



Statewide ROE/ISC Services and Statistics

Governor Quinn's FY12 Budget Proposal: Eliminate Funding for Regional Offices of Education (ROE) & Intermediate Service Centers (ISC): **Approximately \$13 million**

Who are the ROEs and ISCs? The mandated purposes of the 47 Regional Offices of Educations and Intermediate Service Centers are to assure our schools are safe and in compliance with laws and regulations set forth by the General Assembly and the Illinois State Board of Education; increase the quality of our teachers and administrators through services and grant programs; administer programs, grants and other educational services; and assist more than 2,000,000 students and their families that are in need of education services. Regional Offices, Regional Superintendents and Assistant Regional Superintendents are cited 925 times in the Illinois School Code to perform mandated and regulatory duties. They are also cited 376 times in Illinois State Board of Education rules to carry out the duties of the offices.

How do the ROEs/ISCs save school districts money? What appears on the surface to be an attempt to save school districts and the State of Illinois money will ultimately reduce the amount of funding generated by ROEs/ISCs and place a greater financial burden upon the school districts in our state. The offices deliver services to students for less than \$7 per student. If the state or school districts would have to replicate ROE and ISC services, it would cost far more since many current services are free. *Examples: A \$12 million school construction project in Macon County would cost the district an additional \$60,000 for the permitting process through a local municipality. A 95,000 square foot building in LaSalle County would cost an additional \$35,000 for the permitting process.*

Has the ROE/ISC structure been studied for efficiency and cost effectiveness? In October, 2010 the Streamlining Illinois' Educational Delivery Systems Taskforce, pursuant to PA-96-798 (SB1882), submitted recommendations to the Governor and the Illinois General Assembly. The taskforce compiled five recommendations in their final report. The recommendations were to utilize effective regionalization as a solution to tough "times". A primary recommendation from the taskforce was to allow the Regional Offices and Intermediate Service Centers to emerge as the primary delivery systems of educational support and assistance to Illinois districts and schools. When comparing cost to fund the offices (\$13 million) to funds generated and services provided by the offices state-wide, the ROEs and ISCs demonstrate a model for fiscal efficiency.

Over 2,500 ROE/ISC employees carry out mandated activities while generating and administering funds from outside sources. These personnel and resources directly assist students, teachers, administrators, and schools in our districts and provide far more funds and service than the proposed removal of the offices would save.

What leadership do ROEs and ISCs provide? In addition to support programs, ROEs and ISCs provide leadership by regularly bringing together leaders from various school districts to share information and resources to solve educational problems, and building and bus safety issues, to name a few. The result is a quality and equitable education system across the state of Illinois.

Why should Illinois have ROEs & ISCs? The primary reasons for having educational service agencies in regional areas pertain to financial savings and the necessity to provide districts with a local resource for indispensable educational support programs. Forty two (42) states currently utilize a regional educational delivery system model similar to that of Illinois.

The Regional Offices of Education and Intermediate Service Centers of the State of Illinois request that in order to carry out the duties of the mandated requirements, programs and services for students and school districts across the state, Legislators need to restore full funding for the mandated areas of Salaries/Benefits, ROE Services, Supervisory Services and Bus Driver Training.

Grants/Funds Generated or Administered by ROEs and ISCs, and School District Savings:

- FY10 funds generated or administered to directly benefit school districts: \$113,000,000
- Funds for FY11 from new grant programs for schools: \$12,800,000
- FY10 approximate savings to districts through consortia or cooperative programs: \$9,500,000

TOTAL: \$135 million



The following is a sampling of mandates that are responsibilities of Regional Offices of Education (ROE) and Intermediate Service Centers (ISC).
(This is not an all-inclusive list of mandates).

<u>Mandate:</u>	<u>Number of:</u>
• Truancy/Dropout Students (TAOEP):	15,773
• GEDs Awarded:	11,030
• Hearings for Chronically Truant Students:	2,460
• Regional Safe School Program (Alternative School) Students:	4,728
• Teachers, School Service Personnel & Administrators Registered:	233,717
• Substitute Teachers Registered:	32,728
• FY10 Teachers, Administrators & Substitutes Re-certified:	62,343
• Criminal Background Checks:	32,446
• Paraprofessional Certificates:	7,492
• Teacher Endorsement and Certificate Applications:	17,196
• Bus Drivers Initial Training & Annual Training:	26,475
• Educator Professional Development Workshops:	3,920
• Administrator Academy Workshops:	526
• Gifted Education Seminar (ISBE Designation) Teachers:	4,853
• Annexation/Detachment Petitions Filed & Hearings:	35
• Schools served through RESPRO Services: (Yr 3+ schools not meeting NCLB Adequate Yearly Progress)	499
• Schools served through Statewide System of Support Services (SSOS): (Yr 1 or 2 schools not meeting NCLB Adequate Yearly Progress)	506
• School Buildings Inspected for Safety (Health/Life Safety):	3,262
• Building Amendments Processed & Permits Issued:	2,165
• School Evaluations of Districts for Recognition Status (Compliance):	605

The following is a sampling of value-added services provided by Regional Offices of Education (ROE) and Intermediate Service Centers (ISC).
(This is not an all-inclusive list of services).

<u>Service:</u>	<u>Number of:</u>
• Early Childhood Education Program Students:	22,381
• Homeless students identified and served:	33,904
• Students served through Illinois Virtual Schools:	2,531
• GED Classes Offered:	1,420
• Student Scholarships Administered:	327
• Teachers mentored in New Teacher Induction & Mentoring:	1,557
• Principals mentored in New Principal Mentoring Program:	228
• Technology Coordinator & Counselor Workshops:	501
• Master Degree Programs:	97
• Graduate Classes:	460

Other ROE/ISC Mandates, Programs and Services Include: Consolidation hearings, facilities sales tax distribution, Regional Board of School Trustees' hearings & meetings, Internet/sexting/bullying trainings, "Intent to Strike" monitoring, Homeless Ombudsman, Homeless & residency dispute hearings, National Board of Professional Teaching Standards certification classes & cohorts, and student work permits, as well as other regionalized educational services.