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Hello,

Last week, I had the wonderful opportunity to participate in School District U-46's Dual Language Parent Academy, a special Saturday workshop designed to support the parents of the more than 11,000 dual language students at U-46. The Parent Academy was created to inform and empower the district's dual language community to better prepare students for bilingualism and biliteracy in the 21st century. The workshop featured the Highland Elementary Folkloric Dance Group, as well as a violin and mariachi band. Additionally, various breakout sessions focused on the State Seal of Biliteracy, dual language at the

secondary level, STEM, and social-emotional learning. It was amazing to be a part of such an interactive and educational event for the entire U-46 community.

In other exciting news, Illinois students are currently leading the nation in FAFSA completion. Illinois has made completing and filing a FAFSA mandatory beginning in the 2020-21 school year. High school seniors will be required to file a FAFSA to obtain their high school diplomas. It is up to all of us to ensure each of our students know that the FAFSA is free and makes college an option for everyone. Please continue to encourage students to complete the FAFSA this year, let's keep this momentum going!

As a reminder, 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. We encourage you to take a few moments to fill out the [Black History Curriculum survey \(/Pages/black-history-study-survey.aspx\)](#) before Jan. 1. We would also love for you to use this opportunity to upload any helpful resources and lesson plans to assist fellow educators. Send curriculum materials to blackhistorycurriculum@isbe.net (mailto:blackhistorycurriculum@isbe.net). We will share the materials on our webpage after the survey period ends.

This week ends with the [2019 Joint Annual Conference](https://www.iasb.com/getmedia/b2538169-9cea-4a85-b47a-88b7dfbb1d83/confpreview_2019.pdf)  (https://www.iasb.com/getmedia/b2538169-9cea-4a85-b47a-88b7dfbb1d83/confpreview_2019.pdf) in Chicago, hosted by the Illinois Association of School Boards, Illinois Association of School Administrators, and Illinois Association of School Business Officials. This conference is a wonderful opportunity to learn from each other and come together as a community. I am excited to share what is happening in Illinois related to legislative issues impacting school districts as part of a panel discussion from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday. I look forward to seeing anyone who is able to attend.

Additionally, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards recently announced that 283 Illinois educators have renewed their National Board Certification. Illinois continues to rank fourth in the nation for the number of National Board Certified Teachers. Congratulations to each of these educators! I truly appreciate your commitment and enthusiasm for ensuring Illinois students are prepared for the future.

We have many great things to celebrate in education, but today's message ends on a very serious note. ProPublica and the Chicago Tribune published the results of an [investigation](https://features.propublica.org/illinois-seclusion-rooms/school-students-put-in-isolated-timeouts/) (https://features.propublica.org/illinois-seclusion-rooms/school-students-put-in-isolated-timeouts/) this morning into the use of isolated time-out and physical restraint in Illinois schools. The stories from students and parents and the data the reporters collected and analyzed are appalling, inexcusable, and deeply saddening. The practices of isolated-time out and physical restraint have been misused and overused to a shocking extent; this must stop today.

ISBE condemns the unlawful use of time-out and restraint, which includes using these practices as punishment. ISBE will take action against any school district that is violating the law.

The Illinois State Board of Education will take immediate steps to address this urgent problem and implement stronger protections for students' mental, physical, and social-emotional health.

As educators, we work hard to make our schools trauma-responsive – but first and foremost, our schools must be trauma-free. Our schools must be places where all students feel and are safe.

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) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx).

Nov. 20	Perkins V Feedback Session (Chicago) (https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/machform/view.php?id=122231)
Nov. 21	FY 2021 Budget Hearing in Chicago (https://www.isbe.net/Lists/News/NewsDisplay.aspx?ID=1290)
Nov. 22	Illinois State Board of Education Meeting in Chicago (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)
Nov. 28-29	ISBE offices closed for Thanksgiving
Dec. 1	Deadline to publish Annual Statement of Affairs in newspaper
Dec. 1	Deadline to submit public comment on ISA Flexibility Waiver (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISA-Waiver-Fact-Sheet.pdf)
Dec. 2	Deadline to submit student artwork for Illinois Arts Education Week Poster Contest (https://www.isbe.net/artcontest)
Dec. 2	Perkins V Local Needs Assessment Training (Mount Vernon) (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u)
Dec. 4	Census EDU Summit (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/census-edu-tickets-81626812995)
Dec. 4	Perkins V Local Needs Assessment Training (Rockford) (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u)

- Dec. 5 [Perkins V Local Needs Assessment Training \(Danville\)](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u)
(<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u>)
- Dec. 10 [2019-20 5Essentials survey window opens for students/educators](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx)
(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx>)
- Dec. 10 [Perkins V Local Needs Assessment Training \(Webinar\)](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u)
(<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u>)
- Dec. 11 [Perkins V Local Needs Assessment Training \(Galesburg\)](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u)
(<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u>)
- Dec. 11 [Deadline to submit nominations to attend Produce Safety University](https://www.fns.usda.gov/ofp/produce-safety)
(<https://www.fns.usda.gov/ofp/produce-safety>)
- Dec. 12-13 [2019 Mastering KIDS Summit](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/EarlyChildhoodKIDS.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/EarlyChildhoodKIDS.aspx>)
- Dec. 12 [Perkins V Local Needs Assessment Training \(South Cook ISC\)](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u)
(<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u>)
- Dec. 13 [Deadline to submit applications for FY 2020 Farm to School Grant](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/resources-farm-school-grant-program-applicants)
(<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/resources-farm-school-grant-program-applicants>)
- Dec. 15 Deadline to submit Annual Statement of Affairs to ISBE
- Dec. 16 [Deadline to submit CTE Program of Study Approval applications in IWAS](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Career-Technical-Education.aspx)
(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Career-Technical-Education.aspx>)
- Dec. 16 [Deadline to submit applications for ISBE Secondary CTE Program of Study Approval in IWAS](https://www.isbe.net/Documents/CTE-Program-Study-Approval-guide.pdf)
(<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/CTE-Program-Study-Approval-guide.pdf>)
- Dec. 18 [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=3984) (<https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=3984>)
- Dec. 20 [Deadline to order 2019-20 ISBE Career Guides](http://www.ilcareerguide.com/) (<http://www.ilcareerguide.com/>)
- Dec. 25 ISBE offices closed for Christmas Day
- Dec. 31 Deadline to submit Certificate of Tax Levy to County Clerk
- Jan. 1 ISBE offices closed for New Year's Day
- Jan. 1 [Deadline to complete survey for Black History Curriculum Task Force](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/black-history-study-survey.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/black-history-study-survey.aspx>)
- Jan. 6 [Deadline to apply for Property Tax Relief Grant](https://www.isbe.net/proptaxrelief) (<https://www.isbe.net/proptaxrelief>)
- Jan. 15 [Illinois State Board of Education meeting in Springfield](https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=4484)
(<https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=4484>)

Jan. 15	Illinois State Board of Education meeting in Springfield (https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=4484)
Jan. 20	ISBE offices closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Feb. 12	ISBE offices closed for Lincoln's Birthday
Feb. 19	Illinois State Board of Education meeting in Chicago (https://www.isbe.net/Lists/ISBECalendar/DisplayForm.aspx?ID=4485)
Feb. 24-25	ISBE School Wellness Conference

NEW


2020 CENSUS: EVERYONE COUNTS

REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE FOR CENSUS EDU SUMMIT – DEC. 4

The Office of Governor JB Pritzker, the Illinois 2020 Census Office, and the Illinois State Board of Education invite educators to a summit from **9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Dec. 4** at Malcom X College in Chicago. The summit will convene 450 education leaders, practitioners, and partners to learn more about the 2020 Census and how schools can play a central role in helping Illinois reach hard-to-count populations. Panels, speakers, student performances, and interactive presentations will equip attendees with the knowledge and tools to engage students and their families in the state's 2020 Census efforts. Registration is now available (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/census-edu-tickets-81626812995!>)

ASSESSMENTS

SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON FLEXIBILITY WAIVER FOR 2019-20 ILLINOIS SCIENCE ASSESSMENT

ISBE is seeking flexibility from the U.S. Department of Education for the 2019-20 Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) for grade 11 students. Illinois is seeking this flexibility due to complex changes in both the test design and the student populations taking the assessment. Flexibility will release ISBE from reporting grade 11 performance results. However, ISBE will hold districts accountable for reaching their 95.0 percent participation rates to ensure credible sampling of the new ISA. If flexibility is granted, ISBE would administer and report ISA results for grades 5 and 8 as in any other year and test grade 11, but only report participation for the 2020 administration. ISBE would use the grade 11 assessment data to prepare for an operational test in 2021, in which results would be reported in full. View the [ISA Flexibility Waiver Fact Sheet](#)  (</Documents/ISA-Waiver-Fact-Sheet.pdf>) for additional details.

The public comment period is currently open and will close **Dec. 1**. Individuals may submit their comments via email only at ISAWaiver@isbe.net (mailto:ISAWaiver@isbe.net). Contact Daniel Brown at (866) 317-6034 with any questions regarding the waiver or process.

NEW

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

RESCHEDULED PERKINS V FEEDBACK SESSION IN CHICAGO – NOV. 20

ISBE and the Illinois Community College Board are holding a feedback session to share the state's draft Perkins V Plan. The original session from Oct. 25 in Chicago has been rescheduled for **4-6 p.m. on Nov. 20** at Malcolm X College Conference Area 1107, 1900 W. Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL 60612. [Registration is now available](https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/machform/view.php?id=122231) (<https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/machform/view.php?id=122231>).

Time will be allotted for feedback and discussion. A tour of Malcolm X College will be offered for interested participants immediately following the session. Please contact perkins@isbe.net (mailto:perkins@isbe.net) or (217) 524-4832 with any questions.

CONTINUE TO SUBMIT FEEDBACK ON PERKINS V STATE PLAN

The federal reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) Act – Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) – was signed into law by the President on July 31, 2018. It requires every state to submit a new four-year State CTE Plan in April 2020. The purpose of this Act is to develop more fully the academic knowledge and technical and employability skills of secondary and postsecondary education students who elect to enroll in CTE programs and programs of study. Perkins V requires secondary, postsecondary, and business/industry to work together to strengthen CTE for all students.

Thank you to everyone who submitted feedback on the [Draft State Plan for Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act](#) (/Documents/Perkins-V-Draft.pdf) (Perkins V)! Your feedback will help ensure that Illinois' state plan for CTE reflects the needs of your community and our collective vision for success for all children in the state.

The first comment period closed Nov. 7. ISBE is revising the plan based on the comments received. You may continue to send feedback via email to perkins@isbe.net (mailto:perkins@isbe.net). ISBE will post the updated plan for a second comment period in January. ISBE will also collect feedback on state-determined indicators of program quality and performance levels via a survey that will be released this month.

SECONDARY CTE PROGRAM OF STUDY APPROVAL SYSTEM NOW OPEN IN IWAS

The ISBE Career and Technical Education Program of Study Approval System is now open in IWAS for the REQUIRED Perkins V Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment. ISBE must ensure that **only** approved secondary CTE programs are being pulled into the IWAS CLNA system. This application needs to be completed by schools, area career centers, and Education for Employment (EFE) region centers that offer secondary CTE programs. Updates to this system will align to current CTE programs and courses being offered in the 2019-20 school year or that are offered on a rotational basis (e.g., every other year).

ISBE has created a [guidance document](#) (/Documents/CTE-Program-Study-Approval-guide.pdf) to help you complete this process. Completed applications are due no later than **Dec. 16**.

Please contact ISBE's CTE and Innovation Department at (217) 524-4832 or cte@isbe.net (mailto:cte@isbe.net) with any programmatic questions or issues with system function. If you have IWAS access issues, please call ISBE's Call Center at (217) 558-3600.

PERKINS V LOCAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT TRAINING

To receive state or federal career and technical education (CTE) funding for FY 2021 and beyond, all local funding recipients for public and charter secondary CTE programs must complete a Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) as REQUIRED by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V). Sections of the CLNA will be completed by Local Education Agencies (LEAs).

ISBE is supporting this new process by providing trainings for schools, school districts, CTE region centers, and area career centers regarding their Perkins V CLNA responsibilities. Recommended attendees include superintendents, principals, CTE directors, or CLNA coordinators from LEAs serving secondary students.

Training dates, times, and locations:

- **Dec. 2**, 9 a.m.-noon, Mount Vernon Township High School
- **Dec. 4**, 9 a.m.- noon, Rockford University
- **Dec. 5**, 9 a.m.- noon, Danville Area Community College
- **Dec. 10**, 9 a.m.- noon, Online Webinar (will be recorded and posted)
- **Dec. 11**, 9 a.m.- noon and 1-4 p.m., Galesburg High School
- **Dec. 12**, 9 a.m.- noon and 1-4 p.m., South Cook ISC/Regional Office of Education #7

To register, fill out the Perkins V LNA Training Registration Form (<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRURDI0OURKWDVURUZLWFIMVEJHMUNaVDIXNi4u>). For a flyer and additional training information, go to ISBE's Perkins V webpage (/Pages/perkinsv.aspx) under New Information for Perkins V.

OPPORTUNITY TO ORDER ADDITIONAL 2019-20 ISBE CAREER GUIDES

ISBE is ordering more copies of the [2019-20 ISBE Career Guide](http://www.flipcareerguide.com/books/xnsp/) (http://www.flipcareerguide.com/books/xnsp/) in late December due to continued demand from EFE directors and school districts throughout the state.

The Career Guide can be used in a variety of ways for both middle school and high school, including CTE awareness, career exploration, open houses, counselor one-on-ones, and course registration.

The deadline to place an order is Dec. 20 and guides will be delivered no later than Jan. 10. Orders may be purchased with a credit card at www.ilcareerguide.com (http://www.ilcareerguide.com/) or by sending a purchase order to sales@careertechmedia.com (mailto:sales@careertechmedia.com).

Pricing starts at \$2.50 per guide, with a minimum order of 250 copies, and is reduced based on quantities ordered. Visit the [CTE webpage \(/cte\)](#) for additional information.

NEW

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

NEW CIVICS EDUCATION FACT SHEET

Research indicates that students who receive a well-rounded civics education are more likely to become active and engaged members of their communities. Illinois has strengthened its emphasis on civics education across middle and high school classrooms. [View the ISBE Fact sheet on the new Civics Mandate](#) (/Documents/ISBE-FactSheet-Civics.pdf) and check out the [ISBE Social Science webpage \(/Pages/Social-Science.aspx\)](#) for additional guidance.

NEW

ISBE RULES & WAIVERS

NOTICE OF COMPLETED RULEMAKING

ISBE is announcing that Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) rules were approved by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and published in the *Illinois Register* on Nov. 15. Changes have been posted on the [Rules webpage \(/Pages/Rules-Currently-in-Effect.aspx\)](#)(see Sections 1.792 and 1.794).

NEW

SCHOOL BUSINESS

FY 2020 REORGANIZATION FEASIBILITY STUDIES

ISBE is now accepting agreements for the FY 2020 School District Reorganization Feasibility Studies. Feasibility studies are a tool to be used by school districts wanting to investigate the advantages and/or disadvantages of reorganization options. The school board of each district involved in a feasibility study must approve, by board resolution, the initiation of the study. The districts involved will submit a proposed agreement with an independent contractor(s) to their Regional Office of Education (ROE) or Intermediate Service Center (ISC) in Cook County. The ROE or ISC, as applicable, will submit the agreement to ISBE for approval.

The state allotment amount for FY 2020 studies will be the cost of the study, up to a maximum of \$12,750. Any study cost above the state funding will be the responsibility of the participating districts. Studies are funded on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Agreements must be approved by the ROE or ISC and ISBE to receive reorganization feasibility study funds in FY 2020. In addition, studies must be completed, approved for payment by the ROE or ISC, and submitted to ISBE no later than **June 30, 2020**.


Procedures and sample forms can be found on the [ISBE School District Reorganization Feasibility Studies page \(/Pages/School-District-Reorganization-Feasibility-Studies.aspx\)](#). If you have questions, please contact Michelle Heninger in the School Business Services Department at (217) 785-8779 or mheninge@isbe.net (mailto:mheninge@isbe.net).

NEW

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

SAVE THE DATE! ISBE SCHOOL WELLNESS CONFERENCE FEB. 24-25

ISBE is planning a School Wellness Conference with a pre-conference option on **Feb. 24** and a full-day conference on **Feb. 25** in Bloomington. 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 and 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 conference will take place at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Bloomington, 10 Brickyard Drive, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Please share the [Save the Dates! conference flyer](#)  (/Documents/wellness-conference-flyer.pdf) with school staff. Watch for registration and session details to be announced by the ISBE Nutrition and Wellness departments in the *ISBE's Weekly Message* at www.isbe.net (http://www.isbe.net/).

SOUGHT FOR PRODUCE SAFETY UNIVERSITY

Produce Safety University (PSU) is a one-week, all-expenses-paid training course offered to local school district partners. A limited number of Illinois school district partners may be nominated to attend.

Participants must have a current role in training school foodservice staff at the school district and school levels. Participants will be expected to teach others about the subject matter learned using the comprehensive training materials provided to all attendees.

Nominees are encouraged to select the nearest training to reduce time and cost of travel and facilitate regional networking. PSU locations and dates for 2020 include May 4-8 in Burr Ridge, Ill. Trainings are also scheduled for April 20-24 in Atlanta, Ga., and June 14-19 in Davis, Calif.


If you are interested in being nominated to attend PSU, please submit a letter/message of intent. You must include approval from your district superintendent (a requirement since PSU is a week-long commitment) to Roxanne Ramage (rramage@isbe.net (mailto:rramage@isbe.net)) as soon as possible, but no later than **Dec. 11**.

If you have any questions about PSU or the nomination process, please contact Roxanne Ramage at (800) 545-7892. More information is available on the [PSU website](https://www.fns.usda.gov/ofs/produce-safety) (https://www.fns.usda.gov/ofs/produce-safety).

NEW

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON STATE WAIVER FOR EXCEEDING 1 PERCENT CAP

ISBE is seeking public comment on the state waiver for exceeding the 1 percent cap for the alternate state accountability assessment. Title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), modifies the provision that students with the most significant cognitive disabilities may participate in alternate assessments. ESSA places a 1.0 percent cap on the number of students who may participate in alternate assessments. States that anticipate exceeding the 1.0 percent cap must submit a waiver request to the U.S. Department of Education. The [state waiver](#)  (/Documents/1-Percent-Waiver.pdf) and additional information is available on the [Special Education Exception Cap webpage \(/Pages/Special-Education-Exception-cap.aspx\)](#). Please provide comments by email to Altexception@isbe.net (mailto:Altexception@isbe.net). The public comment period will end on **Dec. 6**.

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

- Congratulations to **Stephen Glasder** of Harvard High School and **Jodi Lancaster** of Livingston Area Career Center for being among 15 second-place winners in the 2019 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence program, which honors outstanding skilled trades teachers. Glasder and Lancaster will each receive \$15,000, with \$35,000 going to their high school programs! Great job!

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

- **The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM)** nominations and applications are now open for the 2019–20 cycle. Nominations are due by **Dec. 15**; the application period ends **Jan. 15**. Visit the PAESMEM website (<https://www.paesmem.net/>) for more information on awards, nomination processes, and applications.
- **Illinois Principals Association (IPA) Awards for Excellence** applications are due **Nov. 30**. Applications may be submitted for Elementary Principal of the Year, Middle School Principal of the Year, High School Principal of the Year, and Assistant Principal of the Year. [View details, including criteria and links to IPA's online application portal](https://ilprincipals.org/about/awards-for-excellence/awards-excellence-criteria/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=click&_zs=4W20i1&_zl=KooH6) (https://ilprincipals.org/about/awards-for-excellence/awards-excellence-criteria/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=click&_zs=4W20i1&_zl=KooH6).
- The **Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM)** is seeking 2020 nominations for a variety of teaching awards. Visit [ICTM's Awards webpage](https://www.ictm.org/ictm-awards) (<https://www.ictm.org/ictm-awards>) for nomination information.
- **LifeChanger of the Year** is an annual program funded by National Life Group that recognizes K-12 education and school employees across the country. Anyone can nominate up to three employees. The program celebrates those who are making a significant difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence, and leadership. [Nominations are now being accepted](https://www.lifechangeroftheyear.com/how-it-works) (<https://www.lifechangeroftheyear.com/how-it-works>) for the 2019-20 program. The deadline to nominate is **Dec. 31**.
- The Illinois State Historical Society Educational Services committee is seeking nominations for the **Olive Foster Outstanding Teacher Award**. Nominees must be a social studies or history teacher at any grade level who actively promotes Illinois history in schools as well as their communities. [Find more information](http://www.historyillinois.org/Awards/OliveFosterOutstandingTeacherAward.aspx) (<http://www.historyillinois.org/Awards/OliveFosterOutstandingTeacherAward.aspx>).

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- The **Illinois State Historical Society's Verna Ross Orndorff Scholarship** is available to one Illinois high school student. The winning student will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for submitting a 1,500-word essay about Abraham Lincoln or the Civil War era. Essays must be submitted by **Dec. 31**. [Find additional information and encourage your students to participate](http://www.historyillinois.org/Scholarships/VernaRossOrndorffScholarship.aspx) (<http://www.historyillinois.org/Scholarships/VernaRossOrndorffScholarship.aspx>)!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The third annual **Mastering KIDS Summit** will be held on **Dec. 12-13**. Join fellow kindergarten teachers, district and school administrators, KIDS coaches, and partners for a day of learning and sharing best practices for using the KIDS tool. [Registration is now available](/Pages/EarlyChildhoodKIDS.aspx) (</Pages/EarlyChildhoodKIDS.aspx>).
- The Illinois Resource Center is hosting the **43rd annual Statewide Conference for Teachers Serving Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Students Dec. 3-6** in Oak Brook. [Find additional information and register to attend](http://irc2.thecenterweb.org/site/conference) (<http://irc2.thecenterweb.org/site/conference>).

ISBE FEATURED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Learn more and apply for the below career opportunities at ISBE!
 - [Funding & Disbursements - Special Education Private Facility Per Diem Rate Setting \(/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=360\)](/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=360)
 - [Illinois Assessment of Readiness Coordinator \(/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=359\)](/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=359)
- [View all open positions at ISBE \(/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx\)](/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx).