

## Idaho Digital Learning receives \$100,000 grant

### Enrollment caps lifted on advanced classes

Boise - In an effort to increase student access to Advanced Placement™ and dual credit classes throughout the state, the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation generously donated \$100,000 to the Idaho Digital Learning Academy.

IDLA is the state-sponsored online school which serves junior high and high school students in nearly every district in Idaho. Due to budget cutbacks mandated by the Idaho State Legislature, IDLA was forced to take the historic step of implementing enrollment caps for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year.

"This is a very trying time for educators in Idaho," said Donna Hutchison, IDLA CEO. "IDLA strives to be part of the solution for districts struggling with budget cuts."

Idaho Digital Learning is using the \$100,000 grant to *immediately* lift enrollment caps on AP and dual credit classes as part of the Albertson Foundation's "Go On" campaign, which encourages students to continue onto college or postsecondary education. This grant will also provide resources to help students prepare for the college preparatory exam.

"Increasing access to educational opportunities such as AP and dual credit classes is essential for Idaho's students," said J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation Executive Director Jamie MacMillan. "Idaho students rank in the bottom 10 states for students who go on and complete postsecondary training and education. Without access to advanced opportunities such as those IDLA provides, Idaho's students are far less likely to complete the education necessary to help them — and the state — be as successful as possible."

"We are so grateful for the generosity of the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation," said Hutchison. "This grant will allow more Idaho students to get a head start in their college careers through online learning."

IDLA offers 47 AP and dual credit (DC) courses, from DC Calculus to DC Psychology. Enrollment for Fall classes closes on September 3, 2010.

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*Idaho Digital Learning was created by the Legislature in 2002. The state online school serves nearly 100% of Idaho School districts and 14,300 enrollments. IDLA is nationally recognized; ranking 3rd in the U.S. for Online Learning Policy and Practice (Center for Digital Education, 2008).*