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Hello,

I am pleased to announce that the State Board of Education approved the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Recommendation for Education in Illinois at last week's Board meeting. The Board is recommending a \$760 million increase in General Funds for public education for a total investment of \$9.64 billion. ISBE will send this recommendation to the Governor and the General Assembly for consideration.

We are recommending a \$100 million increase for Early Childhood Block Grant programs, which builds on the historic investments in last year's budget that included the largest appropriation ever for early

childhood education in Illinois.

ISBE released the Request for Proposals for the Early Childhood Block Grant today. Increased funding for the ECBG will help Illinois eliminate early childhood deserts and allow ISBE to increase the per-child funding amount awarded to applicants. Applications for Preschool for All, Preschool for All Expansion, and Prevention Initiative funding are now available on the [Early Childhood Block Grant page \(/ecbg\)](#) and due to ISBE no later than 4 p.m. on March 23.

We are also recommending \$43.75 million for investments in the teaching profession to support high-impact programs, such as teacher mentoring, career pathways for high school students to enter the teaching profession, diverse educator recruitment, and tuition assistance for students earning teaching degrees.

In addition to these targeted investments in early childhood education and the teaching profession, ISBE recommends a \$510 million increase for Evidence-Based Funding in FY 2021 to accelerate the state's progress toward adequately funding every school district. We also are requesting \$3.3 million across FY 2020 and 2021 for the agency to establish the Student Care Department, which will continue analyzing and investigating instances of time out and restraint in Illinois schools. The department will create a direct connection between the agency and Illinois' students and families and will be dedicated to receiving and addressing any concerns about student safety and well-being going forward.

All of these investments align to ISBE's draft strategic plan and to the feedback ISBE received at our four budget hearings this past fall. I would like to thank each and every one of you who submitted testimony about the needs in your community. You are the voice of education, and no one knows the needs of your teachers, students, and families better than you.

As we continue refining our [draft strategic plan](#) (/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Presentation.pdf), I invite you attend one of the [regional engagement sessions](#) (/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Meetings.pdf) and/or fill out our online [survey](#) (/Pages/Strategic-Plan.aspx). We have added a sixth engagement session March 16 in Macomb. Your feedback is invaluable as we further detail the strategies that will guide the agency’s work in the near future to serve all of Illinois’ children.

Strengthening the bridge between fiscal and academic teams in school districts is one strategy in our draft strategic plan that furthers the goal of equitable and effective resource allocation. As part of this work, ISBE has launched the new Ed360 Financial Dashboard. The Ed360 Financial Dashboard is a one-stop shop that will help districts with the alignment of their resources to their student needs. Find more information below detailing the data available in the new dashboard. The Ed360 team is hosting the [Ed360 Finance Dashboard Launch Webinar](#) (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8998091303871344385) from 10-11 a.m. on Jan. 29. Please join to find out more about this powerful new tool.

This week’s shout out goes to Bryson Erick Ewen Connor of Dwight and Grace Ann Marie May of Princeton, who were selected for the United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP). Both students will join Senator Richard J. Durbin and Senator Tammy Duckworth in representing Illinois in Washington, D.C., during the 58th annual USSYP Washington Week in March. Congratulations, Bryson and Grace!

Lastly, in the spirit of equity, I would like to recognize a pioneer in educational equity, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Additionally, with Black History Month upcoming in February, we’d love for you to connect with us on social media on how you are teaching students about the contributions of black leaders in our history.

Sincerely,  
  
*Carmen*

## DATES AND DEADLINES

Please note this is not a complete list of events, meetings, and deadlines. For more events and details, visit the [ISBE Calendar page](#) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx).

Jan. 24	<a href="http://www.thecenterweb.org/essa/">Deadline to register for 2020 ESSA Conference</a> (http://www.thecenterweb.org/essa/)
Jan. 24	Data Dive into Summative Designations to Identify Next Steps for School Improvement (ROE 3, Vandalia)
Jan. 27	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/After-School-Programs.aspx">Deadline to submit After School Programs – Non-School District Grant NOFO/RFP</a> (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/After-School-Programs.aspx)
Jan. 29	Data Dive into Summative Designations to Identify Next Steps for School Improvement (ROE 33, Macomb)
Jan. 29-30	<a href="https://www.imsa.edu/site_section/next-generation-science-standards/">K-5 Next Generation Science Standards Leadership Conference- Springfield</a> (https://www.imsa.edu/site_section/next-generation-science-standards/)
Jan. 30	Data Dive into Summative Designations to Identify Next Steps for School Improvement (South Cook ISC)
Jan. 31	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/broadband">Deadline to submit E-Rate State Matching Grant applications</a> (https://www.isbe.net/broadband)
Jan. 31	Data Dive into Summative Designations to Identify Next Steps for School Improvement (ROE 9, Champaign)

Jan. 31	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/black-history-study-survey.aspx">Deadline to submit Black History Curriculum Task Force Survey (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/black-history-study-survey.aspx)</a>
Jan. 31	<a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyPraIDj2ITZCUOZu-HVjsLRy3eE3b9rcbKgCzT4RZ_PfXVw/viewform?fbclid=IwAR2uAb9M7zimBJ9YGm-9K33f-inUiU32qQpGVDwBuIWAgNnx_SSuU62kFJs">Deadline to submit 2020 Illinois Teacher Leadership Summit project submissions (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyPraIDj2ITZCUOZu-HVjsLRy3eE3b9rcbKgCzT4RZ_PfXVw/viewform?fbclid=IwAR2uAb9M7zimBJ9YGm-9K33f-inUiU32qQpGVDwBuIWAgNnx_SSuU62kFJs)</a>
Feb. 1	<a href="http://www.isbe.net/perkinsfeedback">Deadline to submit feedback on Perkins CTE Program Quality Indicators and Performance Levels (http://www.isbe.net/perkinsfeedback)</a>
Feb. 3	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Meetings.pdf">ISBE Strategic Plan Stakeholder Meeting (Carbondale) (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Meetings.pdf)</a>
Feb. 4	<a href="https://www.imsa.edu/site_section/next-generation-science-standards/">K-5 Next Generation Science Standards Leadership Conference - Matteson (https://www.imsa.edu/site_section/next-generation-science-standards/)</a>
Feb. 6	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Meetings.pdf">ISBE Strategic Plan Stakeholder Meeting (Wheaton) (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Meetings.pdf)</a>
Feb. 10-12	<a href="http://www.thecenterweb.org/essa/">2020 ESSA Conference (http://www.thecenterweb.org/essa/)</a>
Feb. 12	ISBE offices closed for Lincoln's Birthday
Feb. 12	<a href="https://myforefront.org/event/illinois-census-2020-gotc-convening/">2020 Census Get Out the Count convening - Burr Ridge (https://myforefront.org/event/illinois-census-2020-gotc-convening/)</a>
Feb. 14	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Maintenance-Project-Grant.aspx">FY 2020 Round 1 School Maintenance Project Grant application period closes (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Maintenance-Project-Grant.aspx)</a>
Feb. 15	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Summer-Food-Service-Program.aspx">Deadline to sign up for the Summer Food Service Program training if participating in the SFSP (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Summer-Food-Service-Program.aspx)</a>
Feb. 18	<a href="https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/il">ACCESS for EL's English Language Development Assessment window closes (https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/il)</a>
Feb. 19	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=4485">Illinois State Board of Education meeting in Chicago (https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=4485)</a>
Feb. 19-20	<a href="https://www.imsa.edu/site_section/next-generation-science-standards/">K-5 Next Generation Science Standards Leadership Conference – Marion (https://www.imsa.edu/site_section/next-generation-science-standards/)</a>
Feb. 24-25	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Wellness-Conference.aspx">ISBE School Wellness Conference (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Wellness-Conference.aspx)</a>
Feb. 24-25	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Wellness.aspx">ISBE School Wellness Conference (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Wellness.aspx)</a>
Feb. 24	<a href="https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Meetings.pdf">ISBE Strategic Plan Stakeholder Meeting (Springfield) (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-Strategic-Plan-Meetings.pdf)</a>
Mar. 2-3	<a href="http://ilcareerconnections.org/">2020 Career Connections Conference – Chicago (http://ilcareerconnections.org/)</a>
Mar. 4-5	<a href="http://ilcareerconnections.org/">2020 Career Connections Conference – Springfield (http://ilcareerconnections.org/)</a>
Mar. 6-7	

Mar.  
9-10

2020 Career Connections Conference – Carbondale (<http://ilcareerconnections.org/>)

NEW

## 2020 CENSUS: EVERYONE COUNTS

### STATISTICS IN SCHOOLS RESOURCES

The Statistics in Schools program provides high-quality and free curriculum materials for educators using Census Bureau data. This week's resource helps high school students learn how the census impacts their community. Students will analyze significant historical documents and read and interpret data on the census. [Learn more about this resource](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/2020census/2020-resources/k-12/how-the-census-impacts-my-community.html) (<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/2020census/2020-resources/k-12/how-the-census-impacts-my-community.html>).

### CENSUS EDU WEBINAR

Billions of dollars are at stake for Illinois in the 2020 Census, which also will determine the number of representatives Illinois will have in the U.S. Congress. Educators are trusted voices in communities and play a critical role in ensuring every Illinoisan is counted.

Join us for a Census EDU Webinar from 3:30-5 p.m. on Feb. 3, 2020. The webinar will feature speakers from school districts and the U.S. Census Bureau. Speakers will share ideas and best practices and answer questions on strategies and tactics for how you can help ensure a complete count in your community. [Learn more about ISBE's census efforts and register](http://www.isbe.net/census) (<http://www.isbe.net/census>).

NEW

## CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN CTE

#### 2020 Career Connections Conference


In a response to the growing needs for high-quality CTE programs, Career Connections 2020 will deliver three multi-disciplinary regional conferences throughout the state focusing on three overarching goals:

1. Improvement of instruction
2. Better alignment to core academics
3. Enhanced connections to career and postsecondary opportunities

Integral features of the conference will include hands-on and innovative learning opportunities that highlight various components of interdisciplinary education accentuated through CTE, including exploratory sessions, networking opportunities, industry-led partnerships, student showcases, educator recognition, and apprenticeship programs. The conference will feature keynote speaker Andrew McPeak of Growing Leaders: Ready for Real Life. He will address the expectations, identity, and attitudes of Generation Z and how instructors can teach and empower the emerging generation. In addition, the conference will include breakout sessions regarding three main themes: equity, outreach, and integration of core academics. [Registration and see full details on the 2020 Career Connections Conference](http://ilcareerconnections.org/) (<http://ilcareerconnections.org/>).




#### IACTE New CTE Teacher Academy

ISBE and the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education (IACTE) will host a New CTE Academy in conjunction with IACTE's annual conference on Feb. 13-14, 2020, at the Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. Sessions are developed for first- and second-year teachers to provide dedicated time to collaborate with other new teachers and receive feedback from more experienced CTE

teachers in the areas of engaging instruction, effective teaching, and topics specific to CTE (e.g., Individualized Education Programs/504 Plans, CTE laboratory considerations, and developing and working with an advisory committee). This academy will have a separate strand of sessions, but will participate in all IACTE Conference general sessions, meal functions, and networking. ISBE will cover the registration fee for 50 first- and second-year teachers to attend this workshop. Travel expenses are not covered. All topics are listed in the [IACTE New CTE Teacher Academy flyer](https://files.constantcontact.com/56ff2371301/d416cdad-a07b-44c6-8ef3-9dfd0b0e4098.pdf)  (<https://files.constantcontact.com/56ff2371301/d416cdad-a07b-44c6-8ef3-9dfd0b0e4098.pdf>). General information and registration for the event can be found at the IACTE Conference registration [IACTE Conference website](https://www.iacte.org/cpages/iacte-annual-conference) (<https://www.iacte.org/cpages/iacte-annual-conference>).

### CTE Counselor Academy

The CTE Counselor Academy provides comprehensive professional development for school counselors and academic advisers to support understanding of the opportunities within CTE, the importance of nontraditional occupations, and strategies to support special population learners. This is a collaborative project between ISBE, the Illinois Community College Board, and the Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support. This year, the focus is on Perkins V and the important role counselors/advisers have in the Perkins V implementation. A webinar outlining the counselor's/adviser's role in Perkins V was offered in the fall of 2019 and recorded for future viewing.

- [Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment \(Webinar\)](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1010402110405097741)  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1010402110405097741>) – Jan. 30 - 10-11 a.m.
- [Who is in Your CTE Network \(Webinar\)](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3767586946239479821)  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3767586946239479821>) – Feb. 13 - 10-11 a.m.
- [Examples of Effective CTE Networks \(Webinar\)](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5485769577709253645)  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5485769577709253645>) – Feb. 27 - 10-11 a.m.
- [Capstone Event](https://icsps.forms-db.com/view.php?id=126938) (<https://icsps.forms-db.com/view.php?id=126938>) - Springfield – March 6 - 9 a.m. -3 p.m.

All webinars will be recorded and be available to view at a later date. If you have any questions, please email [icsps@ilstu.edu](mailto:icsps@ilstu.edu) (<mailto:icsps@ilstu.edu>).

### CTE PROGRAM DATA REVIEW AND COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS OPEN

All local recipients of state or federal secondary career and technical education (CTE) funding in fiscal year 2021 and beyond must complete a Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) as required by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V). The CLNA will be a three-step process: 1) Program Data Review (PDR), 2) Local Needs Assessment (LNA), and 3) CLNA.

**UPDATED TIMELINE:** The PDR and the LNA/CLNA combined system are currently open in the ISBE Web Application Security System (IWAS). All three components - PDR, LNA, and CLNA - should be completed mid-April 2020 to submit a local application (grant). The tentative release date for the FY 2021 state and federal CTE local application/grants is May 1. **Local applications will not be approved unless the CLNA process is complete.**

Almost [all supporting materials for completion of the LNA and CLNA \(/Pages/Career-Technical-Education.aspx\)](/Pages/Career-Technical-Education.aspx) are housed within the CTE Program Data Review and Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment applications. All materials are found under News and Updates by expanding the hyperlink CTE Program Data Review and Local Needs Assessment/Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment Systems in IWAS. Illinois Department of Employment Security Labor Market Data and Resources are housed only on ISBE's CTE webpage due to the large number of documents.

### REMINDERS:

- All schools in a district must complete the PDR before the LNA application will open;
- All school district/area career centers/region centers must complete the LNA before the CLNA application will open; and
- All Education for Employment systems must complete and submit the CLNA to ISBE to complete the state and federal CTE local application/grants.

If you need additional assistance in completing any components of the CLNA process, please watch the applicable section of the recorded Perkins V Local Needs Assessment [webinar](#) (/Pages/perkinsv.aspx) under the Webinars and Presentations toolbar near the bottom of the page.

If you have questions, please contact ISBE's CTE and Innovation Department at [cte@isbe.net](mailto:cte@isbe.net) (mailto:cte@isbe.net) or (217) 524-4832.

## CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

### DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR BLACK HISTORY CURRICULUM TASK FORCE SURVEY – JAN. 31

ISBE is requesting educator and administrator feedback on a survey that is part of the work mandated by [105 ILCS 5/27-20/4](#) (<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=010500050K27-20.4>). The [Black History Curriculum Task Force](#) (/blackhistorycurriculum) is collecting information from districts regarding current history curriculum and providing the opportunity to share promising practices and resources. Please take a few moments to fill out the [Black History Curriculum survey](#) (/Pages/black-history-study-survey.aspx) before **Jan. 31**. Also, educators can use this opportunity to upload any helpful resources and lesson plans to assist peers. Please send curriculum materials to [blackhistorycurriculum@isbe.net](mailto:blackhistorycurriculum@isbe.net) (mailto:blackhistorycurriculum@isbe.net). ISBE will share the materials on the task force webpage after the survey period ends.

### UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

We have highlighted some upcoming professional development opportunities around the state. Find additional opportunities and submit your own on our Professional Development Calendar on the [Curriculum & Instruction LEARN page](#) (/Pages/Curriculum-and-Instruction-Learn.aspx).

#### **K-5 NGSS Leadership – Jan. 29-30, Feb. 4, Feb. 19**

Revitalize science teaching in your school. Illinois Math and Science Academy is hosting a free two-day workshop for K-5 teachers, teacher leaders, and administrators focused on developing lessons aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for classroom, school, or district. Workshops will be in Springfield Jan. 29-30, Matteson Feb. 4, and Marion Feb. 19-20. [Register and see full details about this NGSS Leadership workshop](#) (<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/IllinoisMathematicsandScienceAcademy#/selectSessions/2422001>).

#### **Ed Leaders Network: Introduction to Cultural Competency – On-Demand**

This course is designed as an introduction to cultural competency. Cultural competency involves learning, communicating, and connecting respectfully with others regardless of differences. Culture can refer to an individual's race, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, immigration status, or age. All of these factors strongly influence people's lives and experiences. Educators, regardless of background or identity, must bring both cultural understanding and self-awareness to their work. [Register for the Ed Leaders Network course by logging in to the Ed Leaders Network](#) ([https://eweb.ilprincipals.org/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?WebCode=LoginRequired&Site=ELN&url\\_success=IdPLauncher.aspx](https://eweb.ilprincipals.org/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?WebCode=LoginRequired&Site=ELN&url_success=IdPLauncher.aspx)).

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### ISBE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD FUNDING FOR FY 2021

**Proposals for Preschool for All, Preschool for All Expansion, and Prevention Initiative funding are due no later than 4 p.m. on March 23**

The ECBG consists of three programs: Preschool for All, which provides half- or full-day education to 3- to 5-year-olds; Preschool for All Expansion, which provides full-day education to 3- to 5-year-olds, in addition to comprehensive health and social-emotional services for children and their families; and Prevention Initiative, which offers intensive, research-based supports for expecting parents and families with children from birth to age 3.

Currently funded FY 2019 and FY 2020 cohorts do not need to complete this application to maintain current funding. However, entities may apply for additional slots under this application.

Eligible applicants for the ECBG include public school districts, university laboratory schools approved by ISBE, charter schools, area vocational centers, and public or private not-for-profit or for-profit entities with experience in providing educational, health, social, or child development services to young children and their families. Applications must receive a quality score of at least 60 to be eligible for funding.

ISBE will prioritize funding ECBG applications that propose to serve children in the geographic areas of Tier 1 or Tier 2 school districts, which are those in the greatest need of additional resources.

Applicants may access the [ECBG Request for Proposals page](http://www.isbe.net/ecbg) (<http://www.isbe.net/ecbg>) for details. An informational webinar for applicants is coming soon.

## UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Embedding Structured Teaching in the Inclusive Early Childhood Classroom – 9 a.m.-3 p.m. – Feb. 7 in Rockford**

The purpose of this presentation is to describe instructional strategies for supporting young children with disabilities in inclusive early childhood settings. Dr. Barton will provide an overview of effective practices based on research and principles of applied behavior analysis. She will provide examples to illustrate high-quality early childhood inclusive environments. She will outline strategies for embedding into ongoing activities in inclusive early childhood classrooms. Participants will have opportunities to identify practices and plan classroom implementation.

[Registration information for Embedding Structured Teaching in the Inclusive Early Childhood Classroom now available](http://starnet.org/home/events/embedding-structured-teaching-2/) (<http://starnet.org/home/events/embedding-structured-teaching-2/>).

### **The YMCA Anti-bias Literacy Approach Webinar – 4-5:30 p.m. – Feb. 27**

Using an anti-bias education framework to inform curricular choices helps teachers support young learners respect and embrace differences and contribute to the world in peaceful ways. Students in early childhood classrooms at the Y engage with high-quality storybooks align with the teacher's interactive read aloud practices. Children the gather in small groups to create their stories by talking, drawing, and writing about their ideas. We believe that every child has a story that should be honored and that our teaching should be relevant to our students' identities and experiences. We seek a world in which ALL children can blossom in spite of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. [Registration information for the YMCA Anti-bias Literacy Approach Webinar is now available](http://www.eclearningil.org/) (<http://www.eclearningil.org/>).

### **Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Family Engagement – 9 a.m.-3 p.m. – March 18 – Des Plaines**

Family engagement is a foundational component of high-quality early childhood programs. Engaging families from backgrounds different from our own requires educators to dig deep into their own cultural beliefs and practices as well as being open to learning about the cultural beliefs and practices of others. The linguistic goals that families have for their children need to be clearly understood so they can be affirmed and supported in early childhood settings. Educators have to create space to integrate the families' funds of knowledge in meaningful ways in their routines, curriculum, and events ... not just food and fiestas. Examples presented during this session will provide a starting place for our discussion on how to transform your classroom and program practices to engage families authentically. [Registration information for the Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Family Engagement webinar is now available](https://www.starnetregionii.org/calendar/culturally-and-linguistically-responsive-family-engagement) (<https://www.starnetregionii.org/calendar/culturally-and-linguistically-responsive-family-engagement>).

## ED360 FINANCIAL DASHBOARD

Ed360 is the free data dashboard created by ISBE that empowers educators by providing access to near real-time data from the ISBE Data Warehouse. Using Ed360, educators can view data to support classroom instruction and enhance student engagement, while providing access to professional development and instructional resources to build capacity and improve student outcomes.

ISBE has launched the new Ed360 Financial Dashboard to help schools and districts strengthen the bridge between fiscal and academic teams. The Ed360 Financial Dashboard helps districts align resources to their student needs.

The data available in the new dashboard includes:

- Annual Financial Report information, including revenues, expenditures, financial profile score, fund balances, and trends and peer comparisons for up to 10 years;
- Budget forecasting tool designed to assist districts in preparing various scenarios to forecast future budgets for planning purposes;
- Grant management information, including grant cycle, current status, and grant budgets;
- Program reimbursements, including allotments, budget, unexpended budget, expenditures, disbursements, and payment schedule; and
- Evidence-Based Funding, including adequacy level, local resources, state contribution, student population allocation, and trends and peer comparisons for up to 10 districts statewide.

You can contact the Ed360 Outreach Team at [ed360@isbe.net](mailto:ed360@isbe.net) (mailto:ed360@isbe.net) for more information.

## EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS

### 2020 ILLINOIS TEACHER LEADERSHIP SUMMIT SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JAN. 31

The 2020 Illinois Teacher Leadership Summit Powered by Teach to Lead is a teacher leadership summit designed in partnership with [Teach to Lead](http://teachtolead.org/what-we-do/powered-teach-lead/) (<http://teachtolead.org/what-we-do/powered-teach-lead/>), the Illinois State Teachers of the Year organization, and Delta Kappa Gamma Illinois. The summit will be held March 6-7 in Bloomington.

## EVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING


### DEADLINE TO ANNOUNCE INTENT TO CHANGE FROM HALF-DAY TO FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN IS MARCH 1

The Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) formula creates an Adequacy Target for each district based on total average student enrollment and English Learner and low-income enrollment populations. Kindergarten students are assigned a value of 0.5 if they attend a half day and a value of 1.0 if they attend a full day. Per the Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act, a school district may inform the State Board of Education of its intent to change from half-day to full-day kindergarten. Taking this action will convert kindergarten attendance to full day for purposes of calculating EBF in the following year. The deadline to report this information is **March 1, 2020**.

Any school district that wishes to make this change for the 2020-21 school year must provide ISBE with a board resolution expressing the intent to make the change for the next school year, as well as the minutes from the meeting when this was approved. School districts may submit these documents to Ethelene Ferdinand at ISBE at [eferdina@isbe.net](mailto:eferdina@isbe.net) (mailto:eferdina@isbe.net). If you have questions, please call the State Funding and Forecasting Division at (217) 782-0249 or email your questions to [eferdina@isbe.net](mailto:eferdina@isbe.net) (mailto:eferdina@isbe.net).

## FUNDING & DISBURSEMENT SERVICES

## CENSUS ESTIMATES AFFECTING FY 2021 TITLE I FOR 2018 INCOME YEAR

The U.S. Department of Education has released the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) for income year 2018. These estimates will be used to calculate FY 2021 Title I allocations. A file of [2018 Poverty Data by Local Education Agency \(LEA\)](#)  (/Documents/2018-Poverty-Data-LEA.pdf) is provided including Poverty Count, 5-17 Population, and Poverty Percentage in the FY 2021 Preliminary Eligibility. Note that this preliminary data does not include other non-census information, such as foster, neglected, or delinquent counts that will be included to calculate actual Title I allocations.

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) can use this data to determine their potential eligibility for the various funding streams of Title I -- Basic, Concentration, Targeted, and Education Finance Incentive Grants (EFIG).

- Basic Grant eligibility: An LEA must have at least 10 poverty children and the number of poverty children must be greater than 2 percent of the LEA population of children ages 5-17.
- Concentration Grant eligibility: An LEA must have at least 6,500 poverty children or the number of those children exceeds 15 percent of the total 5-17 population.
- Targeted Grant and EFIG eligibility: An LEA must have at least 10 poverty children and that number must be at least 5 percent of the 5-17 population.

Superintendents, business managers, and Title I directors should carefully examine the data for their LEA, as this will be the first indication as to whether your LEA may be gaining or losing in eligibility for Title I funds in FY 2021. ISBE neither controls nor generates the data.

There is a challenge period for LEAs to review the 2018 poverty and population data for certain non-statistical errors, which include errors the Census Bureau may have made in processing input data or in running the estimation models/programs or preparing or processing information to define geographic boundaries (i.e., school district boundaries). This challenge period ends on March 11, 2020. Please contact the Small Area Estimates Branch of the U.S. Census Bureau at (301) 763-3193 or email [sehsd.saipe@census.gov](mailto:sehsd.saipe@census.gov) (mailto:sehsd.saipe@census.gov) to obtain information on the process to challenge the data. If you have questions, please contact Beth Minder in Funding and Disbursements at [eminder@isbe.net](mailto:eminder@isbe.net) (mailto:eminder@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5256.

## FINAL 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR MANDATED CATEGORICAL PRORATIONS NOW CALCULATED

Final prorations and payments have been calculated for all 2018-19 school year categorical programs.

2018-19 school year programs reimbursed in FY 2020:

- Special Education Private Facility – 80 percent
- Special Education Transportation – 83 percent
- Regular/Vocational Transportation – 84 percent

2018-19 school year programs reimbursed in FY 2019:

- Special Education Orphanage – 100 percent
- Regular Orphanage – 100 percent
- Illinois Free Lunch/Breakfast – 31 percent

If you have questions regarding this information, contact Funding and Disbursements at (217) 782-5256.

## MULTILINGUAL STUDENTS

## ACCESS FOR ELS ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT WINDOW

The 2020 administration window for ACCESS for EIs 2.0 and Alternate ACCESS will be open until **Feb. 18**. Districts who have any student enrolled and identified as an English Learner will need to ensure that eligible students are tested. Visit the [WIDA Illinois](https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/il) (<https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/consortium/il>) profile page for more information.

## SAFE & HEALTHY CLIMATE

### COMPLETE THE SCHOOL HEALTH PROFILES SURVEY

ISBE is encouraging all chosen schools to participate in the 2020 School Health Profiles. This survey is conducted biennially for principals and lead health teachers. Distribution will begin this week, so watch your mailbox! The School Health Profile questionnaires will be used to obtain accurate data on current school health education activities. Data collected from this survey will identify trends and help inform the development of school health projects.

## SCHOOL BUSINESS

### FINANCIAL PROFILE SCORE REVIEW AND COMMENTS

The Financial Profile score generated from the 2018-19 School District Annual Financial Report (ISBE Form 50-35) is now available through the [IWAS](https://sec2.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true) (<https://sec2.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true>) website.


#### Financial Profile Score Review and Comments

Pursuant to Section 1A-8 of the School Code, ISBE is required to monitor finances and identify school districts that are in or moving toward financial difficulty.

ISBE requests that each district superintendent reviews the accuracy of their respective Financial Profile score and designation. It is crucial that the district reviews and understands the score and designation process. Financial consultants are available if you need budgeting assistance.

**View the School District Financial Profile Information** (/Pages/Financial-Profile-Score.aspx) online now.

The Financial Profile scores will be adjusted and distributed at the State Board meeting in March. The adjustments will reflect any late Mandated Categorical payments or subtract out any that were made the prior year. Upon approval by the State Board, these reports will be posted on the ISBE website at [School District Financial Profile](/Pages/School-District-Financial-Profile.aspx) (/Pages/School-District-Financial-Profile.aspx).

**Districts that wish to include comments** for their 2020 Financial Profile Score report may do so in the comment box provided at the [IWAS](https://sec2.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true) (<https://sec2.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true>) link; **you are allowed only 500 characters per comment**. Your comments regarding your district's finances are an integral part of the profile. The profile is generated from the district's Annual Financial Report, but there are often extenuating circumstances outside of the district administration's control that have a financial impact on the district. Districts can publicly convey what happened in their district that may have or will impact their Total Profile Score in the **Comments** portion of the profile. This will allow for the explanation of significant local financial issues, such as cash versus accrual accounting implications, and timing of revenue receipts versus expenditures incurred for unique circumstances, such as school construction projects. In this capacity, the profile can be implemented as a communication vehicle for a district's constituents. Any comments regarding the profile must be completed by **Feb. 7, 2020**. Please use the [instructions to access IWAS](/Documents/OEPP-PCTC-IWAS-Access-Instructions.pdf)  (/Documents/OEPP-PCTC-IWAS-Access-Instructions.pdf) to guide you to the District Financial Report system in IWAS. If you have questions regarding the school profile score, please contact a consultant at (217) 785-8779 or [finance1@isbe.net](mailto:finance1@isbe.net) (mailto:finance1@isbe.net).

#### OEPP/PCTC Verification

The Operating Expense Per Pupil/Per Capita Tuition Charge verification will be available later. School districts will be notified through IWAS and *ISBE's Weekly Message* and the [ISBE website](#) (/Pages/Financial-Profile-Score.aspx).

## FY 2020 ROUND 1 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE PROJECT GRANT

### Open for Applications Until Feb. 14, 2020

The FY 2020 Round 1 School Maintenance Project Grant (SMPG) application period is open in [IWAS](#) (<https://sec1.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true>) until 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, 2020. All applications must be submitted in IWAS to the Regional Office of Education by 5 p.m. Friday, February 14, 2020, **no exceptions**.

There is approximately \$44 million available for the FY 2020 Round 1 School Maintenance Project Grant. Grants will be approved up to the amount released by the Governor's Office of Management and Budget. Future application cycles will be open when funds are released.

The **School Maintenance Project Grant** is a dollar-for-dollar state matching grant program providing awards up to \$50,000 to grantees exclusively for the maintenance or upkeep of buildings or structures for educational purposes. Ongoing operational costs, including in-house labor for SMPG projects not contracted out, cannot be included for any School Maintenance Project Grant. A project may involve different types of work on a single building or structure or may involve a single type of work (e.g., new roofing or windows) on several buildings or structures. There is no limit to the cost of a project; however, grant awards shall not exceed \$50,000 per grant award, and applicants shall provide a match from local funds equal to the grant amount requested. An applicant must not obligate funds or begin work on any of the projects listed on the application prior to submission of the application in IWAS. However, submission of the application does not guarantee a grant will be approved or awarded. All project activities must be expended or legally obligated within two years of disbursement by the state. The grantee will have 90 calendar days to liquidate funds that have been obligated but not fully expended two years after disbursement.

**Eligible Applicants:** Any school district, cooperative high school, Type 40 area vocational center, or special education cooperative may apply for the grant.

**All applicants must submit a SMPG GATA Risk Assessment (found under Grants) and SMPG Application (found under Surveys) through the IWAS** (<https://sec1.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true>) **System. Access to these systems are granted to district administrators. If another staff member will be completing the application, the district administrator will have to give authorization through IWAS.**

A summary of the steps that are necessary to fully execute the FY 2020 Round 1 SMPG are as follows:

1. Complete and submit the SMPG Grant Application via IWAS. Local board approval is required for completion of this step. (A board resolution is NOT required.)
2. Complete and submit the SMPG GATA Risk Assessment via IWAS. (This is different from the GATA Risk Assessment that is completed for other grants.)
3. Review and approval by regional superintendent (ROE).
4. Review and approval by ISBE School Business Services Department.

For detailed information, go to [ISBE School Maintenance Project Grant Website](#) (/Pages/School-Maintenance-Project-Grant.aspx) or contact Tiana Mathis or Michelle Hemberger with the School Business Services Department at (217) 785-8779 or at [SMPG@isbe.net](mailto:SMPG@isbe.net) (<mailto:SMPG@isbe.net>).

## SCHOOL WELLNESS

REGISTER FOR THE ISBE SCHOOL WELLNESS CONFERENCE – FEB. 24-25

Registration is under way for the Illinois State Board of Education School Wellness Conference. The conference includes two pre-conference session options on **Feb. 24** and a full-day conference on **Feb. 25** in Bloomington. The free training opportunity is presented by ISBE's Wellness and Nutrition departments.

School nutrition professionals, physical education teachers, school nurses, school social workers, and others dedicated to the well-being of Illinois schoolchildren are encouraged to attend this free statewide conference opportunity.

The conference will feature three session tracks: Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Social Emotional Health. Attendees can receive up to five Continuing Education Units on the Feb. 25 conference day with additional hours available at the Feb. 24 pre-conference.


The tentative agenda, registration, and other conference details are available on [ISBE's School Wellness Conference webpage](#) (/Pages/School-Wellness-Conference.aspx).

The Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Bloomington (10 Brickyard Drive, Bloomington, IL 61701) is the host hotel for the conference. Reservations can be made through the [Double Tree by Hilton Hotel website](#) (<http://www.bloomington.doubletree.com/>) or by calling (309) 664-6446. Conference rates are available for Monday, Feb. 24, under group code "IBE." Rooms are limited, and reservations must be made by Feb. 3 in order to receive the conference rate. Attendees are responsible for all room reservations and cancellations.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

### TIME OUT AND PHYSICAL RESTRAINT GUIDANCE AND FAQ DOCUMENT NOW AVAILABLE

ISBE has developed **Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions: Emergency Regulations for the Use of Time Out and Physical Restraint** (/Documents/Guidance-FAQs-Time-out-Restraint.pdf#search=physical%20restraint). We wish to thank the Special Education Committee of the Illinois Council of School Attorneys (ICSA) for its collaboration in the creation of this guidance document. The responses to the FAQs represent the consensus reached between ISBE and the ICSA Special Education Committee. This guidance is published for informational purposes only. Potential questions may arise that are not addressed in this guidance document. Questions may be submitted to Barbara Moore, director of Special Education, at [bmoore@isbe.net](mailto:bmoore@isbe.net) (mailto:bmoore@isbe.net), or you may consult your school attorney. We thank you for your patience while this guidance was being produced and hope you find it useful in your implementation of the emergency regulations.

This is also a reminder that all school districts, special education cooperatives, and nonpublic special education facilities are required to submit documentation to ISBE on all instances of physical restraint or time out used during the current school year (2019-20) within 48 hours as recorded on the [ISBE form 11-01](#)  (/Documents/11-01-Physical-Restraint-Time-Out-Form.pdf) and were required to submit all forms from the past two school years (2018-19 and 2017-18) to [restrainttimeout@isbe.net](mailto:restrainttimeout@isbe.net) (mailto:restrainttime@isbe.net) by Dec. 20, 2019. Thank you to all educational entities that submitted their forms by the deadline. If you have not submitted your forms, please do so immediately. If you do not have any past incidents to report, please send an email to [restrainttimeout@isbe.net](mailto:restrainttimeout@isbe.net) (mailto:restrainttimeout@isbe.net) and indicate zero incidents to report.

## TEACHER OF THE YEAR

### 2020 ILLINOIS TEACHER OF THE YEAR AVAILABLE FOR SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Eric Combs, middle school band instructor at Richland County Middle School in Olney, is the 2020 Illinois Teacher of the Year and is eager to share his enthusiasm for teaching with you!

Eric is truly dedicated to this success of his students. He has developed an individualized instructional plan tailored to maximize each student's abilities and proceed through the program at their own pace. He has also developed his own spreadsheets to facilitate tracking individual student progress and encourages his students to practice only when they want, as opposed to forcing a prescribed amount of time. He has also been seen handing out free instruments to students who may be interested in band but don't have the resources to participate. His approach to teaching, coupled with assisting other band educators in developing their own curricula, is helping Eric meet his goal of advancing the profession beyond where it was when he first started.

If you would like Eric to share his insights, strategies, and ideas with your staff, please [visit his website](https://sites.google.com/rccu1.net/eric-combs/home) (https://sites.google.com/rccu1.net/eric-combs/home).

## IN BRIEF

### DISTRICT RECOGNITION

- Congratulations to the 11 Illinois districts that made the **2019 National AP District Honor Roll!**
  - **Barrington Community Unit School District 220★**
  - **Central Community Unit School District 301★**
  - **Coal City 1 Community School District**
  - **Community Unit School District 95**
  - **Edwardsville Community Unit School District 7★**
  - **O'Fallon Township School District 203★**
  - **Reavis Township High School District 220**
  - **Saint Charles Community Unit School District 303★**
  - **Sherrard Community School District 200**
  - **Township High School District 211★**
  - **United Township High School District 30**



Districts with a star have appeared on the AP District Honor Roll in the past. View additional information about the AP District Honor Roll (<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/awards/district-honor-roll>).

### EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

- **Illinois Energy Workforce Consortium** has free classroom resources for energy career materials. There is an opportunity for a \$250 classroom grant. Visit the [Center for Energy Workforce Development webpage](http://cewd.org/about/state-consortia/illinois/) (http://cewd.org/about/state-consortia/illinois/) for additional information.
- The staff of the U.S. Marine Corps Commanding Officer in the Midwest region, Colonel David Fallon, **is providing** administrators, teachers, school board members and other “influencers” in schools an opportunity to see the process of young men and women becoming U.S. Marines. Each year, the Marine Corps hosts high school influencers in San Diego to become better informed on the recruitment process, entry-level training, career opportunities, the emphasis on education in the Marine Corps, and to dispel myths and assumptions based on USMC stereotypes, family support, and community services. This program is an all-expenses paid, one-week immersion program where participants have the chance to stand on the infamous yellow footprints, observe and talk to recruits in recruit training, shoot the Marine Corps service rifle, interact with drill instructors, participate in the Bayonet Assault Course, and witness a recruit graduation ceremony. [View more information about the program](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEWfE8fC48) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEWfE8fC48). **If interested**, contact 9th Marine Corps District at [9MCD\\_MidWestMarines\\_OMB@marines.usmc.mil](mailto:9MCD_MidWestMarines_OMB@marines.usmc.mil) (mailto:9MCD\_MidWestMarines\_OMB@marines.usmc.mil) and you will be contacted promptly.

- The **Illinois State Board of Education** is seeking scholarship applicants to complete and provide feedback on a gifted education microcredential. Eligible applicants must: hold a valid Illinois Professional Educator License; complete the course within 30 weeks from start date; provide feedback to ISBE and course developers regarding the course design and work. Completed applications should be emailed to Kimberly Johnson at [kjohnson@isbe.net](mailto:kjohnson@isbe.net) (mailto:kjohnson@isbe.net) no later than February 14. Ten recipients will be selected for to be part of the course pilot and notified via email.

## EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

- Congratulations to all of **Illinois' new National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs)**! The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) has announced 176 **new NBCTs**  (<https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/downloads/New%20NBCTs%2012.10.19.pdf>) and 283 **newly renewed NBCTs**  (/Documents/renewed-nbcts.pdf) in Illinois. The total number of NBCTs in Illinois is 6,711. For additional National Board statistics and information about Illinois please visit the **NBPTS website** (<https://www.nbpts.org/>).

## EDUCATOR RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

- The **Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching** recognizes those teachers who have both deep content knowledge of the subjects they teach and the ability to motivate and enable students to be successful in those areas. This year's awards will honor science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teachers working in grades K-6. Nominations close on **March 1**. Find out more information about the nomination and application process (<https://www.paemst.org/home/view>).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Roosevelt University and the Illinois Dual Language Teacher Leadership Consortium are hosting the **second annual Dual Language Symposium** on March 2 in Chicago. [View the symposium webpage for more information](https://blogs.roosevelt.edu/coe/2019/12/18/2nd-annual-illinois-dual-language-symposium/) (<https://blogs.roosevelt.edu/coe/2019/12/18/2nd-annual-illinois-dual-language-symposium/>).
- **SHAPE America** is hosting a professional learning institute in Chicago on **Feb. 17** focused on the Whole School, Whole Child, Whole Community Model. Visit the SHAPE webpage to register and learn more ([https://www.shapeamerica.org/prodev/Whole\\_School\\_Whole\\_Child\\_Conference.aspx](https://www.shapeamerica.org/prodev/Whole_School_Whole_Child_Conference.aspx)).

## STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Applications for the **Girls Go CyberStart Challenge** are now open to high schoolers. [Find more information and test your skills today](https://www.girlsgocyberstart.org/) (<https://www.girlsgocyberstart.org/>)!

## ISBE FEATURED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Learn more and apply for the below career opportunities at ISBE!
  - [Principal Consultant – Multilingual](#) (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=364)
  - [Principal Consultant – Funding & Disbursements](#) (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=360)
- [View all open positions at ISBE](#) (/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx).