

Illinois State Board of Education

100 W. Randolph St., Suite 14-300 • Chicago, Illinois 60601 www.isbe.net

James T. Meeks *Chairman*

Tony Smith, Ph.D. State Superintendent of Education

February 14, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

I am excited to announce the launch of the IL ePlan, which will consolidate and streamline the federal grant application and management process to reduce the burden on grantees and support holistic service to students.

The IL ePlan is the result of more than a year of inquiry into the best systems around the country and the needs of educators, practitioners, and students here in Illinois. Our goal is to provide efficient technology that brings practitioners together for meaningful collaboration. The IL ePlan supports planning and grant management that takes multiple funding sources into consideration to fully meet each student's needs. The IL ePlan also will help ISBE understand each grantee holistically, so we can provide improved technical assistance grounded in equity.

The first phase of the IL ePlan, the Consolidated District Plan, will open Feb. 19 in eGMS for fiscal year 2020 grants. The Consolidated District Plan allows grantees to answer one set of planning questions to meet those requirements for all 12 of the federal formula grants listed below:

- Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part D Neglected
- Title I, Part D Delinquent
- Title I, Part D Neglected/Delinquent
- Title I, School Improvement 1003(a)
- Title II, Part A Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High-Quality Teachers, Principals, and Other School Leaders
- Title III Language Instruction Education Program
- Title III Immigrant Education
- Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment
- Title V, Part B Rural and Low-Income Schools
- IDEA, Part B Flow-Through
- IDEA, Part B Preschool

Building on recent eGMS improvements, the Consolidated District Plan pre-populates with a grantee's narrative responses from the previous years' plans, where applicable. Collecting and coordinating this information up front will streamline individual FY 2020 grant applications.

The second phase of the IL ePlan, slated for FY 2021, will launch an interactive dashboard for grantees and ISBE to access information about grants easily on a single platform. The dashboard

will interface with other ISBE data systems, including the Report Card, the Student Information System, and Ed360. The third phase of the IL ePlan, also slated for launch in FY 2021, will combine the 12 individual grants into a single Consolidated Grant Application package. The Consolidated Grant Application will further reduce any data collection redundancies among the applications and allow for more efficient review and submission at the district level.

I encourage you to learn more about the Consolidated District Plan and the IL ePlan as a whole by joining us for a webinar at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 19. Register at <u>Consolidated District</u> <u>Plan - District Webinar</u>.

We will continue to post updates and resources at <u>www.isbe.net/ileplan</u>. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions by emailing ILePlan@isbe.net or calling the Title Grant Administration and Federal Liaison Division at (217) 785-1969.

Thank you for all you do for the students and communities of Illinois.

Sincerely,

Tony Smith, Ph.D. State Superintendent of Education