



## A New Teacher Preparation Data Collection System: Partnership for Educator Preparation (PEP)

To advance the work of educator preparation programs statewide, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has embarked on a significant effort to strengthen data collection, sharing, and reporting in teacher preparation programs.

### Goals of the new system are two-fold:

- 1) Ensure all teachers in Illinois are ready to support student learning upon entering the classroom.
- 2) Empower preparation programs with the ability to use data as a tool for continuous improvement.

These goals align with the state's Equity Plan vision (which proposes ways to guarantee all children, regardless of income status or racial composition, will be taught by experienced teachers), as well as with the State Board of Education's goal that all students are supported by highly prepared and effective teachers.

ISBE's vision for a robust data collection effort was driven by the need for a better approach to the current process. Prior to this effort, educator preparation programs operated under a skeletal, compliance-based approach requiring programs to demonstrate an 80 percent pass rate on all licensure tests. If programs met this established threshold, they received no further communication from the State. Programs not meeting the threshold were asked to provide additional information and may have been put on probation. Although majority of the state's teacher preparation programs met or exceeded state-established thresholds, reporting failed to provide insight to a program's true strengths and weaknesses, and failed to offer meaningful data to drive programmatic decision-making.

The new data system provides a critical connection between the state and teacher preparation programs to facilitate program improvement and provide valuable information to programs, prospective teachers, potential employers, and the general public.

ISBE established partnerships with **Advance Illinois, Education First**, and **Teacher Preparation Analytics** in March 2016 to begin developing the new system. To ensure the data system would meet the needs of all stakeholders, ISBE created an advisory group called "The Partnership for Educator Preparation" (PEP), which consists of college of education deans, state and district officials, researchers, and K-12 teachers.

# PEP's Role



**The Partnership for Educator Preparation steering committee** (PEP) formed in spring 2016 to serve as an advisory group to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) as the agency developed a new teacher preparation data collection system.

The PEP steering committee has provided input and guidance in the design and content of ISBE's revised annual reporting and teacher preparation program improvement. The PEP steering committee recommended the state utilize a set of measures intended to identify program strengths and weaknesses and, to the extent possible, guide actionable steps toward program improvement. The measures are intended to provide meaningful and useful information to district officials, prospective teacher education candidates, and other stakeholders who have an interest in the quality and productivity of the state's educator preparation programs.

Recommended measures align with **The Key Effectiveness Indicators**, a set of indicators developed by Teacher Preparation Analytics to **(a)** be useful for program improvement, **(b)** be equally applicable to all programs in a state (traditional and non-traditional) without prescribing program content and structure, **(c)** be focused principally on program outcomes rather than inputs, **(d)** be compelling and transparent for a variety of stakeholders, and **(e)** respond to the concerns both experts and the greater public have expressed about the effectiveness of programs and the caliber of individuals entering the profession.

The PEP committee continues to advise the State Board as the mini-pilot wraps up and the statewide data collection year one officially launches. After analyzing data from year one of the statewide pilot, the steering committee will recommend appropriate reporting weights for each measure, thresholds and benchmarks for determining if a program is successfully preparing its candidates, and recommend revisions or omissions to ineffective data measures.

## PEP Steering Committee Members

- **Stephanie Bernoteit** – Illinois Board of Higher Education
- **Herschel A. Hannah, Jr.** – Bloomington Public School District 87
- **Devon Horton** – East St. Louis School District 189
- **Kimber Larson** – Yorkville School District 115
- **Matt Lyons** – Chicago Public Schools
- **Melanie Meidel** – School District U-46
- **Rob Muller** – National Louis University
- **Barbara O'Donnell** – Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- **Ngozi Onuora** – Millikin University
- **Tom Phillion** – Roosevelt University
- **Matt Rodriguez** – Illinois PTA
- **Chris Roegge** – University of Illinois
- **Diane Rutledge** – Large Unit District Association
- **Mindy Sjoblom** – Relay Graduate School of Education
- **Jennifer Smith** – Monticello School District 25
- **Sara Stoelinga** – University of Chicago
- **Kim Thomas** – Woodruff Career and Technical Center
- **Brad White** – Illinois Education Research Council



# Teacher Program Completer Survey

Beginning **September 1, 2017** all Illinois teaching program completers are required to complete a survey as part of the application process to obtain their IL Professional Educator License (PEL).

A sub-committee of PEP steering team members convened in late July and early August to revise the state's current teacher program completer survey, which is an optional survey educators may take via the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) when applying for their licenses. Team members decided to move forward with a survey developed by Deans for Impact for the University of North Carolina.

The survey was selected due to the perceived value of its qualitative and quantitative questions, and because it has already been determined to be valid and reliable. The survey will be tested during year one of the statewide pilot, and revisions to survey content will be made (if deemed necessary) after an analysis of year one data.

## State Spotlight

In April 2017, Illinois was one of six states featured in the report: ***Getting to Better Prep: A State Guide for Teacher Preparation Data Systems*** published by The New Teacher Project (TNTP). This report offered leaders and policy makers a resource of best practices to help states move forward on planning and implementing new data systems on teacher preparation providers.

## UPD Consulting: Data Diagnostics Update

Having established a framework for PEP data and to further analyze and improve the system, ISBE partnered with **UPD Consulting** to investigate a technical solution for the process of EPPs both contributing to and drawing from a central data repository.

UPD worked with ISBE, seven EPPs, and two districts to gather information on data systems, sources, and processes for each institution pertaining to the PEP data elements. The seven EPPs represented a range of program types, program size, institution size, and location. This assessment included two on-site sessions in Bloomington and Chicago along with virtual meetings.

The UPD team identified the presence of strong infrastructure and processes to build upon for PEP, along with a variety of opportunities to develop efficiencies in data gathering and submission process. As a result, ISBE is both refining the PEP data dictionary and reporting processes and will determine the technical solution for the 2017-18 statewide pilot for the submission and reporting of PEP data.

The sessions were all very positive and provided a lot of valuable input. **We would like to thank everyone involved for your time and valuable contributions.**

## COMING SOON: Mini-Pilot Data Reports

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is excited to announce the upcoming release of data reports to each of the mini-pilot PEP participants in early September.

The Center for Educator Effectiveness has been working in collaboration with agency data analysts and IT experts to create an interactive report allowing educator preparation programs to view and analyze data submitted this past spring during the mini-pilot, along with teacher employment and evaluation data provided by the state.

The PEP mini-pilot was a yearlong, voluntary pilot conducted between November 2016 and May 2017. Thirty-six institutions of higher education participated through engaging in webinar and face-to-face discussions with the state to solve data collection barriers, recommend modifications to data definitions, and provide the state with feedback as they tested the new system. In response to input received from mini-pilot participants, ISBE revised (and reduced) the measures to be collected during this year's statewide pilot and agreed to provide each program with licensure and testing data to help reduce the reporting load on each IHE.

Participating programs will receive interactive reports allowing them to filter data and "drill down" to various levels of detail. Outcome-based teacher preparation data systems will enable programs to identify specific programmatic actions to refine teacher preparedness and contributions to state and local workforce needs, in addition to accountability purposes in which we all ensure a high standard of preparation across all programs.

Thank you to all institutions that participated in the mini-pilot webinar and meetings throughout the year. Institutions can expect data reports submitted back to them in early September along with a recorded webinar to assist in navigating the report.

### IMPORTANT DATES: Mark Your Calendar

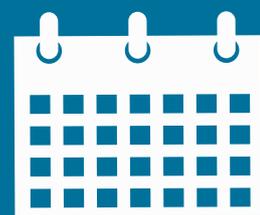
**October 2, 2017:** Data Collection Begins

**December 31, 2017:** Progress Report Due

**April 1, 2018:** Data Reporting System Opens

**April 30, 2018:** Data Reporting System Closes

**June 29, 2018:** ISBE Provides Reports



## Mini-Pilot Participants

<b>Augustana University</b>	Greenville College	<b>McKendree University</b>	Rockford University
<b>Benedictine University</b>	Illinois College	<b>Monmouth College</b>	Roosevelt University
<b>Blackburn College</b>	Illinois State University	<b>National-Lewis University</b>	Southern Illinois University Carbondale
<b>Bradley University</b>	Illinois Wesleyan University	<b>North Central College</b>	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
<b>Chicago State University</b>	Judson University	<b>North Park University</b>	St. Xavier University
<b>Concordia University</b>	Lake Forest University	<b>Northeastern Illinois University</b>	Trinity International University
<b>DePaul University</b>	Lewis University	<b>Northern Illinois University</b>	University of St. Francis
<b>Dominican University</b>	Loyola University	<b>Northwestern University</b>	Western Illinois University
<b>Elmhurst College</b>	MacMurray College	<b>Relay Graduate School of Education</b>	Wheaton College



**Illinois  
State Board of  
Education**