Overall Mission Fulfillment Analysis: ISU has seen some setbacks in achieving mission fulfillment goals in FY2020. The setbacks are a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic that has affected student opportunities and institutional operations. Not only did the Institution have a 7% cut in its operating budget, but in Spring 2020, it converted almost all of its courses online to support the health restrictions. In Fall 2020, ISU created hyflex courses to support student learning. Even with that change, safety measures in place for face-to-face classes like labs, and new technology throughout the Institution, the pandemic still negatively affected the students and university. The core themes most affected were Core Themes 1, 2 and 4.

Core Theme 1: Research continued to progress at ISU but was severely hampered, which had direct consequences for the students participating in research activities.

Core Theme 2: Student success measures dropped slightly as some students struggled with online learning. ISU undertook a mammoth effort to support students by expanding technological capabilities and support, and some students struggled to meet the challenges caused by the pandemic.

Core Theme 3: There was a slight drop in overall Core Theme performance due to COVID-19. However, KDHS and the University still made strong strides toward their goals in many of the areas. One of the increases included an upswing in first-time pass rates of professional testing that met or exceeded the national standards. Only one of the 15 programs did not meet the expectation. Many of the programs had a 100% pass rate.

Core Theme 4: Additionally, COVID significantly affected ISU’s community outreach efforts because community and institution restrictions negatively affected their scheduling. However, ISU transitioned the traditional community activities to providing Covid related community support to events like a community testing site.