and-universities-directory>
* “Idaho High School Graduation Requirements.” *Next Steps Idaho*, https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/resources/idaho-high-school-graduation-requirements.
* EMAIL TEMPLATES [<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/assets/uploads/2024/12/8th-grade-campaign-email-templates.docx>](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/assets/uploads/2024/12/8th-grade-campaign-email-templates.docx)
* Apply Idaho Application: [<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/apply-idaho>](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/apply-idaho)
* TALKING POINTS GUIDE: <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/assets/uploads/2025/02/Talking-Points-Guide.docx>