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Dear Colleagues:

Today, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and ISBE released updates to the public health guidance for schools, effective immediately. I want to highlight **two** changes: 1) times for isolation and quarantine and 2) Test to Stay protocol. Please find the revised guidance at:

- [Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools: Supporting the Full Return to In-Person Learning for All Students](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance.html) (https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance.html)
- [Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools - FAQs](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-guidance-faqs.html) (https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-guidance-faqs.html)
- [Public Health Interim Guidance for Local Health Departments and Pre-K-12 Schools - COVID-19 Exclusion Protocols](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-exclusion-protocols.html) (https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-exclusion-protocols.html)
- [Interim Guidance on Testing for COVID-19 in Community Settings and Schools](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html) (https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html)
- [Test to Stay Protocol Flowchart](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html) (https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html)
- [Executive Order 2022-03](#)  (/Documents/EO-2022-03.pdf)

First, IDPH and ISBE have adopted the new recommendations from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html) (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html) for shorter quarantine and isolation periods of five days to focus on the period when a person is most infectious, followed by continued masking for an additional five days. Please review page X of the guidance and the Exclusion Protocols for full details on handling confirmed or probable cases, symptomatic individuals, and close contacts.

Keep in mind that students ages 5-17 who have received their primary vaccination doses and individuals age 18 and older who have received their booster doses are exempted from the definition of close contact. Students exposed in the classroom to another student, if both students were within 3-6 feet of each other and both were correctly and consistently masked, are also exempted from the definition of close contact. Consistent and correct masking indoors continues to be [required](https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/resources/executive-orders/display.executive-order-number-18.2021.html) (https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/resources/executive-orders/display.executive-order-number-18.2021.html) for all individuals in all public and nonpublic P-12 schools statewide.

Second, to align with the shortened quarantine and isolation periods, IDPH and ISBE have modified the Test to Stay protocol to require at least two tests within seven days after the close contact notification/Test To Stay enrollment, with the last test occurring 5-7 days after last close contact. We encourage all schools to participate in Test to Stay, which allows asymptomatic close contacts exposed during the school day (not during extracurricular activities) to remain in school, as long as they test negative.

I want to thank the Lake County schools that implemented Test to Stay this fall and served as the basis for this CDC [article](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm705152e2.htm?s_cid=mm705152e2_w) (https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm705152e2.htm?s_cid=mm705152e2_w). Illinois has led the nation in [piloting](https://news.uillinois.edu/view/7815/300378312) (<https://news.uillinois.edu/view/7815/300378312>) the Test to Stay strategy and provides a state-funded option through a partnership between IDPH and SHIELD Illinois, which you can sign up for by completing this interest form. These schools' efforts have made a significant contribution to the global fight against the pandemic.

These updates will allow even more students to remain fully in-person at school – or provide a safe return more quickly – and will ease the burden on school testing programs.

Thank you for everything you're doing to protect and care for Illinois students and educators.

Pictured: Medical residency students recently worked with the Anatomage 3D virtual dissection table. The table is part of the advanced learning spaces in the Center for Science, Technology and Industry. McHenry High School District 156 is one of few high schools to have it.

Keep sharing your images and stories with us at press@isbe.net (<mailto:press@isbe.net>).

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>).

Jan. 11	Accountability Open Forum Webinar (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/888820330047058955)
Jan. 11	5Essentials Survey of Learning Conditions window opens (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx)
Jan. 17	ISBE Offices Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 24	Deadline to submit comment on 2022 ESSA Accountability Amendment (https://www.isbe.net/summative)
Jan. 24	UPDATED: Deadline to apply for Illinois Green Ribbon Schools (https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/initiatives/green-your-school/illinois-green-ribbon-schools-program/)
Feb. 11	ISBE Offices Closed – Lincoln's Birthday
Feb. 14-17	IDEACon 2022 (https://web.cvent.com/event/512f191d-3718-4425-b13d-0021be1b24bb/summary)
Feb. 21	ISBE Offices Closed – Presidents Day



Feb. 22-25	2021-22 ESSA and Multilingual Illinois Statewide Conference (https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/initiatives/green-your-school/illinois-green-ribbon-schools-program/)
Mar. 11	Deadline to submit 5Essentials Survey of Learning Conditions (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx)
Mar. 16	Deadline for LEAs to challenge 2020 poverty and population data for certain non-statistical errors (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about/contact/challenges.html)
Jan. 13	Data Collections Q&A Webinar (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7692899549679417102)
Jan. 14	Deadline to submit NSLP Equipment Assistance Grants Application (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/FY2023-NOFO-RFP-NSLP-Equipment-Attachments-1-3.pdf)
Jan. 19	Deadline for vendors to submit bids to BidBuy for Specific Learning Disabilities Support Project (https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=20-586SBE-CHFED-B-13922&external=true&parentUrl=close)
Jan. 19	Deadline for vendors to submit bids to BidBuy for Behavior Assessment Training Project (https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=20-586SBE-CHFED-B-13922&external=true&parentUrl=close)
Jan. 26	High-Impact Tutoring Webinar (https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/877720761023505422)

COVID-19



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Each week, this section will contain a list of the resources and information posted to the [COVID-19 webpage](/Pages/covid19.aspx) (/Pages/covid19.aspx) over the past week. Please continue to check the COVID-19 webpage for the newest updates and information.

BACK TO SCHOOL 2021-22

- [Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools: Supporting the Full Return to In-Person Learning for All Students](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance.html) 
(<https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance.html>)
- [Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools - FAQs](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-guidance-faqs.html) 
(<https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-guidance-faqs.html>)

IDPH SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES


- [Public Health Interim Guidance for Local Health Departments and Pre-K-12 Schools - COVID-19 Exclusion Protocols](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-exclusion-protocols.html) 
(<https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/school-exclusion-protocols.html>)
- [Interim Guidance on Testing for COVID-19 in Community Settings and Schools](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html) (<https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html>)
- [Test to Stay Protocol Flowchart](https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html) 
(<https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance/rapid-point-care-testing-covid-19.html>)

EMERGENCY ACTIONS






- [Executive Order 2022-03](/Documents/EO-2022-03.pdf) 
(/Documents/EO-2022-03.pdf)

EQUITY JOURNEY CONTINUUM

EQUITY JOURNEY CONTINUUM DATA PREVIEW COMING SOON

The [Equity Journey Continuum](#)  (/Documents/Equity-Journey-Continuum-5Ws.pdf) is an informational tool to help districts view their data through the lens of equity. This data will help districts identify gaps in students' access to opportunities, resources, and supports.

Soon, all districts will be able to preview their Equity Journey Continuum data before it appears as a new graphic element on the 2022 Illinois Report Card. Find more information on the following fact sheets:

- [Introducing the Equity Journey Continuum](#)  (/Documents/Equity-Journey-Continuum-5Ws.pdf)
- [Data Elements on the Equity Journey Continuum](#)  (/Documents/Data-Elements-Equity-Journey-Continuum.pdf)
- [Four Steps along the Equity Journey Continuum](#)  (/Documents/EJC-Fact-Sheet-3-Steps-December-2021.pdf)
- [How to use the Equity Journey Continuum](#)  (/Documents/How-to-Use-the-Equity-Journey-Continuum.pdf)
- [How to Craft Your Equity Journey Narrative](#)  (/Documents/How-to-Craft-Your-Equity-Journey-Narrative-January-2022.pdf)

Ultimately, the purpose of the Equity Journey Continuum is to connect districts to resources that will help illuminate areas where they may need to increase access, add resources, or seek supports to ensure all students can achieve success. Creating a more equitable school culture will benefit all students, all schools, and all communities. Learn more at www.isbe.net/equity (/equity). Ask questions by emailing equity@isbe.net (mailto:equity@isbe.net).

NEW



5ESSENTIALS

5ESSENTIALS SURVEY OPEN FROM JAN. 11-MARCH 11

Today marks the opening of the two-month window to complete the 5Essentials Survey. The survey identifies five indicators that lead to improved outcomes for all students, including improved attendance and academic gains. The five indicators that positively affect school success are:

1. Effective Leaders
2. Collaborative Teachers
3. Involved Families
4. Supportive Environments
5. Ambitious Instruction

Research derived from the Five Essentials for School Success has proven that schools strong on at least three of the 5Essentials are 10 times more likely to improve student outcomes.

Parent participation will be part of the data elements on the Equity Journey Continuum, a new Report Card element coming in 2022. We've compiled some [tips](#)  (/Documents/5E-Tips-Parent-Participation-January-2022.pdf) from successful programs, as well as a [sample parent letter](#)  (/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=https://www.isbe.net/Documents/5E-Parent-Letter-Template.docx) to help you boost parent participation.

For questions regarding the survey, please contact the Department of Wellness at (217) 782-5270 or 5Essentials@isbe.net (mailto:5Essentials@isbe.net).

NEW

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

PARENTING EDUCATION PILOT APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE FOR ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOLS

ParentAble teaches high school educators how to deliver parenting fundamentals to their students, helping them develop a foundational understanding of positive parenting practices. The ParentAble curriculum includes information about the effects of harmful parenting, the consequences of adverse childhood experiences, along with the power of resilience and positive parenting. The 5-10-unit course aims to reduce child abuse and neglect rates, break the cycle of harmful parenting, create a level of comfort in seeking future parenting resources and support, and increase students' social-emotional learning competencies.

This 10-day (35-minute unit per day) course can support the following high school areas: health and wellness coursework, career and technical education (CTE), child development, small group counseling interventions, credit recovery, and alternative placement schooling supports.

The application for this pilot can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZLFKMFF> (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZLFKMFF>).

For more information, contact Katharine Bensinger at (847) 712-2710 or Katharine@parenteach.com (<mailto:Katharine@parenteach.com>).

ILLINOIS COMMISSION TO END HUNGER ASKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO PARTICIPATE IN SURVEY

The Illinois Commission to End Hunger is working to improve nutrition programs for youngsters in Illinois. Feedback will help families in your school district! Participants will receive a \$50 Visa gift card as reimbursement for their time. The survey will take approximately one hour and can be done over the phone or online with flexible scheduling. Please share this information with parents of school-age children. Contact Laura O'Carroll, public policy manager at the Greater Chicago Food Depository, at locarroll@gcfd.org (<mailto:locarroll@gcfd.org>) or (773) 843-2846.

NEW FUNDING AND DISBURSEMENTS

CENSUS ESTIMATES AFFECTING FY 2023 TITLE I FOR 2020 INCOME YEAR

The U.S. Department of Education has released the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) for income year 2020. These estimates will be used to calculate fiscal year 2023 Title I allocations. A file of [2020 Poverty Data by Local Education Agency \(LEA\)](#) (/Pages/Census-Est-Affect-FY2023-Title-I-2020-Income-Year.aspx) is provided, including Poverty Count, 5-17 Population, and Poverty Percentage in the FY 2023 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. This data allows LEAs 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 2023. ISBE neither controls nor generates the data. There is a challenge period for LEAs to review the 2020 poverty and population data for certain non-statistical errors, which include errors the U.S. Census Bureau may have made in 1) processing input data or in running the estimation models/programs, or 2) preparing or processing information to define geographic boundaries (i.e., school district boundaries). This challenge period ends on **March 16**. Please contact the SAIPE program at (301) 763-3193 or sehds.saipe@census.gov (<mailto:sehds.saipe@census.gov>) to obtain information on the process to

challenge the data. More information and guidance concerning the [U.S. Census Bureau's challenge procedure](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saibe/about/contact/challenges.html) (<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saibe/about/contact/challenges.html>), as well as [information about the data sources and the methodology](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saibe/about.html) (<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saibe/about.html>) used to prepare this data, are available.


If you have questions, please contact Christine Kolaz in Funding and Disbursements at ckolaz@isbe.net (mailto:ckolaz@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5256.

NEW STANDARDS AND INSTRUCTION

INTERNET AND SECURITY SERVICES AT NO CHARGE THROUGH THE ILLINOIS CENTURY NETWORK

The Illinois Century Network (ICN) is the state network, owned and operated by the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology, that serves public K-12 districts, higher education, libraries, municipalities, and state agencies.


The ICN provides internet access and security services at no charge to public K-12 districts. Adequate bandwidth for public K-12 districts is available. If you have filed E-rate paperwork or will be filing E-rate paperwork for service from **July 1**, we would highly recommend including an option to connect to the ICN.

Connecting to the ICN means you benefit from security services that include auto distributed denial of service mitigation, firewall, and Cisco Umbrella for security and content filtering, in addition to internet access at whatever speeds you require. More detail is provided in the [Guidance for Public K-12 document](https://www2.illinois.gov/icn/projects/k12network/Documents/Welcome-ICN-Public-K-12.pdf)  (<https://www2.illinois.gov/icn/projects/k12network/Documents/Welcome-ICN-Public-K-12.pdf>). Section 3 gives a step-by-step guide to completing the E-rate paperwork. You can forward the document to an E-rate consultant to implement Section 3.

IDEACON 2022 SCHEDULED FOR FEB. 14-17

IDEACon 2022 is one of the Midwest's largest education technology conferences. It will be hosted by the Illinois Digital Educators Alliance (IDEA) from **Feb. 14-17** at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center and Hotel in Schaumburg. Join thousands of educators from Illinois and across the United States to learn about sound pedagogical practices in education and how to leverage technology to engage, inspire, and reach all learners. The 2022 schedule is packed full of a variety of sessions, with every educator, content area, and grade level in mind. The last two years have introduced many learning curves for students and educators alike, which is why IDEACon 2022 is offering unique programming to address many of these curveballs. IDEACon 2022 will be offered as a hybrid conference due to the stresses of teacher availability during this time. Please visit the [IDEACon website](https://web.cvent.com/event/512f191d-3718-4425-b13d-0021be1b24bb/summary) (<https://web.cvent.com/event/512f191d-3718-4425-b13d-0021be1b24bb/summary>) for more information and to register.

HIGH-IMPACT TUTORING WEBINAR JAN. 26

ISBE is offering a [webinar](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/877720761023505422)  (<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/877720761023505422>) in cooperation with a team from National Student Support Accelerator at Brown University. This webinar will provide an evidence-based foundation and examples of how to implement high-impact tutoring in your school district. Please join us for a presentation, along with a testimonial, and an opportunity for questions and answers from **11 a.m.-noon Jan. 26**.

NEW STUDENT CARE


PUBLIC ACT 102-0543 REQUIRES NEW DATA COLLECTION REPORTING

Public Act 102-0543 expands the demographic data collection and reporting requirements for the Illinois State Board of Education and 10 other state agencies to include age, sex, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and primary or preferred language. The legislation will help researchers, lawmakers, and community stakeholders address education, health, and other social disparities facing people in Illinois, including the LGBTQ community.

LGBTQ youth are [more likely](https://www.hrc.org/news/new-cdc-data-shows-lgbtq-youth-are-more-likely-to-be-bullied-than-straight-cisgender-youth) (<https://www.hrc.org/news/new-cdc-data-shows-lgbtq-youth-are-more-likely-to-be-bullied-than-straight-cisgender-youth>) to experience bullying, violence, and victimization than straight, cisgender youth. For example, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey shows that nationally 29 percent of transgender youth have been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property, compared to 7 percent of cisgender youth. [Public Act 102- 0543](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=102-0543) (<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=102-0543>) will provide more complete demographic data collection for Illinois students, while first and foremost protecting student privacy, and will support schools' efforts to provide a safe and welcoming environment and equitable outcomes for all students.

The law was sponsored by Illinois House Majority Leader Greg Harris and State Senator Mike Simmons and was supported by the AIDS Foundation Chicago; Center on Halsted; Equality Illinois; Howard Brown Health; Pride Action Tank; SAGE; and Northwestern University's Evaluation, Data Integration, and Technical Assistance Program.





The following, as well as additional information, can be found on the [ISBE Student Information System page](#) (/Pages/Student-Information-System.aspx):

- [Guidance on New Student Demographics](#)  (/Documents/NewDemographicIndicators.pdf)
- [Demographic/Enrollment - District Sample Letter to Parents](#)  (/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/Demo-indicators-sample-letter-parents.docx)

WELLNESS

SHARE THESE FLYERS ABOUT THE INFLUENZA AND MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINES

State Code 20 ILCS 2310/2310-700 requires that the Illinois Department of Public Health provide informational materials for school districts regarding influenza and influenza vaccinations and meningococcal disease and meningococcal vaccinations. Please distribute printed or electronic copies of the publications linked below to parents or guardians of the students in your school in the following age groups:

- The influenza publication should be provided to parents or guardians of all students: [English](#)  (/Documents/Learn-the-Facts-About-Flu-Vaccine-English.pdf) and [Spanish](#)  (/Documents/Learn-the-Facts-About-Flu-Vaccine-Spanish.PDF).
- The meningococcal publication should be provided to parents or guardians of age-appropriate students. The age-based recommendation for meningococcal vaccination is for children 11 years of age or older: [English](#)  (/Documents/Meningococcal-Vaccines-English.pdf) and [Spanish](#)  (/Documents/Meningococcal-Vaccines-Spanish.pdf).

Thank you for your assistance in providing this important information to the families of students in your care.

ASSESSMENT

ISBE SEEKING FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

ISBE is exploring improvements to the state assessment system. An important part of this process is collecting feedback from stakeholders across the state to help us identify the priorities and potential options for moving forward. The survey is available in both [English](#) (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0m48YmNSUeD5Xku03_BPp_zerOQ5pDAQO8dmJSSIMqESvgQ/viewform) and [Spanish](#)

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedDrStqexXzI9LZpAzXbWVGUqhagr_Km_1goAIMA_XJTW7xg/viewform). If you have any questions, please email us at assessment@isbe.net (mailto:assessment@isbe.net).

CTE & INNOVATION

CTE & INNOVATION ANNOUNCES JANUARY OFFICE HOURS

ISBE's CTE and Innovation Department will offer virtual office hours in January to support anyone who needs assistance or has questions on the following topics:

Program Data Review/Local Needs Assessment

- 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Jan. 19
- 9-11 a.m. Jan. 28

College and Career Pathway Endorsements

- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 12
- 1:30-3:30 p.m. Jan. 25

The links to the office hours are also available on the [CTE website \(/cte\)](#) under News and Updates.

DATA STRATEGIES & ANALYTICS

REMINDER: DATA COLLECTIONS Q&A OPEN FORUM WEBINAR JAN. 13

Don't miss this opportunity to ask ISBE staff questions about data collections. The [next webinar in the monthly Data Collections Q&A webinar series](#) (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7692899549679417102) will be at **10 a.m. Jan. 13**. ISBE will not have a PowerPoint presentation or predetermined path for the discussions/questions; we invite districts to come ready with their questions! If needed, please contact the Data Strategies and Analytics Department Help Desk at datahelp@isbe.net (mailto:datahelp@isbe.net) or (312) 814-9192.

NUTRITION

DEADLINE REMINDER: NSLP EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS APPLICATION DUE JAN. 14

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service provides funding to ISBE to provide equipment assistance through competitive grants to School Food Authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

For full details, see the Notice of Funding Opportunity/Request for Proposals and information on how to apply, both of which are posted on the [NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant webpage \(/Pages/Equipment-Grants.aspx\)](#). The deadline to apply is **4 p.m. Jan. 14**.

If you have any questions regarding this funding opportunity, contact Emily Durbin at edurbin@isbe.net (mailto:edurbin@isbe.net).

SAFE AND HEALTHY CLIMATE

IDHR ISSUES NON-REGULATORY GUIDANCE RELATING TO PROTECTION OF TRANSGENDER, NONBINARY, AND GENDER NONCONFORMING STUDENTS

The Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR) has released Non-Regulatory Guidance Relating to Protection of Transgender, Nonbinary, and Gender Nonconforming Students under Illinois Law. The guidance, which is based on a recommendation from the Affirming and Inclusive Schools Task Force, provides a new resource for school districts, students, and families and caregivers to better understand their rights and responsibilities under the Illinois Human Rights Act.

Any Illinoisan, including minors, who believes they've been a victim of discrimination based on their gender identity, or any protected class under the Act, can file a charge online by visiting [Illinois.gov/DHR](https://www2.illinois.gov/DHR/Pages/default.aspx) (<https://www2.illinois.gov/DHR/Pages/default.aspx>) or calling (312) 814-6200. For more information, view the press release.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

ISBE SEEKING RFSPS FOR SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITIES SUPPORT PROJECT AND BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT TRAINING PROJECT

ISBE currently has the following Requests for Sealed Proposals (RFSPs) available for bid in Illinois BidBuy. Both proposals are due **Jan. 19**. For more information or questions, contact Jason Perry at jperry@isbe.net (<mailto:jperry@isbe.net>).

Specific Learning Disabilities Support Project

The Request for Sealed Proposals can be found at [Illinois BidBuy Bid Number 20-586SBE-CHFED-B-13922](https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=20-586SBE-CHFED-B-13922&external=true&parentUrl=close) (<https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=20-586SBE-CHFED-B-13922&external=true&parentUrl=close>).

Behavior Assessment Training Project

The Request for Sealed Proposals can be found at [Illinois Bid Buy Number 22-586SBE-FINAN-B-23806](https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=22-586SBE-FINAN-B-23806&external=true&parentUrl=close) (<https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=22-586SBE-FINAN-B-23806&external=true&parentUrl=close>).

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

ISBE STUDENT ADVISORY SET TO CONVENE

ISBE's Student Advisory Council will convene (virtually) on Jan. 18. The event will highlight issues that impact youth across the State of Illinois, including the following key topics:

- Social-Emotional Learning
- Mental Health
- Trauma-Based Learning
- Implicit Bias
- Restorative Justice
- Pandemic-Related Concerns
- Student Voice

Visit www.isbe.net/studentvoices (<http://www.isbe.net/studentvoices>) for more information.

IN BRIEF

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Student Leadership Days

The [Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center](https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/) (<https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/>) is pleased to announce Student Leadership Day programming engaging students from Grades 5-8 with captivating, world-class Upstander speakers, interactive programs, and the opportunity to create an action plan to take back to their school. Student Leadership Day inspires the change-makers to build leadership skills, explore their roles as citizens, and develop a deeper understanding of the Holocaust, genocide, and other human rights issues.

We invite you to nominate students to participate in this powerful day and hear from keynote speaker Chazzie Grosshandler. She is the creator of The GenderCool Project, a youth-led, youth-inspired national storytelling campaign and movement. Its mission is to help replace misinformed opinions with positive, powerful experiences meeting young transgender and non-binary people who are thriving. She realizes that by telling her story, by focusing on who she is, she is succeeding in helping people understand that transgender and non-binary youngsters are just like all other youngsters.

For more information on dates, times, and registration, please visit the [Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education website](https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/students-educators/student-leadership-days/) (<https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/students-educators/student-leadership-days/>).

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

Ali and King Commemoration

This year commemoration of two American champions of civic justice, Muhammad Ali and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., both occur on Jan. 17. The Illinois Muslim Civic Coalition has provided two opportunities to celebrate. Help commemorate these two American icons by [ordering a free 11 X 17 poster](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftwnMXK_7TbI867mjh2s8A0TcJ1qB5OmscEc2pLGBpz1HxzQ/viewform) (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftwnMXK_7TbI867mjh2s8A0TcJ1qB5OmscEc2pLGBpz1HxzQ/viewform) for your classroom. You can also join the coalition for the [Deliberate Dialogue](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftwnMXK_7TbI867mjh2s8A0TcJ1qB5OmscEc2pLGBpz1HxzQ/viewform) (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftwnMXK_7TbI867mjh2s8A0TcJ1qB5OmscEc2pLGBpz1HxzQ/viewform) event, virtually or in-person at the Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS) in Hyde Park, **1-2 p.m. Jan. 17**.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Ed Leaders Network

Ed Leaders Network is offering the following live webinar and recorded course. Visit the [Ed Leaders course library](https://edleadersnetwork.org/courses/) (<https://edleadersnetwork.org/courses/>) to view the entire selection available.

- **3-4 p.m. Feb. 1: Instructional Coaching: From a Coach's Perspective** (https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_itb8XrlzRJeMizOwfEAmLw) –Jennifer Root-Smith, who has served as an instructional coach for eight years (in elementary, junior, and high school settings) will share information in this webinar about what instructional coaching is. She will discuss the positive impacts coaching has had on her teachers and schools. She will also share what coaching looks like in her district and how she works with her administrators to ensure the coaching cycle is effective. In addition, she will share resources and documents that she uses during her coaching.
- **Leading Data Literacy (3 PD hours)** – This Leading Data Literacy course will provide participants with research-based information that focuses on developing a commitment to continuous improvement at all organizational levels based on data.

FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- [Budget Analyst](/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=562) (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=562)
- [Business Intelligence Data Analyst](/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=596) (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=596)
- [Software Solutions System Architect](/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=531) (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=531)

[View all open positions at ISBE](/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx) (/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx).

