Message From State Superintendent Christopher A. Koch

Last week we released our new School, District and State Report Cards at illinoisreportcard.com. Thank you for your patience as we overhauled our Report Cards to be more user friendly, and thank you for your feedback. We are still working to improve the Report Card but have received a lot of positive feedback on the new look and the information provided through the online and At-A-Glance Report Cards.

We also have resources available for you at the Report Card site and our Hot Topics page (http://www.isbe.net/hot-topics.htm#facts) that will help you as you discuss the new Report Card and the changes we are implementing this fall.

Next week is Veterans Day. I give my thanks to all of you who served in the armed forces or continue to serve in the guard or reserves. One day a year is not enough to thank veterans for the price they have paid, and many continue to pay, on our behalf. Please take a few moments with your students to recognize your local veterans.

Governor Quinn again is asking grade school students across Illinois to help make the holidays brighter for our service members who were injured overseas. He will travel to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany to deliver holiday cards for the troops made by Illinois students.

Cards can be sent to:
Office of Governor Pat Quinn
Attn: Holiday Cards to Troops Program
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph St., Suite 16-100
Chicago, IL 60601

General guidelines:
- Holiday cards of all types are welcome (i.e. Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, etc.)
- Cards created by grade school students only.
- Cards should be no larger than 8.5 x 11 paper.
- Cards may be handmade or computer generated.
- Stack cards neatly and bundle with rubber bands.
- Include one index card with your school’s name and mailing address.
- Cards only – We are unable to accept items other than holiday cards.

---

Table of Contents

| Title Grant Administration Division | 2 |
| Technology Funding | 2 |
| Family Engagement | 3 |
| Special Education Services Division | 3 |
| Nutrition and Wellness Programs | 3 |
| National Board Resource Center | 4 |
| CDC | 5 |
| Rising Star | 5 |
| Data Analysis and Accountability | 5 |
| Standards and Assessments | 6 |
| School Business Services Division | 7 |
| Rules and Waivers | 7 |
| U.S. Food Waste Challenge | 8 |
| After-School Programs | 9 |
| Early Childhood Division | 9 |
| Illinois Department of Natural Resources | 10 |
| Illinois Department of Transportation | 10 |
| In Brief | 10 |
Cards must be received no later than Friday, Dec. 6, 2013. Any questions about Gov. Quinn’s Holiday Cards to Troops Program can be directed to gov.cards4troops@illinois.gov.

Have a great week!
Chris

**Upcoming Dates and Deadlines**

Please note this is not a complete list of dates and deadlines. For questions, call the Illinois State Board of Education at (866) 262-6663 or (217) 782-4321 or visit the agency’s official website at http://www.isbe.net.

- **ISBE offices closed for Veterans Day** – Nov. 11
- **Student Health Data – Immunization system report deadline** – Nov. 15
- **Nonpublic Registration, Enrollment, and Staff Report for school year 2013-14 in IWAS** – Deadline Nov. 15
- **2013-2014 Unfilled Positions Survey available on IWAS for data entry** – Deadline Nov. 15
- **Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision)** – Public comment period ends November 18
- **One-day Standards Based Reporting Workshop** – Offered Nov. 19 and Nov. 20 (http://www.isbe.net/common_core/pdf/standards-based-reporting-flyer11-13.pdf)
- **FY 14 School District Library Grant application deadline** – Nov. 22 (http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/schoolpercappgrant.html)
- **School Energy Efficiency Grant and School Maintenance Project Grant application deadline** – Nov. 27 (http://www.isbe.net/sbss/default.htm)
- **ISBE offices closed for Thanksgiving** – Nov. 28-29
- **FY14 NCLB Monitoring Instrument available for completion and submission in IWAS** – Due by Nov. 30
- **FY14 NCLB Title I Comparability document deadline (Available in IWAS)** – Nov. 30
- **Part 22 (Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators), Part 23 (Standards for the School Service Personnel Certificate), Part 28 (Standards for Certification in Special Education) and Part 29 (Standards for Administrative Certification)** – Public comment period ends December 23
- **ISBE offices closed for Christmas** – Dec. 25
- **ISBE offices closed for New Year’s Day** – Jan. 1
- **Postmark deadline for waiver applications to be considered by General Assembly in Spring 2014** – Friday, January 17, 2014 (See http://www.isbe.net/isbewaivers/default.htm for new public notice requirements for all waiver requests.)
- **ISBE offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day** – Jan. 20
- **ISBE offices closed for Lincoln’s Birthday** – Feb. 12
- **ISBE offices closed for Presidents’ Day** – Feb. 17
- **National School Breakfast Week** – March 3-7
- **School Nutrition Employee Week** – May 5-9
- **Applications for the Exception to the 1.0 Percent Cap** – May 16
- **Student Health Data – Vision system report deadline** – June 30

---

**Title Grant Administration Division**

**Title I Directors Winter Meeting Set for Wednesday, Nov. 20, in Springfield**

The Illinois Association of Title I Directors (IATD), in cooperation with the Illinois State Board of Education, will be hosting the Title I Directors Winter meeting on Nov. 20, 2013. Highlights of this daylong meeting include a panel on Danielson, Course Mason, Title I Timelines, How to Do an Amendment, and more.

To view the draft agenda and to register for the conference, please go to the IATD website at http://www.iatd.net/.

**Technology Funding**

**Districts Asked to Complete and Update PARCC Technology Readiness Tool (TRT)**

ISBE will be requesting technology infrastructure funding during the 2014-2015 legislative session.
Information from the PARCC Technology Readiness Tool (TRT), [https://www.techreadiness.net](https://www.techreadiness.net), will be used as a way to show infrastructure need. Any district that hasn’t completed the school and device information within the tool is asked to do so before Nov. 22, 2013. Districts that had technology upgrades over the summer are asked to update their information in the TRT by Nov. 22, 2013.

Districts that need help completing the information in the tool should contact their Learning Technology Center: [http://www.isbe.net/spec-ed/elearning/html/ltc.htm](http://www.isbe.net/spec-ed/elearning/html/ltc.htm). Questions concerning accessing the TRT should be directed to Jamey Baiter in the Special Education Division at jbaiter@isbe.net or (217) 782-5589, ext 2.

**Family Engagement**

**ISBE Seeks Feedback on Family Engagement Framework Guide**

The Illinois State Board of Education works to ensure that every student is prepared to succeed in careers and postsecondary education. When families, schools and communities partner in promoting learning and healthy development for all children, school thrive and student outcomes increase. Research indicates that when parents are engaged with their children’s education, whether in school or at home, students do better academically. In an effort to strengthen family-school partnerships, over the past year and a half, ISBE has been coordinating across divisions to develop a shared framework guide for engaging families.

The ISBE Family Engagement Framework Guide is a tool for ISBE, school districts and schools to use in developing and expanding school-family partnerships to support improved student learning and healthy development outcomes. This resource brings together research, promising practices and a consolidation of key program requirements to provide districts, schools and families with tools to assist with planning, implementation and evaluation of family engagement practices.

In order to make the framework more relevant and meaningful, ISBE is asking for the feedback of parents, school and district personnel, community organizations and other education partners. Please follow the link below to view the draft framework. Once you have reviewed the framework, please respond to the survey, to provide your feedback. The ISBE Family Engagement Framework Guide and survey can be accessed at [http://www.illinoisparents.org/ISBE.aspx](http://www.illinoisparents.org/ISBE.aspx).

**Special Education Services Division**

**Secondary Transition Requirement Update**

Under the School Code, the first IEP that is in effect when a student turns 14 1/2 must include a transition plan to support the student's transition from high school to post-secondary life. Post-secondary goals and transition services, based on age-appropriate transition assessments, are required in the areas of training and/or education, and employment.

IDEA, Section 5/14-8.03 of the School Code stated that goals and services in the area of independent living skills be provided “where appropriate.” Senate Bill 1550, sponsored by state Sen. Christine Radogno and state Rep. Ron Sandack, was signed by Gov. Pat Quinn on Aug. 22, 2013. The bill amended Public Act 98-517 and ensures that goals and services related to independent living skills are now required for every student's transition plan. Many transition-age students have not previously had transition goals related to independent living skills.

**Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division**

**USDA Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in Schools Update**


The public comment period has concluded. We will continue to update participating schools on the implementation of these rules and will notify you when the USDA releases final rules on this subject. Recently, the USDA and the USDOE released a joint letter on this subject. That is posted under the Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold link under “What’s New” ([http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/)).

As ISBE looks forward to the implementation of the Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold In Schools, we
are hosting an joint webinar with the Illinois School Nutrition Association (ILSNA) on the operational implementation of these rules. Please join us on Dec. 3, 2013, at 10 a.m. for this webinar. Register at https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/767896808. If you are unable to attend the webinar at this time, it will be recorded and available on our website approximately one week after the live webinar date.

Please direct any questions to staff with the Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division of the Illinois State Board of Education at cnp@isbe.net or (800) 545-7892.

**ISBE Seeks Nominations for USDA’s Produce Safety University**

Produce Safety University (PSU) – 2014 Nominations are due to ISBE no later than Nov. 22, 2013. PSU is a one-week, all expenses paid training course for USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) state agency and local school district partners. Illinois may nominate up to four candidates to attend PSU.

In 2014, three out of five classes will be held at USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service campus in Fredericksburg, Va. This training center provides unique opportunities for hands-on training related to purchasing, processing and preparation of fresh produce. The dates and locations of the five 2014 classes are:

- March 10-14, Fredericksburg
- March 31-April 4, Fresno, Calif.
- April 28-May 2, Fredericksburg
- June 9-13, Fredericksburg
- June 23-27, Atlanta

**Qualifications for Attendees:** State agencies are encouraged to select participants who have a current role in training school foodservice staff at the school district and school levels. Participants will be expected to teach others about produce safety using the comprehensive training materials provided to all attendees.

If you are interested in being nominated to attend PSU 2014, please submit a letter of intent to Roxanne Ramage (ramage@isbe.net) no later than Nov. 22. Include three dates when the nominee will be available to attend. ISBE will also require an approval letter from the school district’s superintendent, as attendance at PSU is a week-long commitment.

If you have any questions about PSU or the nomination process, please contact Roxanne Ramage via telephone at (800) 545-7892. More information can also be found online at [http://www.fns.usda.gov/ofd/produce-safety-university](http://www.fns.usda.gov/ofd/produce-safety-university).

**Presentation Proposals Sought for Annual Illinois School Wellness Conference**

ISBE and Action for Healthy Kids invite individuals with expertise in school health and wellness to submit session ideas for presentation during the seventh annual Illinois School Wellness Conference, which is scheduled for April 30, 2014, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1501 S. Neil St., in Champaign.

ISBE and Action for Healthy Kids are specifically interested in presentations that highlight successful school health and wellness-related outreach in schools, innovative projects that improve the overall health of the school community, and emerging issues impacting school health and wellness. Presentations will be selected based on the need for the topic as it relates to school health and wellness and the speaker’s knowledge and expertise on the subject.

For more information and a proposal application, visit [http://www.a4hk.org/filelib/Call_for_Proposals_7th_Annual_IL_School_Wellness_Conference.doc](http://www.a4hk.org/filelib/Call_for_Proposals_7th_Annual_IL_School_Wellness_Conference.doc). Email Heidi Knoblock at hknoblock@actionforhealthykids.org or call (312) 878-2712 if you have questions.

**National Board Resource Center**

**NBRC at ISU Supports First-Time Candidates in Low-Performing Schools**

The National Board Resource Center (NBRC) at Illinois State University entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education beginning July 1, 2010.

Debra Kasperski is the director of the NBRC at ISU and coordinates the work of Regional Coordinators, Candidate Cohort Facilitators and other NPBTS supporters throughout the state to recruit and support Illinois NBPTS candidates.

The work will be focused to support first-time candidates in low-performing schools throughout Illinois. Federal funding is available for this program and state appropriations assist with the cost of candidate subsidies. Mentoring incentives are available to eligible National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) when funding is sufficient.
**CDC**

**Grant Promotes Adolescent Health With School-Based HIV/STD Prevention**

The Illinois State Board of Education is one of 19 state education agencies that received a 5-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to promote adolescent health through school-based HIV/STD prevention.

This project will provide professional development and technical assistance to 15 school districts, at no cost to the district. The project will implement targeted activities to help districts and schools improve student health and meet the prevention needs of the entire student population. This project also includes additional emphasis on services to students in alternative schools within those 15 selected districts.

**Benefits to Priority Districts:** ISBE will provide professional development, resources and individualized technical assistance, at no cost, for 15 Illinois school districts that want to improve their school-based HIV/STD and pregnancy prevention efforts. The focus will be on:

- Delivering exemplary sexual health education (in accordance with Illinois law on comprehensive sexual health education); and
- Improving adolescents’ access to key sexual health services available in school-based and community health centers.
- Establishing safe and supportive environments for students and staff (emotionally supportive of all students regardless of gender identity issues).

District personnel involved in student health education and services will receive technical assistance and/or professional development, including:

- Training in the use of the Health Education Curriculum Assessment Tool (HECAT) to assist districts with determining if the sexual health education currently being provided meets CDC standards or needs improvement to meet exemplary status.
- Training for educators concerning:
  - Local and state data that supports the need for exemplary sexual health education.
  - Identifying youth at high risk of HIV/STD.
  - Strategies for providing essential skills for prevention of sexual risk behavior.
- District policies and guidance regarding HIV/STD prevention education.
- Providing evidence-based or promising programs.
- Strategies for providing safe and supportive environments for all students.
- Strategies for providing on-site services or referral to healthcare providers for sexual health wellness services for all students with a focus on students in alternative school settings.

If your district is in readiness to implement this project, please contact Jessica Gerdes at jgerdes@isbe.net or (312) 814-8252 by the end of the day on Nov. 12.

**Rising Star**

**Innovation and Improvement Launches Rising Star Survey for School Districts**

The Illinois State Board of Education has worked intentionally and strategically over the past five years to realize a One State, One Plan goal. Rising Star is intended to support districts and schools in creating one plan by: a) integrating work across initiatives, b) linking research to selected objectives, and c) leveraging resources (time, people, materials and money) in support of the one plan. The objective was to offer Illinois districts and schools an easily navigated and streamlined central planning tool to achieve this goal.

ISBE, with support from the Midwest Comprehensive Center at American Institutes for Research, is administering this survey of Illinois school and district leaders in order to better understand how Rising Star is helpful at the local level and how it might be improved. Please provide your feedback about Rising Star and how it supports your continuous improvement processes: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PVNMYWQ.

The survey will be open until Nov. 15, 2013. In order to gather additional information, focus groups will be held in January and February. There will be an opportunity for a drop-in session at the NCLB conference in February. Thank you for your honest feedback!

**Data Analysis and Accountability Division**

**2013-2014 Student Health Data – Immunization Data Collection**

The Student Health Data – Immunization system is now available in IWAS for school year 2013-2014 data.
submission. Student data must be reported on the status of all students as of Oct. 15 in all grades being served in the school and submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) no later than Nov. 15, 2013.

Below are important links to reference when submitting your data.

- **Student Health Data – Immunization System – IWAS:**
  [https://sec1.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true](https://sec1.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true)

- **Student Health Data – Immunization System – IWAS User Guide for Electronic Submission:**
  [http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/immunization_user_guide.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/immunization_user_guide.pdf)

- **Immunization Data Entry Worksheet:**
  [http://www.isbe.net/research/xls/immunization_worksheet.xlsx](http://www.isbe.net/research/xls/immunization_worksheet.xlsx)

- **Immunizations and Compliance with State Law:**
  [http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/immunization_requirements.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/immunization_requirements.pdf)

- **Guidelines Applicable to Medical and Religious Immunization Exemptions:**
  [http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/Immunization_guidelines_med_rel.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/Immunization_guidelines_med_rel.pdf)

Every eligible school, without exception, must submit a report. Schools that are not the home school for any student should submit the report by selecting the option which allows them to declare they have no data to report.

All eligible schools should receive IWAS inbox messages regarding Student Health Data – Immunization Data Collection so please check your IWAS inbox for reminders and updates.

Please share this information with school nurses, health technicians, and individuals responsible for submitting your immunization/health examination data to ISBE.

For data collection questions, contact ISBE Data Analysis and Accountability Division at (217) 782-3950. For technical assistance, contact the ISBE Help Desk at (217) 558-3600.

2013-2014 Student Health Data – Eye Examination Data Collection

The Student Health Data – Vision system is now available in IWAS for school year 2013-2014 data submission. All students in kindergarten and any student enrolled for the first time in an Illinois School as of Oct. 15th, 2013, must have their data reported. Completed reports must be received by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) no later than June 30, 2014.

Below are important links to reference when submitting your data.

- **Student Health Data – Vision System – IWAS User Guide for Electronic Submission:**
  [http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/vision_iwas_guide.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/vision_iwas_guide.pdf)

- **Eye Examination Data Entry Worksheet:**
  [http://www.isbe.net/research/xls/eye_exam_wksht.xls](http://www.isbe.net/research/xls/eye_exam_wksht.xls)

- **School Eye Examinations – Information Sheet:**
  [http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/eye_examinations.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/research/pdfs/eye_examinations.pdf)

Every eligible school, without exception, must submit a report. Schools that are not the home school for any student should submit the report by selecting the “We have no student data to report” option.

This option may also be selected by home schools that do not serve kindergarten students and didn’t have any Grades 1-12 students enrolling for the first time in an Illinois school.

All eligible schools should receive IWAS inbox messages regarding Student Health Data – Vision Data Collection so please check your IWAS inbox for reminders and updates.

Please share this information with school nurses, health technicians, and individuals responsible for submitting your eye examination data to ISBE.

For data collection questions, contact ISBE Data Analysis and Accountability Division at (217) 782-3950. For technical assistance, contact the ISBE Help Desk at (217) 558-3600.

**Standards and Assessments**

**Standards Based Reporting Workshop Coming Up in Springfield**

Registration is under way for the Standards Based Reporting Workshop, which will be held in Springfield at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 3000 S. Dirksen Parkway. Participants can choose to attend Nov. 19 or Nov. 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Districts will receive an overview of Standards Based Reporting and begin to develop a general plan for
implementation. Districts will receive guidance and information, including the opportunity for local planning and discussion of next steps to move their district forward with a Standards Based Reporting System.

For more information, including a registration form, visit http://www.isbe.net/common_core/pdf/stds-based-rptng-flyer11-13.pdf.

**School Business Services Division**

**Deadline is Nov. 15 to File Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet**

Section 17-1.5 of the School Code requires school districts to limit the growth of “administrative” expenditures to a maximum of 5 percent from one fiscal year to the next. School districts must file the Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet with the Illinois State Board of Education’s School Business Services Division by Nov. 15, 2014. A blank Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet can be accessed on the ISBE website at www.isbe.net/sfms/AdminCaps/AdminCaps.htm.

Additionally, the Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet is included in the Illinois School District Annual Financial Report – June 30, 2013 (ISBE 50-35). If a completed Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet is submitted along with the school district’s Annual Financial Report, a separate worksheet does not also have to be submitted. Please note that the worksheet included in the School District Budget Form July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 (ISBE 50-36) is a working document for local use only and will not be accepted for official submission of the Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet.


Districts exceeding the limitation may amend their budgets prior to June 30, 2014, to become in compliance with the limitation. Districts unable to amend their budgets would have to waive the limitation in order to become in compliance. School districts with administrative expenditures in the 25th percentile or below (4th quartile) may waive the limitation following a public hearing and with the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the school board. Any district waiving the limitation shall notify ISBE within 45 days of such action. If a school district that is ineligible to waive the limitation by board action exceeds the limitation solely because of circumstances beyond the control of the district and the district has exhausted all available and reasonable remedies to comply with the limitation, the district may request a waiver from the General Assembly pursuant to Section 2-3.25g of the School Code. Procedures for requesting a waiver in accordance with Section 2-3.25g of the School Code can be found at http://www.isbe.net/isbewaivers/default.htm.

Quartile rankings for all school districts and a sample waiver resolution for qualifying districts can be accessed at www.isbe.net/sfms/AdminCaps/AdminCaps.htm.

If you have any questions, contact Michelle Heninger, School Business Services Division, at (217) 785-8779 or mheninge@isbe.net.

**Rules and Waivers**

**Invitation to Comment on Rules**

Four sets of proposed amendments recently reviewed by the Illinois State Board of Education are available for public comment. The proposals have been posted on the agency’s Web site at http://www.isbe.net/rules; choose “Proposed Rules and Amendments.” Please submit any comments or suggestions to rules@isbe.net.

**Part 22 (Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators):** Makes technical changes to conform to the new licensure system that took effect July 1, 2013. 
*Public comment period ends December 23, 2013.*

**Part 23 (Standards for the School Service Personnel Certificate):** Makes technical changes to conform to the new licensure system that took effect July 1, 2013, and updates standards that have been incorporated into the rules by reference. 
*Public comment period ends December 23, 2013.*

**Part 28 (Standards for Certification in Special Education):** Makes technical changes to conform to the new licensure system that took effect July 1, 2013. 
*Public comment period ends December 23, 2013.*

**Part 29 (Standards for Administrative Certification):** Makes technical changes to conform to the new licensure system that took effect July 1, 2013; acknowledges the elimination of the general administrative endorsement as of September 1, 2014; and incorporates standards set
Public comment period ends December 23, 2013.

Notice of Completed Rulemaking

Please be advised that two sets of rules and five sets of amendments recently adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education are now in effect. Changes have been posted at http://www.isbe.net/rules/archive/default.htm. Please choose “Rules Currently in Effect” and scroll to Parts 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 226 and 228.

Part 20 (Standards for Endorsements in Elementary Education): Establishes standards in the areas of literacy and mathematics that candidates must meet in order to receive an elementary education endorsement and to which preparation programs must align for program approval.
Affected Section: 20.10, 20.100, 20.110, 20.120 and 20.130
Effective Date: October 2, 2013

Part 21 (Standards for Endorsements in the Middle Grades): Establishes standards in the areas of literacy and mathematics that candidates must meet in order to receive an endorsement for the middle grades and to which preparation programs must align for program approval.
Effective Date: October 2, 2013

Part 25 (Educator Licensure): Establishes requirements for receipt of an endorsement for elementary education and for the middle grades, and for an optional endorsement for gifted education teacher and gifted education specialist.
Affected Section: 25.95, 25.97, 25.100 and 25.115
Effective Date: October 2, 2013

Part 26 (Standards for Endorsements in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education): Infoms candidates for the elementary grades and the programs that prepare them that new standards will become effective starting February 1, 2018, and provides standards for receipt of an optional endorsement for gifted education teacher and gifted education specialist.
Affected Section: 27.10, 27.490 and 27.495
Effective Date: October 7, 2013

Part 226 (Special Education): Provides for a training or assessment option for certain practitioners in order for them to be qualified to make recommendations for educational accommodations, interventions or modifications based on the results of a student's medical review.
Affected Section: 226.160 and 226.840
Effective Date: October 2, 2013

Part 228 (Transitional Bilingual Education): Provides for options other than English proficiency for placing English language learners into part-time transitional bilingual education programs; makes other technical changes.
Affected Section: 228.5, 228.10, 228.15, 228.20, 228.25, 228.27, 228.30, 228.35, 228.40, 228.50 and 228.60
Effective Date: October 2, 2013

Reduce, Recover, Recycle

USDA and EPA Present U.S. Food Waste Challenge

With the U.S. Food Waste Challenge, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) challenge producer groups, processors, manufacturers, retailers, communities and other government agencies to join their efforts to:

- Reduce food loss and waste.
- Recover wholesome food for human consumption.
- Recycle discards to other uses including animal feed, composting, and energy generation.

The goal of the U.S. Food Waste Challenge is to lead a fundamental shift in how we think about and manage food and food waste in this country. To join the challenge, participants list the activities they will undertake to help reduce, recover or recycle food waste in their operations in the United States. The Challenge includes a goal of 400 partners by 2015 and 1,000 by 2020.

For further information, visit http://www.usda.gov/oce/foodwaste/index.htm.
**After-School Programs**

**ICJIA Requests Proposals for Programs With Violence Prevention Component**

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is requesting proposals for anti-violence-focused after-school programs. Grants will be awarded to not-for-profit organizations and units of government in at-risk communities to implement evidence-based after-school programming that includes a violence prevention component. Applicants will select and describe proposed implementation of one of the following models:

- Illinois Department of Human Services Teen Reach Model, with added violence prevention activities.
- Illinois State Board of Education 21st Century Model, with added violence prevention activities.
- An evidence-based afterschool program that includes violence prevention.

**Available funds:** ICJIA will consider requests between $50,000 and $350,000. No match is required. Grants will have a 6 month performance period, Jan. 1 to June 30, 2014. Applicants must propose providing programming at least 120 days for the performance period. If the applicant is a current Teen Reach and/or 21st Century provider, the applicant must propose to serve new children and youth.

**Eligibility:** Only not-for-profit organizations (including parochial schools, alternative schools and charter schools) and units of government (including public school districts, parochial schools, alternative schools and charter schools) with demonstrated capacity to provide after-school programming that incorporates a violence prevention component may apply. Not-for-profit organizations must have a letter of commitment from an authorized representative of the school that will be involved in this project.

**Prioritized funding areas:** Funding will be targeted to communities and schools with risk factors such as high crime, chronic truancy, and mobility rates, and poor attendance and school performance rates. ICJIA will prioritize applications proposing to serve the following counties, while also considering other locations: Alexander, Boone, Bureau, Champaign, Cook, Franklin, Gallatin, Greene, Hardin, Henry, Jackson, Kane, Kankakee, Lake, Macon, Madison, Marion, Peoria, Pope, Pulaski, Rock Island, Saline, Sangamon, Stephenson, St. Clair, Union, Vermilion and Winnebago

**How to apply:** Applications may be obtained online at [www.icjia.org](http://www.icjia.org). Proposals must be electronically submitted to cja.vp.rfp@illinois.gov. Proposals will not be accepted by mail or in-person. Technical difficulties experienced at any point during the process should be reported immediately to ICJIA. Call (312) 793-8550.

ICJIA will hold mandatory technical assistance webinars at 2 p.m., Nov. 13 and Nov. 14. Only agencies that participate in one of these mandatory webinars may apply. Go to [www.icjia.org](http://www.icjia.org) for information on webinar registration.

**Deadline:** Proposals must be received by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 25, 2013. Facsimile transmissions are not acceptable. Late proposals will not be accepted.

**Questions:** For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact Reshma Desai – phone, (312) 814-1708; TDD, (312) 793-4170; fax, (312) 793-8422; email: reshma.desai@illinois.gov.

---

**Early Childhood Division**

**Reminder: New ISBE Bilingual Rules and Early Childhood Teacher Preparation**

In an effort to strengthen and support the academic achievement of English language learners in Illinois, new administrative rules went into effect in July 2010 that expanded bilingual services to preschool programs administered by a school district. In accordance with 23 Ill Administrative Code Part 228, effective July 1, 2014, preschool teachers who provide native language or ESL instruction to ELL students must also hold the English as a Second Language (ESL) or bilingual endorsement or approval that corresponds with the teaching assignment.

For more information, contact the ISBE Division of English Language Learning at (312) 814-3850 or the ISBE Division of Early Childhood at (217) 524-4835. An explanation of the rules can be found in the PowerPoint “Overview: The New ISBE Bilingual Rules and Early Childhood Teacher Preparation,” located at [http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/pdf/ec_bilingual_rules_webinar_pres.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/pdf/ec_bilingual_rules_webinar_pres.pdf). For additional resources to support your preschool English Language Learners, go to [http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/preschool/preschool_ell.htm](http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/preschool/preschool_ell.htm).
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Applications Available for Competitive Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant Program

Teachers and youth-group leaders can apply for up to $1,000 through the competitive Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant program to develop or enhance wildlife habitat in the schoolyard or other public place.

Sponsored by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Conservation Foundation, funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, an Environmental Education Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Jadel Youth Fund and the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation. Visit http://dnr.state.il.us/education/CLASSRM/grants.htm for details. Check out the video podcasts and other information to assist in completing the application form. Applications are due by Nov. 30, 2013.

In other Department of Natural Resources news, new lessons developed with the Next Generation Science Standards and the resources trunks from the IDNR Division of Education as their foundation are being posted at http://dnr.state.il.us/education/standards.htm. STEM evaluations are included in the lessons. Lessons will be added as they are completed.

In addition, registration is under way for ENTICE (Environment and Nature Training Institute for Conservation Education) educator workshops from IDNR scheduled for November through February. Go to https://www.enticeworkshops.com for more details and to register.

For many other resources from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Division of Education, visit http://dnr.state.il.us/education/index.htm.

Illinois Department of Transportation

2013-14 Illinois Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Funding Cycle Under Way

The solicitation for the 2013-2014 Safe Routes to School Program is open. SRTS is a federally funded program administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Read more at http://www.dot.il.gov/saferoutes/2013_14Announcement_PDF. See the following link for soliciting projects: http://www.dot.il.gov/saferoutes/saferouteshome.aspx.

If you have any questions please contact the Bureau of Safety Engineering at (217) 782-3568 or send an email to dot.saferoutes@illinois.gov.

In Brief

Professional Development

- The application process is open for the 2014 Johnson & Johnson School Health Leadership Program, which aims to empower and develop school nurses as leaders in community health services teams to improve practices that impact student health. The deadline to apply is Monday, Nov. 18. For more information, go to http://alcoholstudiesed.rutgers.edu/ijshlp.
- The deadline for Hope Street Group’s 2014 National Teacher Fellowship has been extended until Friday, Nov. 15, 2013. For more information, visit http://hopestreetgroup.org/our-work/education/teacher-fellowship.
- The Illinois Solar Energy Association will host a workshop for teachers in grades 4-6 entitled “Sunshine Scholars.” The workshop is set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 20 at the Chicago Center for Green Technology. The day will feature interactive lesson plans for approaching the subject of renewable energy at the middle school level. For more information and to register, visit www.illinoissolar.org.

Weekly News Clips


Employment Opportunities

- An External Vacancy List for ISBE is available at http://www.isbe.net/hr/Default.htm.