



FY2022 Truants' Alternative and Optional Education Program (TAOEP) Request for Proposals (RFP)

Technical Assistance Webinar
June 29, 2021

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Eligible Applicants

Eligible entities (approved by ISBE) include:

- Public school districts
- Regional Offices of Education
- Community college districts
- State authorized charter schools
- Area vocational centers
- Public university laboratory schools

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Eligible Applicants – Cont'd

Successful RFP applicants may reapply via continuing application for up to two additional years (i.e., FY2023 and FY2024).

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Purpose

- TAOEPs ensure that students have equitable access to an education
 - by creating modified instructional programming and services to these students;
 - by planning for truancy prevention and intervention services to students and their parents;
 - and by offering part-time or full-time options to regular school attendance.

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ISBE Goal and Priority Area:

Goal:

All districts and schools will receive the resources necessary to create safe, healthy, and welcoming learning environments, and will be equipped to meet the unique academic and social and emotional needs of each and every student.

Priority Area: System of Support

All schools will be equipped with the tools and resources needed to create safe and healthy learning environments for every student.



Program Description

- To serve students with attendance problems and/or dropouts up to and including those who are 21 years of age and to provide truancy prevention and intervention services to students and their parents and/or serve as part-time or full-time options to regular school attendance.
- These services can help students remain on track to graduate from high school ready for college and career. Professional development opportunities are provided for program staff.

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Program Background

Section 2-3.66 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/2-3.66] authorizes the State Board of Education to provide grants for the establishment of Truants' Alternative and Optional Education Programs (TAOEP).

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Program Background- Cont'd

Programs funded under this grant can only serve students identified as one of the following:

- A. A **truant**, defined in Section 26-2a of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/26-2a] as a child subject to compulsory school attendance and who is absent without valid cause from such attendance for more than 1% but less than 5% of the past 180 school days;
- B. A **chronic or habitual truant**, defined in Section 26-2a of the School Code as a child subject to compulsory school attendance and who is absent without valid cause from such attendance for 5% or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days; or

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Program Background- Cont'd

- C. A **dropout**, defined in Section 26-2a of the School Code as any child enrolled in grades 9 through 12 whose name has been removed from the district enrollment roster for any reason other than the student's death, extended illness, removal for medical non-compliance, expulsion, aging out, graduation, or completion of a program of studies and who has not transferred to another public or private school and is not known to be home-schooled by his or her parents or guardians or continuing school in another country

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Program Background- Cont'd

- D. a **potential dropout**, which is any student subject to compulsory attendance as defined in Article 26 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/Art. 26] and whose school absences or pattern of school attendance impedes the student's learning or contributes to the student's failure to meet State and/or district learning standards. Attendance problems may include chronic truancy, truancy, selective absences, excessive absences, or a pattern of absences or tardiness. (See Section 205.20(b)(4) of rules governing Truants' Alternative and Optional Education Programs at: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/205ARK.pdf>)



Program Objectives and Activities

- Every TAOEP student will have an Individual Optional Education Plan (IOEP).
- Truancy Intervention (Supplemental Services) and/or Optional/Alternative Education academic, non-academic, and career related services and activities are appropriately identified and provided to the students.

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Academic Services

- ✓ Academic Instruction - Provision of direct academic instructional services or computer-assisted instructional services or a combination of both.
- ✓ Academic Counseling – Counseling services related to a student’s academic program.
- ✓ GED Instruction - A formal course of study specifically designed to aid students in successfully passing the General Education Development (GED) examination.
- ✓ Enrollment in Community College Course - Coursework taken by a student in a community college where credits earned from such course are applied toward high school graduation or GED completion.

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Academic Services

- ✓ Enrollment in Evening School – Enrollment in a non-traditional academic program offered after regular school hours. Optional Education Programs only.
- ✓ Enrollment in Summer School – Enrollment in a non-traditional academic program offered during the summer. (Supplemental services unless part of an entire optional education program placement).
- ✓ Participation in Credit Recovery Program – Course work offered to supplement the regular school placement.
- ✓ Tutoring - Additional instructional services, usually provided on a one-to-one basis, to supplement regular instruction.
- ✓ Use software provided by TAOEP Professional Development – Use of on-line curriculum in academic instruction or credit recovery.

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Non-Academic Services

- ✓ Court-Related Services – A program service that includes, but is not limited to, referring students to court, preparation of student and/or family for court hearings; contacting the major players to such hearings and/or other services related to a student's appearance in court.
- ✓ Day Care Service - Custodial care for a student's child or children.
- ✓ Health-Related Service – Direct health-related services; for example, medical/hygiene supplies such as lice treatment, combs, toothbrushes, etc.
- ✓ Home Visits - Visits to families or homes regarding student's truancy status, school performance or any issue significantly related to the student's education.
- ✓ Life Skills Training - Training that may include decision-making (critical thinking, problem solving, communication), social skills, cultural awareness, financial management, etc.
- ✓ Mentoring - Coaching and/or guiding students with their career/educational goals. A mentor can be a peer, staff member or a community member, who may be employed in the career field in which the student is interested.

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Non-Academic Services (cont'd)

- ✓ Monitoring – Monitoring student attendance and conferring with school staff about student's educational progress and other related school activities.
- ✓ Parenting Classes for Students - Courses and workshops designed to teach parenting skills to students.
- ✓ Personal Counseling - Counseling services provided by the program to address a student's social and/or emotional problems.
- ✓ Referral to Social Service Agencies - Coordination and referral of services to various local agencies to provide needed services (counseling, medical, legal, substance abuse etc.) not provided directly by the TAOEP.
- ✓ Support Services for Parents/Families of Students – Any program service that assists parents/families to effectively relate and/or work with their child in support of their child's education and well-being.
- ✓ Transportation – Provision of services to transport students from their home environments to the program site and back.

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Career-Related

- ✓ Career Service - Activities that include initial career assessment, career exploration, career counseling, work-based learning or invitation of speakers which may lead the student to make informed career decisions.
- ✓ Work Experience (Cooperative) – Placement of a student in a paid work experience that is part of a cooperative education program or placement of a student at a work-site where he/she gains technical skills but is unpaid.

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Target

100% of eligible students are receiving academic, non-academic, and/or career-related services as described in each student's IOEP.

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Performance Measures

- Seventy-five percent of students will increase attendance after entering the program.
- Seventy-five percent of students will increase academic achievement as shown by grade promotion, credit earned, graduating from high school, or obtaining a GED.

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Performance Standards

The applicant will demonstrate that one or more of the following objectives are in progress:

- Sixty percent of students will increase attendance after entering the program.
- Sixty percent of students will increase academic achievement as shown by grade promotion, credit earned, graduating from high school, or obtaining a GED.

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Deliverables and Milestones

- Every TAOEP student will have an Individual Optional Education Plan (IOEP). The IOEP must include learning objectives.
- Mid-year reporting of the current year's program should document the services provided and describe the degree to which the grantee is achieving its stated objectives.
- An annual TAOEP end-of-year student data report must be filed in the IWAS system. It should include student attendance rates and academic progress in terms of promotion (elementary students) and credits earned (high school students) and report on high school graduation or GED completion. This report is due 30 days after the project end date.

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Grant Award/Funding

- Grant funding will not exceed \$11.5 million
- Individual grant awards will vary, depending on the needs addressed in the approved proposals and the total appropriation for the program.
- No matching required for this grant

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Grant Period

- The grant period will begin no sooner than July 1, 2021.
- It will extend from execution date of the grant until June 30, 2022.
- *Funding will be contingent upon a sufficient appropriation for the program and satisfactory progress in the preceding grant period.*



State of Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA)

Illinois GATA Grantee Portal

<https://www.isbe.net/gata>

Go to the *Registration Process*:

- Grantee Registration
- Grantee Pre-qualification
- Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment (ICQ)

FY22 Organizational Risk Assessment in the ISBE Web Application Security (IWAS) system

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Reporting Requirements

ISBE Web Application Security (IWAS) System

1. Electronic Expenditure Reporting must be completed at a minimum quarterly via IWAS system (20 days after quarter to complete).
2. Grant Periodic Reporting should be completed semi-annually via the IWAS system (30 days after period to complete)
3. Mid-year TAOEP report is due January 31, 2022 unless first semester ends after Christmas break (30 day extension)
4. End-of-year TAOEP report is due July 31, 2022

Note: The TAOEP reporting system will be located under “Reporting - Annual” in IWAS.

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Application Deadline

Submission Date:

- Proposals can be submitted electronically through the IWAS system.
- Applications must be submitted by **4 p.m. CDT on August 6, 2021**
- Completed proposals submitted electronically should include all supporting documents (download files into grant)
- *Late proposals will not be accepted*

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IWAS Grant Application Access

The screenshot shows the Illinois State Board of Education website. At the top left is the ISBE logo. The main navigation bar includes links for HOME, ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, STUDENTS, COMMUNITY & PARTNERS, NEWS & MEDIA, and TOPICS. A search bar and social media icons are also present. A dropdown menu is open, showing 'DATA SYSTEMS' with 'IWAS: ISBE Web Application Security' highlighted. Below this, 'INQUIRY SYSTEMS' lists various services like FRIS Inquiry, District ADA/Prior GSA Inquiry, ILEARN, Public School Calendar Inquiry, Pupil Transportation Claim Reimbursement Inquiry, RCDTS Lookup, Public School District Lookup, and Peer Finder. On the left, a sidebar menu shows 'SCHOOL WELLNESS' with sub-items 'Educational Supports' and 'Alternative Learning', and 'Truants Alternative and Optional Education Program (TAOEP)'. The main content area displays the title 'TRUANTS ALTERNATIVE AND OPTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM' and the beginning of a paragraph: '2015 ILCS 5/2-3.66) authorizes the Illinois State Board of Education to provide grants for the Truants Alternative and Optional Education Program (TAOEP). These programs serve students with truancy and including those who are 21 years of age and provide truancy prevention and intervention services. Programs which primarily provide truancy prevention and intervention services to meet the needs of the students and parents. Optional education programs provide an alternative to regular school attendance and offer modified instructional programs or other services'.

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Password

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Some ISBE web-based systems require electronic signatures. You can create your own logon id and password by clicking on the following link. After you establish your logon, you will then have the ability to request authorization to use ISBE's systems.

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If you need help with logging in, the sign up procedure or your password, please click on the link below.

[Help](#)

This web site has been optimized for Internet Explorer 6.0 or above / Firefox 2.0 or above. You can download the latest version of these browsers by clicking on the following icons.



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System Listing: Sign-up

Legend: ⓘ : System Description - Detailed 📅 : Due Dates 👤 : Profile

[Want to Signup for Other Systems?](#)

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Sign-up for TAOEP RFP

Grants		
eGMS Shutdown		Sign Up Now
GATA Web Import Facility		Sign Up Now
Active Grants		
21st Century Continuation		Sign Up Now
21st Century New Awards		Sign Up Now
21st Century State Activities		Sign Up Now
Advanced Placement		Sign Up Now
After School Matters		Sign Up Now
Autism Training and TA		Sign Up Now
Blind and Dyslexic		Sign Up Now
Charter School Program		Sign Up Now
Charter Schools Program - QSO - Request for Proposals		Sign Up Now
Charter Schools Program - QSO - RFP Cohort 2		Sign Up Now
Consolidated District Plan		Sign Up Now

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Year:

Create Application

[Click to view LEA Dashboard](#)

Select an application from the list(s) below and press one of the following buttons:

Open Application

Create Amendment

Delete Application/Amendment

Review Checklist

Print All

Review Checklist Print All

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Application in IWAS

TAOEP RFP Application Overview

***Note:** Since this is a competitive process, grant pages will be displayed but will not be filled out in this presentation.*

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Districts Served

Note: A district applicant serving only those students in its own district does not need to send in a signature document.

Key to column headings:

- Truancy Intervention/Supplemental Services to be provided = TI (check either TI or Op Ed, or both, as appropriate)
- Optional/Alternative Education services to be provided = Op Ed
- Number and percentage of Chronic Truants reported by the district according to the most current **School Report Card data** = # CT and % CT
- Percentage of Dropouts reported by the district according to the most current School Report Card data = % Drop

Authorized Signature	District Name*	County*	TI	Op Ed	# CT	% CT	% Drop
x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



Projected Sites

[Instructions](#)

TAOEP - Projected Sites

For each projected site, provide the site name and information on all school districts served by the site. Include:

- Site name and RCDTS Code
- School district name and number
- Grades served by program
- Projected number of students from each school district
- Check the box if attendance is being claimed for Evidence Based Funding (EBF).
- Up to 5 sites with up to 15 school districts per site may be entered on this page. For additional sites, click on the next tab.

Site Name

Reg-Co-Dist-Type-Site Code

School District Name and Number

Grades Served

Projected Number of Students Served

Serving Site Claims for EBF

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Are you serving up to 15 Districts?




TAOEP Grant

Projected Sites

RCDTS code (15 digits) is required for every site serving students

“S” code defines program and site location

Example: 02-000-0000-00-9201



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Upload and Assurances

Service agreement will be required, if applicable, between eligible entities insuring non-duplicative services provided to same student population.

This will require discussion and collaboration between entities **prior to applying for grant.**

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Service Agreement

Example:

Both ROE/ISC and school district are providing truancy services through their respective TAOEP grants. Specific services must be differentiated between eligible entities through the agreement. Services must not be duplicative.

Service agreement will be uploaded in both applications.

Note: If a school district applies for a grant with identical student services as the ROE/ISC, it should not be included in the ROE/ISC application.



Completing grant application

- Determine project scope of work and budget allocation request.
- Follow grant instructions located on each page.
- Upload all documents, including (if applicable): service agreement, participating district signature page, IOEP, and mid-year report
- Save every page after entering information.
- Run the consistency check when completed to search for errors.
- Submit to District Administrator for final review.
- Contact District Administrator to insure it is submitted to ISBE before due date.

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Application Review

Review and Selection Process:

Proposals submitted for initial funding under this Part shall be evaluated in accordance with the following criteria and points:

- 1) There is **sufficient need** for the program/services, as evidenced by the number or proportion of students identified as eligible for program services. (20 points)
- 2) **Criteria and indicators for identifying students** who are eligible for the program are clearly established and likely to target those students most in need of services. (20 points)
- 3) **Program objectives and activities** are well-defined, linked to identified needs, and likely to lead to improved outcomes for the students served in the program. (20 points)

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Application Review (cont'd)

- 4) The program is **cost-effective** as evidenced by the cost of proposed services in relation to the numbers to be served and the services to be provided. (20 points)
- 5) The **evaluation strategies** will effectively gauge the success of the program and yield sufficient data that can be used to improve the program. (10 points)
- 6) The proposal demonstrates **strategies**, other than those routinely offered by the regular school program, that will be **effective in decreasing the dropout rate and increasing school attendance**. (10 points)
- 7) **Priority points** added to final scores based upon % adequacy.

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Questions

Contact: Brian Houser
Email: bhouser@isbe.net
Phone: 217-785-9998

For grant questions, e-mail is preferred. Frequently asked questions (FAQs) will be posted on the ISBE – TAOEP website.

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