

Fiscal Year 2028 Budget Hearing Instructions

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) invites the public to submit funding requests for the state's fiscal year 2028 budget for kindergarten through 12th grade public education.

You may participate in the budget process by submitting written testimony, speaking at a hearing (oral testimony), or both. All hearings will be recorded and posted to the ISBE website.

FY 2028 Budget Hearing Dates

- Oct. 5 from 1-4 p.m. – Virtual
- Oct. 21 from 4-7 p.m. – Springfield (in person)
- Nov. 5 from 4-7 p.m. – Virtual

All budget hearings are accessible to individuals with disabilities and those who speak languages other than English. Individuals planning to participate who need real-time captioning, American Sign Language, or spoken language translation services should contact ISBE Language Access Coordinator Diana Torres at dtorres@isbe.net or 312-814-5818 at least two weeks prior to the hearing date.

How to Participate

Submit Written Testimony Only

1. Access ISBE's [FY 2028 Written Testimony Form](#)
2. Complete required fields and select "I do not plan to attend a hearing but still wish to submit written testimony" on the right side of the form
3. Add funding request(s)
4. Submit the form by **November 5** by 11:59 p.m.

Written testimony submitted without speaking at a hearing will be considered equivalent to oral testimony.

Speak at a Virtual Hearing

1. Access ISBE's [FY 2028 Written Testimony Form](#)
2. Complete required fields and select the virtual hearing date you would like to attend on the right side of the form
3. Add funding request(s)
4. Submit the form **prior to the selected hearing date**

- Note the reference number you receive after submitting the form as you will need this later
5. Register to speak at the virtual hearing using the links below. **Include the reference number** from your submitted Written Testimony Form:
 - [Register for the Oct. 5 virtual hearing](#) by 11:59 p.m. Sept. 30
 - [Register for the Nov. 5 virtual hearing](#) by 11:59 p.m. Nov. 2
 6. Review the [Information for Speaking at a Budget Hearing](#)

Speak at the In-Person Hearing

1. Access ISBE's [FY 2028 Written Testimony Form](#)
2. Complete required fields and select the Oct. 21 (Springfield) hearing date on the right side of the form
3. Add funding request(s)
4. Submit the form by 11:59 p.m. **Oct. 16**
5. Review the [Information for Speaking at a Budget Hearing](#)

The in-person hearing will be held at ISBE's Springfield office:

ISBE Board Room
100 N. First St.
Springfield, IL, 62777

Supplemental Documentation or Corrections

Attachments in support of written testimony can be sent to ISBEFY28@isbe.net. Emails must include the reference number from your submitted Written Testimony Form.

If you need to edit or delete your submission, contact ISBE as soon as possible at ISBEFY28@isbe.net.

Information for Speaking at a Budget Hearing

- Each hearing is limited to 50 speakers.
- Only one person representing each organization will be able to speak for a submitted written funding request.
- 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.
- Speakers will provide testimony immediately after brief opening remarks at the beginning of the hearing.

- Each participant will be allowed **three minutes** 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.
- If you experience difficulties connecting to a virtual hearing, please call the ISBE Help Desk at 217-558-3600.