

# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 1, 2018



Hello,

I am energized by what I see districts across the state doing to create the conditions for all our students to be engaged learners. Districts are pursuing innovative partnerships, connecting students and families to community-based health and mental health programs and other social programs, and utilizing trauma-informed practices and more restorative approaches. They are living out the vision of supporting all children, and challenging stigmas, so there are no “others” in our schools or communities.

**National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day** (<https://www.samhsa.gov/children/awareness-day/2018>) is next Thursday, May 10. This year's theme, “Partnering for Health and Hope Following Trauma,” encourages us to think about how we are caring for families in distress and children struggling with **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)**

(<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/index.html>). The

Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education (IL-AWARE) grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) supports state- and community-level transformation through multi-tiered systems of support. The funds currently assist East Aurora School District 131, Decatur School District 61, and Harrisburg Unit District 3. These districts are recognizing National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day by holding community events, such as health fairs and “Wear Green” days. Find other events happening across the state [here](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=104713) (<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=104713>) and [here](https://www.ffcmh.org/events-awarenessweek-2018events) (<https://www.ffcmh.org/events-awarenessweek-2018events>).

IL-AWARE grant also funds Youth Mental Health First Aid training at the state and local levels to improve mental health literacy and capacity among adults who interact with children. Training is available for districts; ISBE's pool of instructors can facilitate the course for 5-30 participants. The training course provides participants with tools and strategies to help identify youth experiencing mental health crises and connect them with appropriate support. Please [email Rebecca Doran](mailto:rdoran@isbe.net) (<mailto:rdoran@isbe.net>), project director for IL-AWARE, if you are interested in hosting a course or would like more information.

I encourage you to explore the many resources available from **SAMHSA** (<https://www.samhsa.gov/>) and others in your work to promote children's mental health and well-being. The **National Child**

**Traumatic Stress Network** (<https://www.nctsn.org/>) shares information about understanding and responding to the specific needs of children who have experienced trauma. ISBE's **Climate and Culture pages** (</Pages/Climate-and-Culture.aspx>) and **Classrooms in Action** (<http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/instructional-supports.html>) present tools to foster positive school climate and build comprehensive systems of support for students.

## Quick Links

[Illinois Report Card](#)  
[Every Student Succeeds Act](#)  
[Evidence-Based Funding](#)  
[English Learners](#)  
[Funding & Disbursements](#)  
[Data Reporting](#)  
[U.S. Presidential Scholars Program](#)  
[IL-EMPOWER](#)  
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I appreciate everything our educators and educational leaders do to nurture the whole child. This has been another great year of learning, meaningful reflection, and deepening connections. It was an honor to join Horace Mann Companies, the Illinois Association of School Administrators, and the Illinois Principals Association in Springfield today to recognize 26 outstanding administrators at the fourth annual luncheon celebrating excellence in educational leadership. These superintendents and principals are among those going above and beyond to maximize opportunities and outcomes for each and every student. I am grateful for their hard work in support of children and families, their excitement in sharing their learning, and their leadership in strengthening our communities. [Read the list of honorees](#) (/Lists/News/NewsDisplay.aspx?ID=1209).

I look forward to celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week next week. Don't forget to share your #ThankATeacher posts and videos on social media!

Technology plays a crucial role in education – from increasing collaboration and critical thinking to promoting learning beyond the limits of the school day. I am excited to have the opportunity to participate in the Apple Global Summit this Thursday, May 3. The summit is convening 62 Apple Distinguished Schools from around the world. Through their use of technology, these schools are leading the way in providing students with innovative learning opportunities and preparing them for today's global landscape. Representatives from several Illinois districts are attending, and Illinois students are showcasing their creative work with technology.

Have a great week!

Tony



#### UPCOMING ISBE DATES AND DEADLINES

Please note this is not a complete list of events, meetings, and deadlines. For more events and details, visit the [ISBE Meetings page](#) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx>) or call the Illinois State Board of Education at (866) 262-6663.

**May 1:** Licensure renewal opens for educators who hold a SUB license

**May 2:** [Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act: Transitional Math Webinar](#)  
(<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6624038977848245762>)

**May 4:** [Deadline to submit Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Application](#)  
(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FFVP1819>)

**May 7-11:** Teacher Appreciation Week

**May 10:** [Deadline to submit application for ISBE's School Nutrition Advisory Council](#)  
(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ADVCOUNCIL>)

**May 15 & 16:** [The Learning Technology Center Future Ready Workshops](#) (<http://ltcillinois.org/frillinois/>)

**May 15:** [Deadline to verify School Year 2018 Spring Enrollment Counts](#)  
(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ebfenrollment.aspx>)

**May 16:** [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](#)  
(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

**May 19:** [Illinois Network of Charter Schools Spring Charter Startup Workshop](#) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-charter-startup-workshop-tickets-44924737098>)

**May 21:** [Deadline to submit National Board Candidate Fee Subsidy Application](#)  
(<https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php>)

**May 25:** [Deadline to submit 2018-19 Student Advisory Council applications](#)  
(<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Student-Advisory-Council-Application-2018-19.pdf>)

**May 28:** ISBE offices closed for Memorial Day

**May 31:** Deadline for final amendments for state and federal grants with a project end date of June 30, 2018

**June 4 (postmarked); June 7 (if emailed):** [Deadline to submit Those Who Excel applications](#)  
(<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/03-10-those-who-excel.pdf>)

**June 13:** [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](#)  
(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

**June 25:** ["Team Up for School Nutrition Success" Training](#)  
(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TEAMUP18>)

**June 30:** [Deadline to apply for USDA's HealthierUS School Challenge](https://www.fns.usda.gov/hussc/healthierus-school-challenge-smarter-lunchrooms)

(<https://www.fns.usda.gov/hussc/healthierus-school-challenge-smarter-lunchrooms>)

**June 30:** [Deadline to submit application for Community Eligibility Provision](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Guidance-for-HHFKA.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Guidance-for-HHFKA.aspx>)

**Aug. 1:** Deadline for final amendments for state and federal grants with a project end date of August 31, 2018

**Aug. 6-7:** [School Nutrition Programs \(SNP\) Back to School Conference](https://www.isbe.net/Documents/SNPB2S-agenda-2018.pdf)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/SNPB2S-agenda-2018.pdf>)

## ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

### May 7 Report Card Engagement Session in Springfield

ISBE wants to get the best information to students, families, and communities regarding the quality of learning in each and every public school in Illinois. This year, there will be new information on the Illinois Report Card and a new schema for evaluating learning happening in the school. Given this transition, ISBE wants to hear from students, families, and community partners about what information they care about and why.

[Share this link](https://www.eventbrite.com/o/illinois-state-board-of-education-in-partnership-with-advance-illinois-17195941849) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/illinois-state-board-of-education-in-partnership-with-advance-illinois-17195941849>) with your school community and partners in the public at large, so they can join us for a conversation on what they want to know about their students' schools from 9 a.m. to noon on May 5 at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield Hotel, 701 E. Adams St.

ISBE will share the engagement session manual for any interested group, school, or district to host your own family and community engagement session and send us feedback. The information we gather through these stakeholder meetings will help inform how we share new data on school performance in a way that is accessible, useful, and valid.

## EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

### Site-Based Expenditure Reporting – New Video to Assist District Leaders

Two weeks ago, ISBE shared a [Suggested District Implementation Timeline](#) ([/\\_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/District\\_Implementation\\_Timeline.xlsx](#)) that lays out recommendations for implementing Site-Based Expenditure

Reporting for fiscal year 2019. Included in that timeline are a number of actions that district leaders can be taking now in order to significantly lighten their load when reporting starts next year. ISBE and the Illinois Association of School Business Officials, with support from the Illinois Principals Association, have produced a new [video](#) ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBq\\_s7L2y08](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBq_s7L2y08)) that explains some of these immediate recommended actions. Tune in to learn accounting tips and tricks that may be useful.

## EVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING

### Reminder: FY 2019 EBF Enrollment Verification Window Closes May 15

ISBE is administering a one-time, supplemental enrollment verification process for school year 2018 fall and spring enrollment counts. Please note the deadline is extended to **May 15, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.** The new funding formula funds all districts in relation to each other, so we want to ensure we continue to have accurate enrollment counts statewide.


#### School Year 2018 Enrollment Verification Timeline

**April 18** – ISBE released an updated EBF Verification tool in the E-Report Card system in IWAS. [View instructions for accessing and using the tool](#) ([/Documents/EBF\\_Verification\\_Tool\\_User\\_Documentation.pdf](#)).

- Your district's current 2018 fall enrollment count (as of Oct. 2, 2017) and spring enrollment count (as of March 1, 2018) will appear in the tool.
- Compare the enrollment data in the tool to your own counts.
- You may download Student Information System (SIS) IDs from the tool to compare the enrollment data ISBE has to your own.
- Make any corrections directly in SIS.
- The verification tool will reflect any changes made in SIS the following day.

**May 15** – Verification and correction window closes at the end of the day at 4 p.m.

**May 16** – ISBE begins processing the enrollment file. ISBE will use this enrollment data to determine EBF tier funding for FY 2019.

If you have questions or experience technical difficulty, please reference the [Verification Tool User Guide](#) 

(/Documents/EBF\_Verification\_Tool\_User\_Documentation.pdf) and [Enrollment Verification FAQ](#) (/Pages/state-funding-and-forecasting-faqs.aspx), both available on the [EBF Enrollment page](#) (<http://www.isbe.net/Pages/ebfenrollment.aspx>). You can also direct questions to [EBFHelp@isbe.net](mailto:EBFHelp@isbe.net) (mailto:EBFHelp@isbe.net) or call the ISBE Data Strategies and Analytics team at (217) 782-3950 or the ISBE SIS team at (217) 558-3600, option 3.

## ENGLISH LEARNERS

### Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education

Pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/14C-13](#), (<http://ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=010500050K14C-13>) the State Superintendent appoints members to the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education (IACBE). IACBE currently has two vacancies and the terms of five additional members will be expiring on June 30, 2018. All individuals interested in being considered for appointment on IACBE may submit a letter of interest and resume to Samuel Aguirre at [saguirre@isbe.net](mailto:saguirre@isbe.net) (mailto:saguirre@isbe.net) by **June 15**.

For inquiries, please contact ISBE's Samuel Aguirre at [saguirre@isbe.net](mailto:saguirre@isbe.net) (mailto:saguirre@isbe.net) or call (312) 814-3058.

## FUNDING & DISBURSEMENTS


### Title I Excess Carryover

Federal regulations for Title I require that states limit the amount of funds carried over to a subsequent fiscal year. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may only carryover 15 percent of the current year allocation, including funds transferred into Title I through the local Transferability Authority, for grants of \$50,000 or more. Carryover exceeding 15 percent is considered excess and will be reduced from total funds available.


#### Reasons for excess carryover:


- a) The LEA has excess carryover in the current year project based on ACTUAL expenditures over a 15-month period (final expenditure report from current year plus first-quarter expenditure report of next year).
- b) The LEA has potential excess carryover into the next year's project based on unbudgeted funds within the current year application.

#### There are three options available if you have potential excess carryover:

- 1) Funds can be relinquished. (These funds are used for reallocation to other LEAs.)
- 2) An [excess carryover waiver](#)  ([http://www.isbe.net/Documents/carryover\\_waiver.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/Documents/carryover_waiver.pdf)) can be requested. A waiver request must be submitted prior to the project end date. LEAs may only request a waiver once every three years.

3) An amendment can be submitted for the total funds available and expenditure of these funds can be completed. Amendments must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the project end date.

Maximum 2018 carryover amounts for LEAs with greater than \$50,000 current year allocation, along with information showing whether your LEA has requested a waiver in the last three years are available in the [maximum carryover and waiver history document](#)  (/Documents/title\_I\_carryover.pdf). If there is an x in any of the last three years, you cannot request a waiver to carry over excess funds into 2019.

**It is the LEA's responsibility to be aware of the total funds available and if there is a possibility of excess carryover into the next fiscal year.** The LEA should monitor its grant to ensure that all available funds have been budgeted and that funds are being spent so that the maximum carryover amount is not exceeded. The [Title I Carryover Calculation worksheet](#)  (/layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/Title\_I\_Carryover\_calc\_worksheet.xlsx) can help you determine if there could be a potential excess issue.

ISBE will notify the LEA if it has unbudgeted funds or when it has exceeded carryover, but the LEA should monitor the grant to ensure that if the potential for excess for carryover exists that action is taken before the funds are lost.

Please contact your program consultant for information regarding your Title I program. If you have questions on the Title I excess carryover process, please contact the ISBE Funding and Disbursements Division at (217) 782-5256.

### Deadline for Final FY 2018 State & Federal Grant Amendments and End Date Extensions

Many state and federal grant projects are approaching a June 30 end date for obligating FY 2018 grant funds. All state and federal project end date extension requests and final budget amendments must be received at ISBE no later than 30 calendar days prior to the end date of the project.

As a reminder, please be advised of the following regarding the need for a project end date extension:

- An end date extension past June 30 is NOT needed for regular term staff salaries paid on a 12-month salary schedule.
- An end date extension past June 30 is NOT needed to pay obligations (e.g., purchase order for supplies) incurred June 30 or prior.
- An end date extension past June 30 IS NEEDED for new activities and obligations incurred July 1 or later (e.g., summer school, professional development).

ISBE must receive final amendments for state and federal grants with a project end date of June 30, 2018, no later than **May 31**. **Aug. 1** is the last day amendments will be accepted for grants with a project end date of August 31, 2018. . However, budget increases for state-funded grant projects must be received by June 30, even if the project end date has been extended. For grant applications in the electronic Grants Management System, the deadline is also referenced on the Program Overview page under “Amendment Due Date.”

**Note to Special Education and Education for Employment Cooperative Administrators:** Member district amendments need to be submitted to the Cooperative/EFE Administrator in a timely fashion to accommodate a final review for accuracy and approvability before acceptance and approval to ISBE on or before the May 31/August 1 deadline.



### 2017-18 Final Public School Calendars Now Available

The Final Public School Calendar for the 2017-18 school year is available via the Public School Calendar system in IWAS. Please complete and submit the Final Calendar to the appropriate Regional Office of Education (ROE)/Intermediate Service Center (ISC) by the last day of school.

**A Final Public School Calendar must be submitted and approved prior to filing the 2017-18 claims for Pupil Transportation and 18-3 Regular Education Orphanage.** The document type [Final Calendar](#) must be submitted even if the district has previous approval on a document type *Amended* Calendar. If a document type *Amended* Calendar is in [Draft](#) status (i.e., has not been submitted to an RCDT

administrator or ROE/ISC for approval), leave it in draft status and proceed by entering the *Final* Calendar. If an Amended Public School Calendar has a *Submitted* status, it must complete the process (i.e., receive approval from the ROE/ISC before a *Final* Calendar may be accessed).

**Reminder:** The unused proposed emergency days (calendar code XED) that are coded at the end of the school calendar must be removed. One option to do this is by correcting the **Regular School End Date** to the last day of actual school activity. Once the Regular School End Date has been corrected, the calendar codes after that date will be omitted.

Questions not addressed in the Public School Calendar [guidelines](#)  (/Documents/ps\_guidelines.pdf) or [checklist](#)  (/Documents/calendar\_checklist.pdf) may be directed to the ROE/ISC office or the Division of Funding and Disbursements at the Illinois State Board of Education at (217) 782-5256. If you encounter technical issues with the Public School Calendar in IWAS, please contact the ISBE Call Center at (217) 558-3600 during business hours: 7a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Employer's TRS Contribution on Federally Funded Salary for Summer Activities

The Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) requires earnings for summer work to be reported on an accrual basis. Earnings for work performed in June 2018 must be reported on the 2017-18 TRS Annual Report, even if the member is not paid for the June work until July or August. The 2017-18 TRS and Teachers' Health Insurance Security (THIS) contribution rates apply to accrued earnings for work performed in June, regardless of when the June earnings are paid to the teacher.

Earnings for work performed in July and August 2018 must be reported on the 2018-19 TRS Annual Report. The 2018-19 TRS and THIS contribution rates apply to accrued earnings for work performed in July and August, regardless of when the July and August earnings are paid to the teacher.

Several questions from the field regarding what federal TRS rate to use for summer salaries have prompted [TRS](https://www.trsil.org/) (https://www.trsil.org/) to instruct LEAs to use the new employer TRS contribution on federally funded salaries that are providing services AFTER the start of the new fiscal year (July 1, 2018). Below are three scenarios and what federal TRS rate to use in each scenario:

More information is available on the [TRS website](https://www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates_earnings-limitations) (https://www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates\_earnings-limitations).

Further questions can be directed to the TRS Employer Services Division at [employers@trsil.org](mailto:employers@trsil.org) (mailto:employers@trsil.org) or (877) 927-5877.



## DATA REPORTING

### Physical Fitness Assessment Data Reporting System Now Available


Starting in the second semester of this school year, schools were to begin administering physical fitness assessments using either FitnessGram or, for students with disabilities, the Brockport Physical Fitness Test in the following four areas: Aerobic Capacity (grades 4-12), Flexibility (grades 3-12), Muscular Endurance (grades 3-12), and Muscular Strength (grades 3-12).

By June 30 of each year, districts must ensure the aggregate results of these assessments (number of students meeting Healthy Fitness Zone or Needs Improvement by gender in grades 5, 7, and 10 only) are submitted electronically to ISBE through the *Student Health Data - Physical Fitness* system. This system is now available in IWAS.

For assistance with:

- Gaining access to this system and submitting this data, please refer to the *User Guide for Entering Student Health/Physical Fitness Data into IWAS*  (/Documents/PhysicalFitness\_IWAS\_User\_Guide.PDF).
- Designating account levels for whomever will be entering and/or approving data, reference the *IWAS User Guide*  (ftp://help.isbe.net/webapps/iwas/pdf/IWASUserGuide.pdf).




- General questions related to the physical fitness assessment requirements, please refer to the *Q&A on Physical Fitness Assessment and Data Reporting Requirements*  (/Documents/fitness-asmt-faq.pdf).

Contact Marjorie Ribeiro at [mrribeiro@isbe.net](mailto:mrribeiro@isbe.net) (mailto:mrribeiro@isbe.net) or (312) 814-2220 if you have data system questions. If you still require technical assistance after reviewing the online help, please contact ISBE's Call Center at (217) 558-3600 during business hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

### U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

Nineteen Illinois students have been named as semifinalists in the [2018 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/2018/semifinalists.pdf)  (<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/2018/semifinalists.pdf>).

The program was established in 1964 to recognize and honor some of the country's most distinguished graduating seniors. In 1979, the program was expanded to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts. In 2015, the program was expanded once more to recognize students who show ability and accomplishment in career and technical fields. Up to 161 students annually are selected to become U.S. Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students.

A total of 630 semifinalists has been selected from across the country. These semifinalists form the pool from which the 2018 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be chosen. The scholars will be announced in May. For more information, visit the [U.S. Presidential Scholars Program webpage](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/index.html) (<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/index.html>).

## IL-EMPOWER

### Call for Reviewers: IL-EMPOWER Learning Partner Applications

ISBE is looking for district, school, and teacher leaders to review applications submitted by vendors that wish to work in IL-EMPOWER as a Learning Partner (Partner). IL-EMPOWER, which was approved as part of the Illinois Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan, is the statewide system of accountability and support that empowers schools with greater choice and voice in the school improvement process. IL-EMPOWER is focused on capacity development for statewide school support and it is required for those schools identified to receive comprehensive services. Schools that receive services will complete a needs assessment process using multiple data sources. The findings will guide the identification of priority areas to address in collaboration with Partner(s).

ISBE anticipates receiving between 50-60 applications in late May 2018. Each application must be read by three reviewers within a 15-day time frame.

If you are interested, please submit a summary of professional experience to Henri Fonville at [hfonvill@isbe.net](mailto:hfonvill@isbe.net) (mailto:hfonvill@isbe.net). Contact Jason Helfer at [jhelfer@isbe.net](mailto:jhelfer@isbe.net) (mailto:jhelfer@isbe.net) or (217) 782-4123 with questions.

## CHARTER SCHOOLS

### Free Spring Charter Startup Workshop on May 19

ISBE's Charter Schools Program grant provides the opportunity for educators and community leaders to break the mold and re-imagine school by providing public school options that effectively serve children's diverse learning styles, strengths, and needs. Applicants who wish to obtain funding must first design a high-quality school model, generate community support, and submit a compelling charter

application to your school board.

Join the Illinois Network of Charter Schools on May 19 for the free >[Spring Charter Startup Workshop](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-charter-startup-workshop-tickets-44924737098) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-charter-startup-workshop-tickets-44924737098>) at Cambridge Lakes Charter School in Pingree Grove to learn how to create a comprehensive and detailed plan for your proposed charter school. The workshop will cover the charter school authorization process and position applicants to receive a Charter Schools Program grant from ISBE. Contact Anne Levy Brown at [alevybrown@incschools.org](mailto:alevybrown@incschools.org) (<mailto:alevybrown@incschools.org>) with questions.

## GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY TRANSPARENCY ACT

### FY 2019 Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Now Available

The Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Internal Control Questionnaire (ICQ) for FY 2019 is now available in the [GATA Grantee Portal](https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/) (<https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>).


All entities seeking or planning to seek FY 2019 funding should complete and submit the 2019 ICQ as soon as possible. ISBE will not approve FY 2019 grant applications, nor will awards be made, without the completed 2019 ICQ.

The ICQ is required once per fiscal year and all state agencies utilize results to assess conditions of risk. The ICQ should be completed by someone with financial or accounting experience. For reference, the portal provides access to prior year ICQ responses.

Please direct any GATA-related questions to [GATA@isbe.net](mailto:GATA@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5630.

## COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

### Accelerated Placement Act Guidance

**New guidance**  ([/Documents/Accelerated\\_Placement\\_Act\\_Guidance.pdf](/Documents/Accelerated_Placement_Act_Guidance.pdf)) is available regarding the new [Accelerated Placement Act](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=100-0421) (<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=100-0421>), which supports ISBE's mission, vision, and goals and equitable education for all students. The Accelerated Placement Act expands opportunities for all students, *not only those identified as gifted and talented by local policy*, who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. The act requires the development of local policy to identify such students through a fair and equitable decision-making and multiple measure assessment process.

Additional information and guidance is available on the College and Career [webpage](/Pages/Academics.aspx) (</Pages/Academics.aspx>). Contact the ISBE Center for Teaching and Learning at (217) 524-4832 with questions.

### Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

The [Classrooms in Action website](http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/) (<http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/>) has an abundance of K-12 resources for teachers, including monthly newsletters, various listserv signups, and professional learning opportunities. We encourage educators to take advantage of the low cost, no travel, online-facilitated professional learning offerings below.

**Math Virtual Community:** Join an open discussion at no cost at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, regarding the establishment of a positive community in your math classroom. How do you get your students engaged in mathematical discourse and at the same time create an equitable classroom? Speakers include Rebecca Stowell (Westmoor Elementary in Northbrook), Kathy Felt, (Sherrard Junior High School), and Jeff Harding (Mundelein High School). They will share their ideas, but this will be an open discussion. Come prepared with your questions or ideas to share. [Registration is now available](http://bit.ly/May3MVC) (<http://bit.ly/May3MVC>).



**IL Math Teachers in Action Lesson Study Project:** Experience virtual training on “[lesson study](#)


(<http://www.mathteachersinaction.org/professional-learning.html>),” along with facilitation for each step of the process. A team based on grade-level interest must be created to participate. [Team pre-registration is available](#)

([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2wCE0PkRPxLdmaoQuKva2fpQC5TumzIU-daW0\\_6PVHQDsSQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2wCE0PkRPxLdmaoQuKva2fpQC5TumzIU-daW0_6PVHQDsSQ/viewform)).

**Online Impact:** Check out the [Summer Online Workshops](#) 

([http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/uploads/2/6/0/8/26089560/online\\_summer\\_workshops\\_final.pdf](http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/uploads/2/6/0/8/26089560/online_summer_workshops_final.pdf)) starting in May! [Registration is now open](#) (<https://bit.ly/2fhzTGJ>).

**Transitional Math Webinar:** Join ISBE for a webinar, “Transitional Math: Where We Are and Where We’re Going,” at 3 p.m. on May 2.

[Registration is now available](#)  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6624038977848245762>). Transitional math under the PWR Act is being scaled up in Illinois. This webinar will provide state level updates and information on resources, course development, professional development, and more. High school teachers, counselors, and administrators are encouraged to attend.

**IMSA NGSS Professional Development:** The Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA) is pleased to provide Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) professional development to K-3 science teachers across the State of Illinois at no cost. Teachers will participate in a two-day immersive experience engaging in model science lessons, the significant shifts with NGSS, and a deeper understanding of three dimensional teaching. All teachers will receive the needed supplies and manipulatives to immediately implement these lessons.

Springfield sessions run May 8-11; Aurora sessions are May 15-18. Additional details are provided on the [registration form](#)


(<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/IllinoisMathematicsandScienceAcademy#/selectSessions/2422001>). (mailto:)Please contact Liz Martinez at [emartinez@imsa.edu](mailto:emartinez@imsa.edu) (mailto:emartinez@imsa.edu) with questions.

## NUTRITION PROGRAMS

### ‘Team Up for School Nutrition Success’ June 25 in Springfield

ISBE’s Nutrition Division is teaming up with the Illinois School Nutrition Association (ILSNA) and the Institute of Child Nutrition to present “Team Up for School Nutrition Success” on June 25 in Springfield. The free daylong training is being offered as a pre-event to ILSNA’s 2018 Annual Conference, which is set for June 26-27 in Springfield.

The “Team Up for School Nutrition Success” pre-event offers participants the unique opportunity to work with peer mentors who will provide technical assistance related to menu planning and increasing program participation. Topics to be covered include best practices related to creative menu writing, student engagement, nutrition program marketing, and more.

Attendance at ILSNA’s annual conference is not required to sign up for the “Team Up for School Nutrition Success” event. “Team Up” attendees can register as either a participant or mentor. Mentors are required to attend training from 6-8 p.m. on June 24. [Find more information and register online today](#) (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TEAMUP18>). The [agenda is also available online](#)  (/Documents/062518-TeamUp-Agenda.pdf).

Both the “Team Up” event and ILSNA’s conference will be held at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield Hotel. Visit [ILSNA’s conference page](#) (<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=2227289>) for more information.

## IN BRIEF

### Funding Opportunities

- The U.S. Department of Education has announced the next round for the **Education Innovation and Research Program. Applications** ([http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001ENTMmxmEFNELCvN876odO0MvvITkvLkcR1T3aAzpp0iLMspeU0i9M6EzuaTVxQoEAMJu1oLzDZUgDKoYqbLI0Cfzv4yS9I2F-pti7-9zKtMvTwZLJ-S4GhrcnVLLfKQ7bOD\\_BADdcVYSKQ3UvHWgY5k6DBYtRLw-916NWd35aXPwCQ3OHv05kniAdGjzrhOEATp8ulg831vhDL6lO\\_MJqXPxxmld1nT3pHE5hTC4IjW-wC89VtRQJER9j4OkRzP0Y0zFTySM6z0IRZ5iARlhZ9q2EJ7CoBIDG87A92HauXO\\_tgjYTiLaufIIOW3IHK7t5Y6WQQxh5IFOCUhbW94gFCPMEkvJKZLr\\_W5i2vrcwulxhM\\_zz0R9Eh9sxy1t9f7IebZ4RjbL-GPBbGzl-dnwpJtey8LHXpDhvHAExHKiDj8aJvo0-AUbMOxY0jXvx&c=ycCPnBRvZhSPn0UBlrKugfa1lrVxTIR7dqWTE-y7387tw0sD1lvP\\_A==&ch=w\\_RN3Kjl25GlnDbKdcHqgC8kqOYbYSnVDFA0eYtoBprVfO2XseDcCg==](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001ENTMmxmEFNELCvN876odO0MvvITkvLkcR1T3aAzpp0iLMspeU0i9M6EzuaTVxQoEAMJu1oLzDZUgDKoYqbLI0Cfzv4yS9I2F-pti7-9zKtMvTwZLJ-S4GhrcnVLLfKQ7bOD_BADdcVYSKQ3UvHWgY5k6DBYtRLw-916NWd35aXPwCQ3OHv05kniAdGjzrhOEATp8ulg831vhDL6lO_MJqXPxxmld1nT3pHE5hTC4IjW-wC89VtRQJER9j4OkRzP0Y0zFTySM6z0IRZ5iARlhZ9q2EJ7CoBIDG87A92HauXO_tgjYTiLaufIIOW3IHK7t5Y6WQQxh5IFOCUhbW94gFCPMEkvJKZLr_W5i2vrcwulxhM_zz0R9Eh9sxy1t9f7IebZ4RjbL-GPBbGzl-dnwpJtey8LHXpDhvHAExHKiDj8aJvo0-AUbMOxY0jXvx&c=ycCPnBRvZhSPn0UBlrKugfa1lrVxTIR7dqWTE-y7387tw0sD1lvP_A==&ch=w_RN3Kjl25GlnDbKdcHqgC8kqOYbYSnVDFA0eYtoBprVfO2XseDcCg==)) are due on June 5 with a projected start date of October 1, 2018.
- **Applications** (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/04/18/2018-08093/applications-for-new-awards-innovative-approaches-to-literacy-program>) are now available for FY 2018 for the **Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) Program**. The IAL program supports high-quality programs designed to develop and improve literacy skills for children and students from birth through twelfth grade in high-need local educational agencies and schools. The deadline for submissions is May 18.
- Funding opportunities for **Fuel Up to Play 60** are available to K-12 schools enrolled in Fuel Up to Play 60. The competitive, nationwide funding program is designed to support schools that implement Plays from the 2018-19 edition of the Fuel Up to Play 60 Playbook. Funding opportunities for Fuel Up to Play 60 are competitive. Funds are awarded based on the quality of the application and the suitability of the specific request. To download a PDF of the application and find instructions to apply for funding, visit [FuelUpToPlay60.Com](https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/funding/general-information) (<https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/funding/general-information>). The deadline to apply is June 13.
- The **application** (<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/education/Pages/GrantsIBFTG.aspx>) form for the **2019 Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant** is now available. For more information about the Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant Program, contact the IDNR Division of Education at [dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov) (<mailto:dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov>) or (217) 524-4126.

## Upcoming Events

- The Tourette Syndrome Camp Organization will host the **25th Annual Tourette Syndrome Camp USA** (<http://www.tourettecamp.com>) from June 24–June 30 at YMCA Camp Duncan in Ingleside.

## Student Recognition

- The Serve Illinois Commission recently named the **2018 Governor's Volunteer Service Award recipients** (<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/serve/Pages/GVSA2018.aspx>). Congratulations to the five students honored with the Youth Award!
- Congratulations to **Hannah Young** for winning first prize in the **Illinois Bicentennial Realtor Essay Contest** (<https://www.illinoisrealtors.org/events/bicentennial/bicentennial-essay-contest/>)! Also, congratulations to all second- and third-prize winners!

## Educator Recognition

- Congratulations to **Michael Havener, Library Media Specialist at Springfield High School**, for receiving the 2018 American Association of School Librarians' Ruth Toor Grant for Strong Public School Libraries!
- Congratulations to **Jitu Brown, national director for the Journey for Justice Alliance**, for receiving a **2018 Community School Leadership Award** (<http://www.cvent.com/events/community-schools-national-forum-2018/custom-22-82171a50f2dc46578f8c395ba07b07b6.aspx>) from the Coalition for Community Schools!


## School Recognition

- Congratulations to **Elgin and Hampshire High Schools** (<http://www.nwherald.com/2018/04/12/renovated-elgin-high-school-welding-lab-certified-as-accredited-testing-facility/a1pwbwv/>) for receiving national accreditation by the American Welding Society and being awarded the Accredited Test Facility Designation! Great work!

## Professional Development Opportunities

- University of Illinois' School of Information Sciences K-12 program is hosting a professional development opportunity for school librarians. This year, the **Summer Getaway conference** (<https://publish.illinois.edu/summergetaway/>) will be from July 12-14. Conference attendees will receive six professional development hours for each full day of attendance.
- **The Brookfield Zoo** will be hosting three Professional Development “Mini-Conferences” on June 2, Aug. 15, and Oct. 6. Join engaging sessions about inquiry-based learning, engineering, NGSS, differentiation, meaningful classroom conversations, accommodations for English Learners, phenomena-based instruction, and more! [Registration for the mini-conferences is now available](https://www.czs.org/Brookfield-ZOO/Learning/School-Group-Teacher-Programs/PDDay) (<https://www.czs.org/Brookfield-ZOO/Learning/School-Group-Teacher-Programs/PDDay>).

## Community Resources

- The **Institute for Parents of Preschool Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing** is a free one-week program for parents of children ages 5 and under who have a significant hearing loss. It takes place on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville from June 10-15. Participating families receive support and information on topics including child development, types of hearing loss, language development, communication choices, deaf culture, and school programming. See the [institute's brochure](https://dscc.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/PSDI-Information-Brochure-2018.pdf)  (<https://dscc.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/PSDI-Information-Brochure-2018.pdf>) for more details and registration information.

## ISBE Employment Opportunities

Watch for ISBE career opportunities and find instructions for applying at [Careers at ISBE](http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx) (<http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx>).