

# IRSA | Membership

Where rural schools unite to tackle shared challenges and champion every student's success.



Idaho Rural Schools Association

Join IRSA for specialized support, advocacy, and community that addresses Idaho's unique rural education needs.

## Why Join IRSA? Six Key Membership Benefits:

- **Advocacy & Voice** - Amplify rural Idaho's voice in state education policy discussions. IRSA actively advocates for policies, funding formulas, transportation support, and broadband access that rural schools need.
- **Professional Development** - Access training, conferences, and resources designed specifically for rural Idaho schools, plus ongoing professional development opportunities that equip you with skills for exceptional rural education.
- **Networking & Community Support** - Combat isolation by connecting with Idaho superintendents, principals, and teachers who understand your challenges. Build valuable mentorship networks and engage with community members to find effective solutions together.
- **Resource Sharing & Allocation** - Access cost-effective programs, shared services, grant opportunities, and best practices to stretch limited budgets. IRSA works with state and local governments to allocate resources more equitably to rural districts.
- **Innovative Solutions** - Connect with Idaho educators who understand rural challenges like geographic isolation, limited budgets, and small staffs. Share practical solutions and access innovative programs tailored specifically to rural school needs.
- **Strategic Partnerships** - Benefit from IRSA's partnerships with businesses, non-profits, and educational institutions that bring additional resources and opportunities directly to rural schools, creating collaborative support for rural education.

## Bonus: National Resources Through NREA Partnership



IRSA is one of 44 state affiliates of the National Rural Education Association - America's oldest rural education organization (established 1907).

Your IRSA membership includes access to:

Programs & Opportunities:

Mini-Grant Programs

Scholarships and Awards

Essay Contests and Recognition Programs

NREA Podcast and Weekly Newsletter

Professional Development:

Annual NREA Conference (This October in Salt Lake City!)

Rural Education Virtual Conference (Spring)

Research Symposium

Workshop and presentation opportunities

Advocacy & Leadership:

Federal advocacy and legislation monitoring through NREA Legislative Committee

Opportunities to serve on federal education review panels

Access to congressional representatives, governors, and U.S. Department of Education officials

Networking:

Connect with rural educators nationwide

Research & Funding:

NREA Foundation grants and research support

Teacher and Dissertation Awards

Join IRSA and tap into over 115 years of rural education expertise and advocacy at both state and national levels.

**IRSA was founded in 1990 to have a stronger voice for rural schools at the state level. The mission has always been to safeguard the future of small and rural schools by improving communication among rural districts, agencies, and policymakers.**

## For information on membership contact:

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