IL-EMPOWER Universal Supports for All Schools

IL-EMPOWER supports are available for all schools.

Schools identified for targeted or comprehensive supports through Illinois’ accountability system receive additional federal funding through Title I School Improvement—1003(a) Grant.

IL-EMPOWER drives continuous improvement through a range of tools, resources, and partners. Schools identify systemwide needs and equity gaps that are producing student achievement gaps, then create and implement a school improvement plan. Schools may connect with peers and partners to achieve sustainable, systemwide change.

Illinois Quality Framework and Illinois Quality Framework Supporting Rubric

Website / isbe.net/ILqualityframework

The IL-EMPOWER process begins with school stakeholder teams conducting a needs assessment called the Illinois Quality Framework and Illinois Quality Framework Supporting Rubric. Stakeholder teams gather and analyze multiple data sources and compare the system’s performance to seven standards. The Illinois Quality Framework and Illinois Quality Framework Supporting Rubric help schools uncover what their systems need in order to address equity and achievement gaps.

Comprehensive and targeted schools are required to complete the Illinois Quality Framework and Illinois Quality Framework Supporting Rubric and to use the results to create a School Improvement Plan.

School Support Managers

Hotline / (312) 814-1088
Email / il-empower@isbe.net

IL-EMPOWER’s School Support Managers provide technical assistance and guidance for school improvement. The School Support Managers have experience leading school and district transformation and are versed in the IL-EMPOWER process and available supports.

Each comprehensive school is assigned a School Support Manager. Targeted schools have access to School Support Managers.

Visit isbe.net/IL-EMPOWER
Learning Partners

Vendors / isbe.net/ILEmpVendorLearningPartners
Peers / isbe.net/ILEmpPeerLearningPartners

IL-EMPOWER provides schools with greater choice and voice in the school improvement process. Schools may choose from the network of Approved IL-EMPOWER Learning Partners to provide planning, implementation, and monitoring services. All Learning Partners have demonstrated previous success in implementing continuous improvement and capacity to offer services in one or more of three areas: Governance and Management, Curriculum and Instruction, and Culture and Climate.

Comprehensive schools are required to choose at least one approved vendor or peer learning partner.

Advanced School Comparison on the Illinois Report Card

Website / illinoisreportcard.com/AdvancedCompare.aspx

The Advanced School Comparison feature on the Illinois Report Card allows you to input any of the schools identified by the Peer Finder or other schools of interest. You can view up to nine schools side-by-side to compare school characteristics, demographics, performance, and finances.

Storytelling – Illinois Sparks: Case Studies in School Improvement

Website / isbe.net/stories

ISBE’s storytellers share stories of effective and replicable practices implemented by schools across Illinois. Each case study begins with a problem of practice, then describes how school and district leaders identified and implemented solutions. Story themes range from blended learning, to trauma-informed practices, to financial solvency.

Peer Finder

Website / isbe.net/peerfinder

The Peer Finder is an online tool for locating and connecting with other schools and districts around the state like your own, based on characteristics you define. You can use the tool for peer-to-peer learning.

ISBE Communications

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