

ISBE Special Education Planning Calendar

Illinois Special
Education Directors

SY 2025-26

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Special Education Department is pleased to provide the 2025-26 Planning Calendar for special education directors. This calendar provides a timeline of monthly key dates and reporting deadlines for the [IEP-Student Tracking and Reporting System \(I-Star Plus\)](#), [Student Information System \(SIS\)](#), [Funding and Disbursements](#), [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\) Part B](#), [Assessments](#), [State Performance Plan \(SPP\) Indicators](#), [Cyclical Monitoring](#), and other important deadlines related to special education. However, this document may not include all reporting deadlines.

The ISBE Special Education Department develops this calendar in collaboration with other ISBE departments. **Information may be modified or revised throughout the school year by other departments. It is advised to check for any updates by directly accessing the respective ISBE department webpage for accurate reporting, submission dates, and/or reviewing any notices sent out by the Harrisburg Project or in the ISBE Web Application Security (IWAS) system.** Please contact support@hbug.k12.il.us if you wish to be included in the Harrisburg Project listserv for weekly updates.

Special education directors are encouraged to refer to the [ISBE Data Reporting and Collections webpage](#) to find information about monthly webinars hosted by the ISBE Data Strategies and Analytics Department. These webinars take place on the second Thursday of each month and allow school personnel the opportunity to ask questions about many of the ISBE data collections referenced in this document.

This Planning Calendar is meant as a guide to be used in conjunction with other planning tools and resources. Additional weblinks and resources can be found at the end of this document.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

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JULY 2025

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 07/15/25 – Excess Cost (*Fund Code X*) claims DUE in I-Star Plus.
- ☐ 07/16/25 – 07/31/25: Data corrections window for Excess Cost (*Fund Code X*).
- ☐ 07/31/25 – Data corrections deadline for Orphanage Regular Term (*Fund Codes D, E, F*).
- ☐ 07/31/25 – Student approval records (*all fund codes except B*) DUE in I-Star Plus.
- ☐ 07/31/25 – 2024-25 Personnel approvals DUE in I-Star Plus.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ 07/31/25 – Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates DUE/finalized.
- ☐ 07/31/25 – Last day to provide CTE Pathway Endorsement Award data.
- ☐ 07/31/25 – Exit student enrollments for SY 2025 DUE:
 - ☐ Birth to 3 data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Prenatal data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Caregiver Demographic (Birth to 3) data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Early Childhood program and provider data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Early Childhood Outcomes data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Detention Center data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Gifted and Accelerated data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ College and Career Readiness submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Advanced coursework data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ ELL data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ ELL Screener data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Homeless data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Immigrant data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Regional Safe Schools Program (RSSP) data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Percent of 8th Graders taking Algebra I data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ 9th grade on track data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Restraint and Time Out data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Student Mobility data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Service Provider data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Student Address data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Student Attendance data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Student Discipline data submissions finalized.
 - ☐ Teacher Course Assignment data submissions finalized.
- ☐ 07/31/25 – Winter/Spring/Summer student course assignment grades DUE (including college and outside courses).

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ 07/14/25 – Test scores for the DLM-AA, IAR, ISA, ACT with writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure posted in SIS.
- ☐ 07/31/25 – Last day to verify the correct assessment is identified in SIS.
- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ 07/01/25 – Start date for IDEA grant funding.

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- ☐ 07/01/25 – The targeted resolution date for IDEA maintenance of effort (MOE) is JULY 1. Districts are encouraged to submit composite/district/exception worksheets early along with any supporting documentation (e.g., auditor letters) and work with the MOE coordinator to identify all options.
- ☐ 07/20/25 – File IDEA Completion/Final Expenditure Report for fiscal year 2025 for a grant that ends June 30, 2025. Note: If the grantee has a 6/30/25 end date, these will be Completion/Final Expenditure Reports. If the grantee has an extended end year, IDEA Completion/Final Expenditure Reports reflecting expenditures through 8/31/25 are DUE 9/20/25. If the grantee has outstanding obligations on their expenditure report through the end date of their project, they must submit a final expenditure report within 90 days after the project ends.
- ☐ 07/31/25 – FY 2025 Grantee Periodic Report DUE for districts with June 30 end date.
- ☐ 07/31/25 – Last day for districts with approved extensions to August 31, 2025, to submit an amendment to the IDEA grants. Grant amendments must be submitted 30 days before the end of the grant period.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 07/01/25 – Self-assessments for SPP 9 and SPP 10 returned to ISBE for review.
- ☐ 07/15/25 – SY 2024 Indicator 11, 12, and 13 data entry deadlines.
- ☐ 07/30/25 – Receive SPP 8 data from survey vendor.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Create related service caseloads for regular school term.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.
- ☐ Compute Program Cost Sheets.
- ☐ Prepare financial documentation for IDEA Expenditure Report.
- ☐ Plan for professional development.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

AUGUST 2025

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 08/04/25 – I-Star Plus New Year Rollover.
- ☐ 08/15/25 – 2025 Special Education Transportation Reimbursement claims DUE – submitted via IWAS.
- ☐ 08/15/25 – Student approval records (*Fund Code B*) DUE in I-Star Plus.
- ☐ 08/15/25 – 2024-25 Private Facility Regular and Summer term claims (*Fund Code B*) DUE in I-Star Plus.
- ☐ 08/16/25 – 09/15/25: Data corrections window for Special Education Private Facility approvals.
- ☐ 08/16/25 – 09/30/25: Data corrections window for Special Education Private Facility Tuition claims.
- ☐ 08/30/25 – 2024-25 Final payment for Orphanage vouchered.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ 08/01/25 – First Day for School Year 2025-26 Enrollments:
 - Begin Birth to 3 data submissions.
 - Begin Prenatal data submissions.
 - Begin Caregiver Demographic (Birth to 3) data submissions.
 - Begin Early Childhood program and provider data submissions.
 - Begin Early Childhood Outcomes data submissions.
 - Begin Detention Center data submissions.
 - Begin Gifted and Accelerated data submissions.
 - Begin College and Career Readiness submissions.
 - Begin ELL data submissions.
 - Begin ELL Screener data submissions.
 - Begin SY26 Seal of Biliteracy applications.
 - Begin Homeless data submissions.
 - Begin Immigrant data submissions.
 - Begin Regional Safe Schools Program (RSSP) data submissions.
 - Begin Service Provider data submissions.
 - Begin Student Address data submissions.
 - Begin Student Attendance data submissions.
 - Begin Student Courses Submissions (including college courses and outside courses).
 - Begin Student Discipline data submissions.
 - Begin Teacher Course Assignments data submissions.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ 08/22/25 – Deadline for DLM-AA, IAR, ISA, ACT with writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure corrections to be completed.
- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 08/31/25 – SPP 14 survey window closes.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Review and plan schedule for ISP meetings.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

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- ☐ Complete Private Placement contracts.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.

ISBE

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

SEPTEMBER 2025

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 09/15/25 – Data corrections DUE for Special Education Private Facility approvals.
- ☐ 09/30/25 – Data corrections DUE for Special Education Private Facility Tuition claims.
- ☐ 09/30/25 – 2024-25 Excess Cost reimbursement payment vouchered.
- ☐ 09/30/25 – 2026 1st quarter reimbursement payment for Private Facility vouchered.
- ☐ 09/30/25 – 2024-25 Special Education Transportation reimbursement 1st quarter payment vouchered.
- ☐ 09/30/25 – 2025-26 1st quarter estimate payment for Orphanage vouchered.
- ☐ Make sure all new students are entered into I-Star Plus.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ 09/20/25 – File IDEA Completion/Final Expenditure Report for FY 2025 for grants that end Aug. 31, 2025.
- ☐ 09/30/25 – FY 2025 Grantee Periodic Report DUE for districts with Aug. 31 end date.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 09/16/25 – Distribute Illinois Special Education Accountability and Support System Local Education Agency (LEA) Determinations and tiered level of support assignments for districts.
- ☐ 09/16/25 – Findings of noncompliance issues for SPP 4b as part of LEA Determinations.
- ☐ 09/16/25 – Findings of noncompliance issued for SPP 9 as part of LEA Determinations.
- ☐ 09/16/25 – Findings of noncompliance issued for SPP 10 as part of LEA Determinations.
- ☐ 09/16/25 – Findings of noncompliance issued for SPP 11 as part of LEA Determinations.
- ☐ 09/16/25 – Findings of noncompliance issued for SPP 12 as part of LEA Determinations.
- ☐ 09/16/25 – Findings of noncompliance issued for SPP 13 as part of LEA Determinations.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Send a list of students (*Private Placements*) to high school principals who are projected to graduate.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.
- ☐ Complete and send testing accommodation forms.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

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OCTOBER 2025

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 10/15/25 – Reconcile school year 2024-25 Exit data.
- ☐ 10/31/25 – 2025 Summer Term Orphanage approvals and claims (*Fund Codes D, E, F*) DUE in I-Star Plus.
- ☐ 10/31/25 – 2024-25 Special Education Room and Board claims DUE in IWAS.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ Seal of Biliteracy Application for SY26 DUE.
- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ 10/15/25 – Annual Financial Reports (AFRs) are DUE to Regional Offices of Education. The AFR contains the bulk of the data needed to complete the IDEA Excess Cost Worksheets.
- ☐ 10/20/25 – IDEA Quarterly Expenditure Report DUE via IWAS.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 10/01/25 – Cohort 2 LEAs are notified about cyclical monitoring cycle requirements.
- ☐ 10/01/25 – 11/01/25: LEAs in cyclical monitoring Cohort 2 receive and view introductory webinar.
- ☐ 10/15/25 – Corrective Action Plans DUE for LEAs with open findings and LEAs under Tier 2 and Tier 3 support.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Prepare financial documentation for IDEA Expenditure Report.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

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NOVEMBER 2025

[Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project](#)

- ☐ 11/01/25 – 11/14/25: Data corrections window for Summer Term Orphanage claims.
- ☐ 11/04/25 – 2024-25 Special Education Transportation Reimbursement FINAL corrections transmitted via the Pupil Transportation Claim Reimbursement System (PTCRS).
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.
- ☐ Make sure all students are entered into I-Star Plus in preparation for the Dec. 1 Child Count.

[ISBE Student Information System](#)

- ☐ 11/07/25 – Student Addresses (IDEA services only) DUE.
- ☐ 11/07/25 – Service Provider data (IDEA services only) DUE.
- ☐ 11/07/25 – Eligible for Immigrant Education Program data DUE and extracted from SIS for federal funding eligibility and allocation calculations.
- ☐ 11/07/25 – Student Demographic and Enrollment data DUE for the Fall Enrollment Deadline.
- ☐ Ensure staff review and document data within the Early Childhood Transition System (*SPP Indicator 12*).
- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

[ISBE Student Assessment](#)

- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

[Other Special Education Director Activities](#)

- ☐ Check [Harrisburg Project](#) for Upcoming Trainings and Harrisburg User Group Sessions.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

DECEMBER 2025

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 12/01/25 – 02/25/26: Ensure all students are entered into I-Star Plus in preparation for the Dec. 1 Child Count.
- ☐ 12/12/25 – Summer reimbursement payment for Orphanage vouchered.
- ☐ 12/30/25 – 2024-25 Special Education Transportation reimbursement 2nd quarter payment vouchered.
- ☐ 12/30/25 – 2025-26 2nd quarter reimbursement payment for Private Facility vouchered.
- ☐ 12/30/25 – 2025-26 2nd quarter estimated payment for Orphanage vouchered.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ Districts that complete/submit their Dec. 1 Child Count numbers now have the final data needed to complete the IDEA Excess Cost Worksheets.
- ☐ 12/01/25 – Annual audits DUE to ISBE for charter schools. The audit contains the bulk of the data needed to complete the IDEA Excess Cost Worksheets.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Check [Harrisburg Project](#) for Upcoming Trainings and Harrisburg User Group Sessions.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

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JANUARY 2026

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ Make sure all students are entered into I-Star Plus in preparation for the Dec. 1 Child Count.
- ☐ Student Reimbursement Computation Sheets available in I-Star Plus.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ 01/09/26 – Teacher and student course assignment data DUE (Fall SY26).
- ☐ 01/10/26 – Initially register students based on Testing School in the Pre-ID file (PreACT Secure, PreACT 9 Secure and ACT with writing).
- ☐ 01/14/26 – ACCESS for ELLs testing window opens.
- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ 01/14/26 – ACCESS for ELLs testing window opens.
- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ 01/20/26 – IDEA Quarterly Expenditure Report DUE via IWAS.
- ☐ 01/15/26 – IDEA Excess Cost Worksheets are DUE to ISBE Jan. 15 of each year. School districts complete the Excess Cost System in IWAS; charter schools complete the Excess Cost Worksheet.
- ☐ Conduct Needs Assessment (*IDEA grant*). Needs assessment must be completed prior to completion and submission of the Consolidated District Plan, which will be released in the spring in IWAS.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 01/02/26 – SPP 13 individual correction DUE to ISBE from LEAs.
- ☐ 01/10/26 – SPP 8 parent survey window opens.
- ☐ 01/15/26 – Corrective Action Plan progress reports DUE for LEAs with open findings and LEAs under Tier 2 and Tier 3 support.
- ☐ 01/15/26 – Comprehensive Assessment DUE for LEAs in Cohort 2.
- ☐ 01/15/26 – IEP File review data DUE for LEAs in Cohort 2.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Review IDEA accounts vs. revenue received and determine if grant needs to be amended.
- ☐ Review IDEA grants salaries vs. district accounts to ensure accuracy.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.
- ☐ Prepare financial documentation for IDEA Expenditure Report.
- ☐ Prepare financial documentation for IDEA Excess Cost Worksheets.
- ☐ Check [Harrisburg Project](#) website for Upcoming Trainings and Harrisburg User Group Sessions.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

FEBRUARY 2026

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 02/25/26 – All corrections/additions for the December Child Count closed.
- ☐ 02/26/26 – 03/12/26: Final verification and cleanup of Dec. 1 approval records by ISBE.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 02/27/26 – Progress Reports DUE for LEAs with open findings of noncompliance for Indicators 11, 12 and/or 13.
- ☐ 02/01/26-ISBE submits the SPP/Annual Performance Report to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Determine Extended School Year (ESY) staffing needs.
- ☐ Check [Harrisburg Project](#) for Upcoming Trainings and Harrisburg User Group Sessions.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

MARCH 2026

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 03/13/26 – 03/27/26: District administrator certification of Dec. 1 Child Count. No approval changes accepted.
- ☐ 03/28/26 – 2025-26 3rd quarter estimated payment for Orphanage vouchered.
- ☐ 03/28/26 – 2024-25 3rd quarter reimbursement payment for Private Facility vouchered.
- ☐ 03/28/26 – 04/07/26: ISBE preparation of final file to ED.
- ☐ 03/30/26 – 2024-25, Special Education Transportation reimbursement 3rd quarter payment vouchered.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ 03/02/26 – ISA (grades 5 and 8) Spring window opens.
- ☐ 03/03/26 – ACCESS for ELLs window closes.
- ☐ 03/09/26 – ACCESS for ELLs correction window opens.
- ☐ 03/10/26 – 504 Plan Submissions (updated data for all applicable students) DUE.
- ☐ 03/11/26 – DLM-AA (grades 3-11) Spring window opens.
- ☐ 03/16/26 – PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure test event 1 opens.
- ☐ 03/24/26 – ACT with writing Test Event 1 opens.
- ☐ 03/31/26 – Districts must make corrections in SIS to ELL enrollment and placement data for the eGMS FY2027 Intent to Apply for LIEF Funding Allotment.
- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ 03/02/26 – ISA (grades 5 and 8) Spring window opens.
- ☐ 03/02/26 – IAR (grades 3-8) Spring window opens (*online/paper*).
- ☐ 03/03/26 – ACCESS for ELLs window closes.
- ☐ 03/09/26 – ACCESS for ELLs correction window opens.
- ☐ 03/11/26 – DLM-AA (grades 3-11) Spring window opens.
- ☐ 03/16/26 – PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure test event 1 opens.
- ☐ 03/24/26 – ACT with writing Test Event 1 opens.
- ☐ 03/30/26 – PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure test event 2 opens.
- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ Projected allocations for next fiscal year released to ISBE from OSEP (*March/April*).
- ☐ 03/28/26 – IDEA grant funds will be frozen until Excess Cost Application is completed.
- ☐ District Consolidated Plan Applications recommended to be submitted to ISBE by 04/01/26.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 03/01/26 – SPP 13 verification of correction DUE to ISBE.
- ☐ 03/15/26 – Self-assessments out to districts for SPP 4.

Other Special Education Director Activities

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

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- ☐ Begin working on budget for next fiscal year.
- ☐ Check [Harrisburg Project](#) for Upcoming Trainings and Harrisburg User Group Sessions.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

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APRIL 2026

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ Verified Dec. 1 Child Count data reported to OSEP will constitute the state's official 2025-26 Special Education count.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ 04/03/26 – Last day of Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) testing window (*paper only*).
- ☐ 04/15/26 – Detention Center data submissions DUE.
- ☐ 04/15/26 – Fall/Spring EBF enrollment data verification DUE.
- ☐ 04/17/26 – Last day of Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) testing window (*online only*).
- ☐ 04/24/26 – Last day of PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure testing window.
- ☐ 04/30/26 – Last day of Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) testing window.
- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ 04/03/26 – IAR (grades 3-8) Spring window closes (*paper only*).
- ☐ 04/07/26 – ACT with writing test event 2 opens.
- ☐ 04/13/26 – PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure test event 3 opens.
- ☐ 04/17/26 – IAR (grades 3-8) Spring window closes (*online only*).
- ☐ 04/21/26 – ACT with writing test event 3 opens.
- ☐ 04/24/26 – Last day of PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure testing window.
- ☐ 04/30/26 – ISA (grades 5 and 8) Spring window closes.
- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ 04/01/26 – Submit District Consolidated Plan Application to ISBE.
- ☐ 04/20/26 – IDEA Quarterly Expenditure Report DUE through IWAS.
- ☐ Projected allocations for next fiscal year released to ISBE from OSEP (*March/April*).
- ☐ Schedule and hold Timely and Meaningful Consultations (TMC) to meet the May 31 timeline.
- ☐ Confirm all carryover funds have been budgeted and will be spent by the end of the project year.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 04/01/26 – Self-assessments out to districts for SPP 4.
- ☐ 04/14/26 – ISBE notifies selected districts required to complete the SPP 14 Post-School Outcomes survey. For more information and to view the schedule of district participation, please review the information located on the [ISBE SPP Indicator 14 webpage](#).
- ☐ 04/15/26 – Cyclical monitoring closing letters and/or findings of noncompliance reports are sent to LEAs.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Post and hire ESY staff.
- ☐ Plan for participation in graduation (*private school and Certificate of Attendance*).
- ☐ Prepare financial documentation for IDEA Expenditure Report.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

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- ☐ Check [Harrisburg Project](#) for Upcoming Trainings and Harrisburg User Group Sessions.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

ISBE

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

MAY 2026

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

- ☐ 05/01/26 – Orphanage Approvals (*Fund Codes D, E and F*) DUE in I-Star Plus for any student records with a begin date of 03/01/26 or prior.
- ☐ Make sure all students that will be claimed in I-Star Plus as attending ESY are marked "B" in the "term" field on the approval record for allowable Fund Codes.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.
- ☐ Ensure districts have correctly submitted the Final Public School Calendar via IWAS reflecting any Emergency Days or other changes to the previously approved calendar as this could affect Indicator 11 calculations.

ISBE Student Information System

- ☐ 05/01/26 – Last day of ACT with writing.
- ☐ 05/06/26 – Last day of DLM-AA testing window.
- ☐ 05/07/26 – First day of ACCESS preliminary score data review.
- ☐ 05/11/26 – First day of assessment correction window (IAR, ACT with writing, PreACT Secure, PreACT 9 Secure, DLM-AA, and ISA (no test results)).
- ☐ 05/22/26 – Last day of ACCESS preliminary score data review.
- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

ISBE Student Assessment

- ☐ 05/01/26 – Last day of ACT with writing.
- ☐ 05/06/26 – DLM-AA (grades 3-11) Spring testing window closes.
- ☐ 05/07/26 – First day of ACCESS preliminary score data review.
- ☐ 05/11/26 – Assessment corrections opens for DLM-AA, IAR, ISA, ACT with writing, PreACT Secure, PreACT 9 Secure (no test results).
- ☐ 05/22/26 – Last day of ACCESS preliminary score data review.
- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

IDEA Part B Grants

- ☐ FY 2027 IDEA Grant applications available (*May/June*).
- ☐ Submit FY 2027 IDEA Part B Grant Application by June 30, 2026, to get a July 1 start date.
- ☐ Ensure district has submitted Consolidated District Plan application for approval.
- ☐ 05/30/26 – Last day to submit an amendment to the IDEA grants. Grant amendments must be submitted 30 days before the end of the grant period.
- ☐ 05/30/26 – Last day to submit request for end date extension to Aug. 31.
- ☐ 05/30/26 – Deadline for completing Timely and Meaningful Consultations with nonpublic representatives.
- ☐ Preliminary (*estimated*) IDEA nonpublic proportionate share amounts are calculated and posted on the [Funding and Disbursements webpage](#). Districts must use these amounts for the Timely and Meaningful Consultations with representatives of nonpublic schools and home-schooled students.

ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring

- ☐ 05/01/26 – Cyclical monitoring Corrective Action Plans sent to LEAs in Cohort 2 with findings of noncompliance.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

- ☐ 05/01/26 – Self-assessments out to districts for SPP 9 and 10.
- ☐ 05/01/26 – 8/31/26 – Survey window for SPP 14.
- ☐ 05/31/26 – Corrective Action Plan progress reports DUE for LEAs with open findings and LEAs under Tier 2 and Tier 3 support.
- ☐ 05/31/26 – SPP 8 parent survey window closes.

Other Special Education Director Activities

- ☐ Hold Timely and Meaningful Consultation with parochial schools/home schoolers.
- ☐ Make sure all necessary Summary of Performance documents are completed and mailed home.
- ☐ Review IDEA grant expenditures. Submit timely amendments, as needed.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

PLANNING CALENDAR for Illinois Special Education Directors

2025-26 Academic Year

JUNE 2026

[Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project](#)

- ☐ 06/15/26 – Orphanage Regular Term (*Fund Codes D, E, and F*) approvals/claims DUE in I-Star Plus.
- ☐ 06/16/26 – 06/30/26: Data corrections window for Orphanage Regular Term (*Fund Codes D, E, F*) approvals.
- ☐ 06/16/26 – 07/31/26: Data corrections window for Orphanage Regular Term (*Fund Codes D, E, F*) claims.
- ☐ Ensure districts have correctly submitted the Final Public School Calendar via IWAS reflecting any Emergency Days or other changes to the previously approved calendar as this could affect Indicator 11 calculations in the final submission.
- ☐ Review student approval error reports and make necessary corrections.
- ☐ 06/20/26 – 2024-25 Special Education Transportation reimbursement final payment vouchered.
- ☐ 06/20/26 – 2024-25 Special Education Private Facility reimbursement final payment vouchered.

[ISBE Student Information System](#)

- ☐ Ensure students are enrolled timely and accurately.

[ISBE Student Assessment](#)

- ☐ Visit the [ISBE Assessment Department Communications webpage](#) to register for available webinars.

[IDEA Part B Grants](#)

- ☐ FY 2027 IDEA Grant applications available (*May/June*).
- ☐ Submit FY 2027 IDEA Part B Grant Application by June 30, 2026, to get a July 1 start date.
- ☐ 06/30/26 – End of FY 2026 regular grant period.
- ☐ 06/30/26 – FY 2026 Periodic Performance Reports DUE 07/20/26.

[ISBE Special Education Data Analysis to Guide Monitoring](#)

- ☐ 06/15/26 – SPP 4 Self-Assessments DUE.
- ☐ 06/15/26 – Timely and Meaningful Consultation must be completed and available for ISBE review.
- ☐ 06/30/26 – Survey window closes for SPP 8.

[Other Special Education Director Activities](#)

- ☐ Collect data and start to prepare for the Special Education claims - Orphanage.
- ☐ Educational Surrogate Parent appointment and withdraw forms submitted.
- ☐ Review needs for renewals of 34-37 and/or 34-43 Room and Board Reimbursement Applications.

Guidance and Resources

Special Education Approval & Reimbursement, I-Star Plus, Harrisburg Project

[Funding & Disbursements – Special Education](#)

[Special Education Reimbursement](#)

[Illinois Purchased Care Review Board \(IPCRB\)](#)

[Public Act 103-0644 \(SB3606\)](#)

[Nonpublic Proportionate Share](#)

[Harrisburg Project](#)

ISBE Data and Accountability

[Special Education Student Data Collection and Approval Instructions](#)

[Special Education Personnel Data Collection and Approval Instructions](#)

[ISBE Data Strategies and Analytics \(Data Reporting and Collections\)](#)

[SIS Key Dates](#)

[SIS Home Page](#)

IDEA Part B Grants

[IDEA Part B - Grants and Guidance](#)

Other Resources

[Laws, Regulations, and Guidance](#)

[Information for Parents/Guardians](#)

[Disability Areas](#)

[Effective Dispute Resolution](#)

[State-sponsored Mediation](#)

[IEP Facilitation](#)

[Assessment](#)

[Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment \(DLM-AA\)](#)

[Early Childhood Special Education](#)

[Multilingual](#)

[Notice and Consent Forms/IEPs](#)

[Special Education Accountability and Supports](#)

[IL Special Education Accountability and Support System](#)

[Cyclical Monitoring](#)

[Understanding the SPP Indicators and Special Education Data Collection](#)

[LEA Determinations](#)

[SPP/APR Indicators](#)

[Significant Disproportionality](#)

[Tiered Supports and Resources](#)

[Catalog of Supports and Resources](#)

[Assistive Technology](#)

[Independent Evaluators Registry](#)

[Charter Schools](#)

[Educational Surrogate Parents](#)

[Home/Hospital FAQ](#)

[Nonpublic Special Education Programs](#)

[Private Facilities Search](#)