

FY 2027 Budget Hearing Instructions

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) invites the public to submit funding requests for the state's fiscal year 2027 budget for pre-K through 12th grade public education. The public has the option to participate in the FY 2027 budget process by submitting written testimony with or without oral testimony. **Please note that submission of written testimony alone will be considered equivalent to oral testimony.** Instructions follow for both options.

All the budget hearings are accessible to persons with disabilities and to persons speaking languages other than English. Persons planning to participate who need real-time captioning, American Sign Language, or spoken language translation services should contact ISBE Language Access Coordinator Carolina Fabian at cfabian@isbe.net or 312-814-8884 **at least two weeks prior to the meeting.**

Submit a Funding Request and Speak at the Budget Hearing – 3-Step Process

- ❖ **Step 1: Submit Your Funding Request**
- ❖ **Step 2: Register to Speak at a Virtual Hearing**
- ❖ **Step 3: Attend the Hearing**

Step 1: Submit Your Funding Request

To submit a funding request, complete ISBE's [FY 2027 Funding Request Form](#). This must be done before registering to speak at a hearing.

If you want to speak at a hearing:

- ❖ Use the buttons on the right side of the FY 2027 Funding Request Form to select the hearing you wish to attend, then continue to Step 2.

If you only want to submit written testimony and do not plan to speak at a hearing:

- ❖ Complete only Step 1 and check the box labeled *"I do not plan to attend a hearing but still wish to submit written testimony"* on the form.

Deadline: Written funding requests must be received by **October 31**.

You may send attachments or supporting documents to isbefy27@isbe.net. Be sure to include the reference number you received when you submitted your request. If you need to edit or delete your submission, contact ISBE at isbefy27@isbe.net as soon as possible.

Step 2: Register to Speak at a Virtual Hearing

To speak or listen at the virtual hearings on **Oct. 16 or Oct. 21**, register through GoTo Webinar:

- ❖ October 16th: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8912588926307648597>
- ❖ October 21st: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8870214847684808277>
- ❖ Complete the registration form. Each hearing is limited to **50 speakers**. If one is full, register for the other.
- ❖ If you want to speak, include the **reference number** from Step 1 (from your [FY 2027 Funding Request Form](#)).

For the in-person hearing on Sept. 30 in Springfield, skip to Step 3.

Step 3: Attend the Hearing

The in-person hearing will be held on Sept. 30th at the ISBE Springfield Office at 100 North First Street Springfield, IL 62777. Join the virtual hearings on Oct. 16 and Oct. 21 by clicking the GoTo Webinar link that will be emailed to you after registration.

- ❖ The order in which speakers will testify will be determined before the day of the hearing. ISBE will email all participants a schedule at least 24 hours prior to the start time of the hearing with an *approximate* time when each person can expect to speak. Speakers at each hearing will be grouped by the same or similar program requests.
- ❖ We suggest that you arrive/log on 30 minutes prior to your scheduled time to speak.
- ❖ All participants will be allowed **three minutes** each to speak. A timer will be used to monitor minutes. Please adhere to this timeline as a courtesy to other speakers due to limited time.
- ❖ Only **one** person representing each organization will be able to speak for a submitted written funding request.
- ❖ Speakers will provide testimony immediately after brief opening remarks at the beginning of the hearing.
- ❖ If you experience difficulties connecting to a virtual hearing, please call the ISBE Call Center at 217-558-3600. All hearings will be recorded and posted to the ISBE website.

The following table provides the deadline to complete the registration process for each of the hearings:

Hearing Date	Hearing Time	Registration Deadline	Address/GoToWebinar Link
Sept. 30	4-7 p.m.	Submit written funding request online by 11:59 p.m. Sept. 26	100 North First Street Springfield, IL 62777
Oct. 16	1-4 p.m.	11:59 p.m. Oct. 13	Oct. 16 Hearing
Oct. 21	4-7 p.m.	11:59 p.m. Oct. 16	Oct. 21 Hearing