



# Illinois State Board of Education

Jesse Ruiz, Board Chair  
Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent



project lead the way  
illinois

Project Lead the Way is a national not-for-profit organization established to help middle and high schools students, teachers and administrators to become more aware of the role technologists, engineers and scientists play in the workforce and the academic requirements necessary to qualify for entrance into an undergraduate collegiate program.

The mission of Project Lead the Way is to create dynamic partnerships with our nation's schools to prepare an increasing and more diverse group of students to be successful in technology, engineering and/or engineering technology and science programs.

Illinois is a targeted state with support from the Governor's Economic Development Initiatives, the **Illinois State Board of Education**, and the University of Illinois.

## **PLTW has 3 unique programs available to Middle and High School Students:**

1) **Middle School Pre-Engineering** - The [Middle School Program](#) - Gateway To Technology's cutting-edge program addresses the interest and energy of middle school students, while incorporating national standards in math, science and technology. GTT is "activity oriented" to show students how technology is used in engineering to solve everyday problems.

2) **High School Pre-Engineering** - The [High School Program](#) is a four year sequence of scholastic courses, in conjunction with traditional mathematics and science courses that introduces students to the scope, rigor and discipline of technology and pre-engineering prior to entering college. Those not intending to pursue further formal education will still benefit greatly from the knowledge and logical thought processes that result from taking some or all of the courses provided in the curriculum.

3) **Biomedical Sciences** - The [Biomedical Sciences](#) program consists of a sequence of four courses: Principles of the Biomedical Sciences, Human Body Systems, Medical Intervention, and Scientific Research. The goal of the program is to provide rigorous and relevant curriculum that is project and problem-based in order to engage and prepare high school students for the post-secondary education and training necessary for success in the wide variety of careers associated with the Biomedical Sciences including, physician, nurse, veterinarian, scientific and pharmaceutical researcher, therapist, and technician.

The **Illinois State Board of Education** is dedicated to the promotion of PLTW.

### **Helpful Links**

- ISBE's [Technology & Engineering Education](#)
  - [http://www.isbe.net/career/html/cte\\_industrial\\_ed.htm](http://www.isbe.net/career/html/cte_industrial_ed.htm)
- Illinois [Project Lead the Way](#)
  - <http://www.pltw.uillinois.edu/>
- National [Project Lead the Way](#)
  - <http://www.pltw.org/index.cfm>
- [Kern Family Foundation](#)
  - <http://www.kern-pltw-application.org/>
- ISBE's [PLTW Web Page](#)
  - [http://www.isbe.net/career/html/cte\\_industrial\\_ed.htm](http://www.isbe.net/career/html/cte_industrial_ed.htm)
- ISBE's PLTW Pre-Engineering Matrix
  - [http://www.isbe.net/career/pdf/PLTW\\_210201.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/career/pdf/PLTW_210201.pdf)

### **Key components to making PLTW work in Illinois:**

- Illinois State Board of Education – IL PLTW State Leader
  - [Steve Parrott](#)  
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- YOU

For more information on how Illinois communities can get involved in Project Lead the Way, please contact Steve Parrott P. (217) 782-4620 E. [sparrott@isbe.net](mailto:sparrott@isbe.net)