

The Idaho Behavioral Health Council (IBHC) was established in 2020 through a partnership between the three branches of Idaho state government. The mission of the Council is to develop and implement a strategic plan to improve access and provide better outcomes for Idahoans in need of behavioral health resources.

Pursuant to Idaho Code 57-825, the IBHC is also responsible for making recommendations to Governor Brad Little for the state portion of the Opioid Settlement Funds. The Idaho Intrastate Allocation Agreement provides that the funds received must be split 40% to the State, 40% to participating cities and counties, and 20% to participating health districts. The IBHC members voted on and recommended four (4) spending priorities to the Governor which were the increase of behavioral health professionals, treatment for behavioral health issues, recovery services, and prevention education and programming to be the topmost categories.

After a public comment process open to state agencies, private entities, and members of the public, the Council received thirty (30) general spending recommendation submissions. The Council voted on these recommendations and provided eleven (11) funding proposals to the Governor on August 28, 2023. Through a collaborative effort between the IBHC, the Office of the Governor, and the Division of Financial Management (DFM), those funding proposals were included within the Governor's FY 2025 Idaho Works Budget in the following ways.

PRIORITY: Increase Supply of Behavioral Health Professionals

Department of Health and Welfare

The Governor recommended, and the Joint Finance Appropriation Committee (JFAC) appropriated, \$800,000 one-time State Directed Opioid Settlement Funds to the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) to support behavioral health practitioners or workers involved in addressing Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and any co-occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD) or mental health conditions; to provide scholarships for students taking undergraduate and graduate college-level addiction studies courses at an Idaho college or university; to hire or train behavioral health workers to provide or expand on services or support.

Funding Source	FY 2025
State Opioid Settlement Fund	\$800,000

Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses

The Governor recommended, and JFAC appropriated, \$350,000 one-time State Directed Opioid Settlement Funds to the Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses to expand access to medications to treat opioid use disorder (MOUD). These funds will cover the costs associated with a physician assistant, pharmacist, nurse practitioner, psychologist, and others obtaining a Drug Enforcement Administration MOUD registration/license to ensure increased supply of MOUD providers throughout rural Idaho.

Funding Source	FY 2025
State Opioid Settlement Funds	\$350,000

PRIORITY: Recovery Services

Department of Health and Welfare

The Governor recommended, and JFAC appropriated, \$400,000 onetime State Directed Opioid Settlement Funds to the Department of Health and Welfare to aid the National Association on Mental Illness (NAMI) Idaho in launching and expanding peer-led support group programs in schools across the state for early identification and addressing of issues in young people; to provide a full-time clinical navigator, recovery coaching, and treatment services for re-entry clients at St. Vincent de Paul; and to develop a model Idaho Collegiate Recovery Program at Boise State University.

Funding Source	FY 2025
State Opioid Settlement Fund	\$400,000

PRIORITY: Treatment of Behavioral Health Issues

Department of Corrections

The Governor recommended, and JFAC appropriated, two (2) full time positions, \$580,000 ongoing and \$16,700 one-time State Directed Opioid Settlement Funds to the Department of Corrections for the creation of a pilot program to provide medications for opioid use disorder for incarcerated individuals and to hire two case manager positions to coordinate the opioid use disorder induction and community treatment coordination for inmates reentering the community.

Funding Source	FY 2025
State Opioid Settlement Fund	\$597,100

The Governor recommended, and JFAC appropriated, a one-time General Fund cash transfer to the Permanent Building Fund for the Department of Corrections to construct a secure, 26-bed forensic mental health facility to care for patients committed and determined to be dangerously mentally ill (DMI) by Idaho courts. Currently, patients deemed DMI are admitted to the Idaho Maximum Security Institution and are being treated in a prison setting. The facility will be operated by both the department and DHW.

Funding Source	FY 2025
General Fund	\$25,000,000

PRIORITY: Prevention Education and Programming

Office of Drug Policy

The Governor recommended, and JFAC appropriated, \$100,000 one-time State Directed Opioid Settlement Funds to the Office of Drug Policy to support opioid-specific community-based prevention models through a competitive grant application process for eligible public and non-profit entities for the implementation of evidence-based prevention programs in communities to enhance protective factors and promote long-term resiliency in children and youth.

Funding Source	FY 2025
State Opioid Settlement Fund	\$25,000,000

	TOTALS
Funding Source	FY 2025
General Fund	\$25,000,000
State Opioid Settlement Fund	\$2,147,100
Total	\$27,147,100