

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT


February 6, 2018



Hello,

In the face of some recent criticism, I want to assure all of you working hard every day to serve the students and families in your care that ISBE will continue to advocate for the adequate resources and safe and supportive learning environments Illinois students need to reach their full potential. That is our role! Immediately following the passing of Evidenced-Based Funding (EBF) last August, ISBE began sending vouchers for the Base Funding Minimum, which accounts for approximately 94 percent of the appropriated Evidence-Based Funding. We must ensure that we have accurate data for this critical baseline year of the formula. Since enrollment was never used to calculate funding, we asked you to verify your district's data and we executed our own verification of the data submitted. We appreciate the opportunities we have had to work and learn together throughout the enrollment verification process. We are now in the final stages; as I have shared since the bill signing on Aug. 31, April is still the timeline for vouchering and distributing Tier Funding.

The final enrollment data verification window will open tomorrow, Wednesday, Feb. 7. You will receive an alert through IWAS regarding data verification for EBF. Please thoroughly review your district's enrollment data and contact the Data Strategies and Analytics Division at (217) 782-3950 if you have any corrections. **Because all districts are now in relation to each other for Tier Funding, corrections will not be accepted for EBF data after 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21.** If we do not hear from your district, we will proceed with the understanding that your district's enrollment numbers are verified and correct. Following this verification period, agency staff will finalize Tier Funding payments for distribution. We have notified the Comptroller's Office that we expect to voucher the remaining 6 percent of appropriated Evidence-Based Funding in April.

Monday we invited school district superintendents statewide to opt into the new Ed360 data dashboard. Ed360 is a free and mobile-friendly web application designed to empower educators with access to near real-time data from the ISBE data warehouse. I encourage you to join the nearly 200 Illinois school districts already using this exciting tool to improve efficiency, collaboration, and student outcomes. Learn more about Ed360 by reading this [one-pager](#)  (/Documents/One-PageExSum_EarlyAdopterFeedbackShapesFutureEd360.pdf) and visiting ISBE's [Ed360 webpage](#) (/ed360).

Ed360 uses role-based access to ensure superintendents, principals, teachers, counselors, and other staff can make data-informed decisions to support students. ISBE staff will present on Ed360 at the statewide ESSA Conference on Feb. 13 in the 2 p.m. "Improving the Learning Process with Actionable Data" and 3:15 p.m. "Actionable Student Feedback in Real Time" sessions. You can also learn more about opting in below.

Quick Links

- [Information Technology](#)
- [Every Student Succeeds Act](#)
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School counselors work every day to support students' academic success, social and emotional development, and college and career preparation. This week, [National School Counseling Week](https://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors-members/about-asca-%281%29/national-school-counseling-week) (<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors-members/about-asca-%281%29/national-school-counseling-week>), presents us with an opportunity to thank our school counselors. The American School Counselor Association named Illinois' own [Kirsten Perry](#) 📄 (/Documents/PerryPR.pdf) the 2018 School Counselor of the Year and honored her in Washington, D.C. at the School Counselor of the Year celebration! Find ideas for celebrating National School Counseling Week on ISBE's [School Counselors webpage](/Pages/SchoolCounselors.aspx) (/Pages/SchoolCounselors.aspx).

It is critical that we work together to ensure the safety of every child in our schools. I want to remind you that statute requires school district superintendents to notify ISBE if you have reasonable cause to believe that an educator has committed an intentional act of abuse or neglect against a child. Your continued cooperation helps us ensure that an adult who harms a child in one district cannot repeat their actions in another district or state. We ask that you forward your mandatory P.A. 96-431 notifications to ReportMisconduct@ISBE.net (mailto:ReportMisconduct@ISBE.net).

Thank you for your partnership in building an education system that nurtures the academic growth, social and emotional development, and physical well-being of all of our students. You are doing amazing work in our schools to make Illinois better today and tomorrow.

Thank you!

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) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx>) or call the Illinois State Board of Education at (866) 262-6663.

Feb. 5-9: National School Counseling Week

Feb. 6: Deadline for districts to submit comments on Financial Profile Report

Feb. 7: EBF enrollment data verification window opens in IWAS

Feb. 9: [Deadline to submit Early Childhood Prevention Initiative RFPs](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/RFPs.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/RFPs.aspx>)

Feb. 9: [Deadline to submit FY 2019 E-rate State Matching Grant application](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Broadband-Information.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Broadband-Information.aspx>)

Feb. 12: [Public comment period on ISBE rules ends \(Parts 1, 25, 33, 252\)](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Rules.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Rules.aspx>)

Feb. 12: [Deadline to submit Illinois Green Ribbon Schools Program application](https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/now-open-illinois-green-ribbon-schools-application/) (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/now-open-illinois-green-ribbon-schools-application/>)

Feb. 12: ISBE offices closed for Lincoln's Birthday

Feb. 14: [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx) (<http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

Feb. 15: [Deadline to submit 21st CCLC RFPs](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/21st-Century-Community-Learning-Centers.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/21st-Century-Community-Learning-Centers.aspx>)

Feb. 15: [Deadline to submit Illinois Bicentennial Essay Contest Submissions](https://www.cognitofrms.com/IllinoisAssociationOfREALTORS1/HomelsWhereTheHeartIsBicentennialEssayContest)

(<https://www.cognitofrms.com/IllinoisAssociationOfREALTORS1/HomelsWhereTheHeartIsBicentennialEssayContest>)

Feb. 16: Early Childhood RFP Call for Evaluators window closes

Feb. 16: [Deadline to submit application for 2018 Competency-Based High School Graduation Requirements Pilot program](https://www.isbe.net/competency) (<https://www.isbe.net/competency>)

Feb. 16: [Feedback on ESSA School Quality/Student Success Indicators due](https://www.isbe.net/essa) (<https://www.isbe.net/essa>)

Feb. 19: ISBE offices closed for Presidents' Day

Feb. 21: EBF enrollment data verification window closes

Feb. 26: [Deadline to submit Healthy Communities Incentive Grant RFPs](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Healthy-Community-Investment-Grants.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Healthy-Community-Investment-Grants.aspx>)

March 5-9: 2018 National School Breakfast Week

March 5: [Deadline to submit Charter Schools Program – QSO – Cohort III RFP](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/csGrantsRfps.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/csGrantsRfps.aspx>)

March 8: [Deadline to submit proposals for FY 2018 Arts and Foreign Language Planning Assistance Grant](#)

(<http://www.arts.illinois.gov/AFL>)

March 12-18: [2018 Illinois Arts Education Week](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Arts-Week.aspx)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Arts-Week.aspx>)

March 14: [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

March 19: [Public comment period on Rules ends \(Part 203\)](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Rules.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Rules.aspx>)

March 30: [Deadline to submit nominations for School Nutrition Champion Award](#)


(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Nutrition-and-Wellness-Champions.aspx>)


April 1: EBF Deadline to announce intent to change from half-day to full-day kindergarten

April 18: [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)
(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Ed360 Statewide District Invitation

Ed360 delivers the data ISBE collects year-round securely back to educators in an easy-to-use, mobile-friendly interface that utilizes role-based access and follows Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act guidelines. For more information, view the [one-pager](#)  (/Documents/One-PageExSum_EarlyAdopterFeedbackShapesFutureEd360.pdf) or visit the [Ed360 webpage](#) (</ed360>).

To enroll your district in Ed360, follow the [Opt-In Guide](#)  (/Documents/opt_in_guide.pdf) and customize your users and roles. You will receive an invitation to join a webinar after you opt in.

Please note, to participate in Ed360, you must have an email address hosted by G Suite for Education, the bundle of apps offered free by Google. Ed360 uses single sign-on technology. Ed360 users sign on with their existing G Suite for Education credentials. (Contact your Learning Technology Center at itcillinois.org (<http://itcillinois.org/>) if you do not yet have G Suite for Education. Districts do not have to utilize Google services.)


Additionally, make sure you have submitted complete and up-to-date information in ISBE's Employment Information System (EIS). Ed360 automatically grants the appropriate level of secure access to student data based on users' roles in EIS.


If you have any questions, please send them to ed360@isbe.net (<mailto:ed360@isbe.net>).

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

Guidance Available on ESSA Site-Based Expenditure Reporting




ESSA requires all states to begin site-based expenditure reporting. All Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will report per-pupil expenditure data at the district level and at the school level, disaggregated by source of funds, beginning with 2018-19 school year data. Site-based expenditure reporting will be submitted to ISBE, which will post the data to the Illinois Report Card to meet ESSA reporting requirements.

ISBE, in partnership with Afton Partners and the Site-Level Financial Reporting Advisory Group, has developed a [guidance document](#)  (</Documents/ISBE-Site-Based-Expenditure-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>) to provide LEAs and other reporting entities with **guidelines** for fulfilling the site-based expenditure reporting requirement.

ISBE hosted an informational webinar on the guidance for the Site-Based Expenditure Reporting on Feb. 2. [Webinar slides](#)  (/Documents/IASA_Site-Based_Exp_Reporting_Guidance.pdf) are now posted and a recording will follow. This webinar was the first in a series of trainings that will be offered.

Additional information will continue to be added to [ISBE's ESSA webpage \(/Pages/ESSA.aspx\)](/Pages/ESSA.aspx) as it becomes available. Please contact Sara R. Shaw at the ISBE Division of Finance at (217) 782-0249 or sshaw@isbe.net (mailto:sshaw@isbe.net) if you have questions.

Seeking Feedback on School Quality/Student Success Indicators


Stakeholder groups shared their recommendations during the State Board meeting in January for how the state should measure school quality and student success in the new balanced accountability system. ISBE is requesting feedback on the recommendations provided for the [P-2](/Documents/17-3249_P-2_Indicator_Working_Group_Report.pdf)  (/Documents/17-3249_P-2_Indicator_Working_Group_Report.pdf), [Elementary-Middle Grade](/Documents/17-3249_3-8_Indicator_Working_Group_Report.pdf)  (/Documents/17-3249_3-8_Indicator_Working_Group_Report.pdf), and the [College and Career Readiness](/Documents/CCRI_Report.pdf)  (/Documents/CCRI_Report.pdf) indicators. Please submit feedback to ESSA@ISBE.net (mailto:ESSA@ISBE.net) no later than **Feb. 16**.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charter Schools Program – QSO – Cohort III RFP Re-Opened Feb. 1

The Charter Schools Program - QSO Program Design and Initial Implementation Request for Proposals (RFP)-Cohort III was re-opened to applicants as of February 1, 2018, through ISBE's IWAS system for a period of 30 days.


All responses must be submitted electronically to ISBE by **4 p.m. on March 5**. This grant opportunity can provide up to \$950,000 to new charter school development teams to aid with design of the charter school and the initial implementation costs during the first two years of operation.

Any applicants interested in applying will need to submit the [Letter of Intent to Apply form](/Documents/43-48A_FY18_Charter_Intent_to_Apply.pdf)  (/Documents/43-48A_FY18_Charter_Intent_to_Apply.pdf) in order to gain electronic access to the RFP. Further grant eligibility information can be found on the [Charter School Grants webpage \(/Pages/csGrantsRfps.aspx\)](/Pages/csGrantsRfps.aspx).

If you have questions, please email charter@isbe.net (mailto:charter@isbe.net) or call Charter Schools at (312) 814-2220.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Seeking Participants for Illinois Teach to Lead Summit

The second [Illinois Powered by Teach to Lead Summit](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPBQOZADrMg)  (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPBQOZADrMg) will take place in Wheaton on April 19-20 and is a result of collaboration between the Illinois Teacher Leadership Network, the U.S. Department of Education, National Board, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, and Delta Kappa Gamma-Illinois. This is an incredible opportunity for teachers to develop concrete plans to solve local issues in their districts and a powerful way for schools to spotlight groundbreaking teacher-led work.

Space is limited for each summit, so idea submissions will be reviewed and invitations for participation (with registration details) will be emailed to those accepted. Please read the criteria carefully before submitting your idea. Idea submissions are due by 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 16. [View the submission criteria and submit an idea](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018IllinoisSummit) (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018IllinoisSummit.).

If you have further questions about this opportunity, please contact Dr. Debra LeBlanc at dleblancedd@gmail.com (mailto:dleblancedd@gmail.com).

RULES & WAIVERS

Invitation to Comment on Rules

One set of proposed amendments recently reviewed by ISBE is now available for public comment. The proposal and a summary of the issues involved are available under [Proposed Rules and Amendments \(/Pages/Rules.aspx\)](/Pages/Rules.aspx). Please submit any comments or suggestions to rules@isbe.net (mailto:rules@isbe.net). The public comment period ends **March 19**. The rulemaking is Part 203 (Low Income Students Funds Plans).

EVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING

Deadline to Announce Intent to Change from Half-Day to Full-Day Kindergarten is April 1

The new Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) formula creates an Adequacy Target for each district based on total average student enrollment and English Learner and low-income enrollment. Kindergarten students are assigned a value of 0.5 if they attend a half day and a value of 1.0 if they attend a full day. Per Public Act 100-0465, a school district may inform the State Board of Education of its intent to change from half-day to full-day kindergarten. Taking this action will convert kindergarten attendance to full day for purposes of calculating EBF in the following year. The deadline to report this information is **April 1**.

Any school district that wishes to make this change for the 2018-19 school year must provide ISBE with a board resolution expressing the intent to make the change for the next school year, as well as the minutes from the meeting when this was approved. School districts may submit these documents to ISBE via EBFhelp@isbe.net (mailto:EBFhelp@isbe.net). If you have questions, please call the State Funding and Forecasting Division at (217) 782-0249 or email your questions to EBFhelp@isbe.net (mailto:EBFhelp@isbe.net).

WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Tips to Help Slow the Spread of the Flu

Seasonal influenza continues to cause disruption in Illinois schools and workplaces. A number of schools have asked ISBE for guidance on when a school should be closed due to a high number of students and/or staff absent with the flu. There is no uniform recommendation on school closures related to influenza.

This question was posed to members of the Committee on School Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics recently through its listserv. The Committee provided a succinct recommendation with rationale:

“The consensus has been that schools should remain open regardless of absences as long as the administration was able to staff schools sufficiently, from substitute teachers to nurses to custodians, to keep schools safe. The rationale is that the children and staff were already a ‘contaminated’ or exposed population. If schools are closed, this group would likely not stay home, but would rather head to the malls and/or other public venues or visit friends’ houses thereby exposing more vulnerable people, i.e., the young and the elderly. By keeping schools open, even with high absenteeism, we are keeping those kids together, instead of out roaming and exposing the vulnerable members of our society. While in school, we are also able to remind them to wash their hands frequently, to keep their hands away from their faces, to dispose tissues properly, and not to share personal items. That, therefore, is the advice I give my superintendents. Keep schools open as long as you can adequately staff them.”

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers these [tips on how to clean and disinfect schools](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/cleaning.htm) (https://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/cleaning.htm) to help slow the spread of flu. Check out the recommendations of the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001FTXQRleQBo3b0x_fXzxaGY8KjUh4WY9Zmkmg-4k_vGT_3X1XfLIBwszPi3ZR717aSPJUrz_mAqwpdxW_5BtWw6K3O56SN5C3FzXKe9hEs_hRHTTSW0XaduUjGoMotO8z- <a href=) (http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001FTXQRleQBo3b0x_fXzxaGY8KjUh4WY9Zmkmg-4k_vGT_3X1XfLIBwszPi3ZR717aSPJUrz_mAqwpdxW_5BtWw6K3O56SN5C3FzXKe9hEs_hRHTTSW0XaduUjGoMotO8z-

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TapdI6EDNbboxVt2ot7ukWDmKEbf6DZNYFgTvzBGwhv2s2KeqtucXViw2Me2cw=&c=HhPVhonOFacwIU5NpqCkfcu9RdgqPGH-TTJ0ve4wPCZO-z4IFypOJA==&ch=EjF4kKwWmMaErLbPTKyA5ZCHH7kB0nckWAwYurgfL3-pr5521ePnjw==). Share tips with your custodial and school administrative services.

Schools may wish to contact their local health department for further guidance.

FY 2018 Healthy Communities Incentive Grant RFP Released

The Request for Proposals (RFP) for [Fiscal Year 2018 Healthy Communities - Non-school Districts](#) (/Pages/Healthy-Community-Investment-Grants.aspx) has been released. Proposals are due to ISBE no later than **3 p.m. Feb. 26**. Please contact Kristy Jones at kjones@isbe.net (mailto:kjones@isbe.net) if you have questions.

CULTURE & CLIMATE

National School Counseling Week Feb. 5-9

National School Counseling Week is taking place this week! This year's theme, "School Counselors: Helping Students Reach for the Stars," highlights the important role school counselors play in helping students achieve school success and prepare for their futures. Celebrate your school counselors with [ideas and resources from the American School Counselor Association](#) (<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors-members/about-asca-%281%29/national-school-counseling-week>). ISBE also recently released the [Developmental Counseling Model for Illinois Schools: Best Practices for School Counselors](#) (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UAvfgFsBGF_JUSWCKaOiHq4SQTsSsYv4QcmCYCcMT74w/edit) in partnership with the Illinois School Counselor Association. Find this document, more information about National School Counseling Week, and other resources for school counselors on our [School Counselors webpage](#) (/Pages/SchoolCounselors.aspx).

NUTRITION PROGRAMS


Seeking Nominations for School Nutrition Champion Award

Does your district have a dynamic food service director, a cashier who puts smiles on all the students' faces, a super creative cook, or an administrative assistant who knows all the ins and outs of the National School Lunch Program regulations?

The Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Division is seeking online nominations for the second annual School Nutrition Champion Award. Anyone can nominate a school nutrition professional for the School Nutrition Champion Award. This includes students, parents, community members, and other district and school staff.

The award will be presented to one school nutrition champion from Illinois on Friday, May 4, which is [Super Lunch Hero Day](#) (<https://schoolnutrition.org/SLHD/>). The special day will help launch School Nutrition Employee Week (May 7-11). From now until then, ISBE will be highlighting nominees for the award in [The Outlook](#) (<http://isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/newsletters.htm>), the monthly newsletter for school nutrition programs in Illinois. The deadline for nominations is **5 p.m., Friday, March 30**. A committee of ISBE staff will determine an overall winner.

Visit the [School Nutrition and Wellness Champions page](#) (/Pages/School-Nutrition-and-Wellness-Champions.aspx) and click on the "School Nutrition Champion Award" tab to find the online nomination form.

Last year's school nutrition champion was Sandra Duniphan, the cafeteria manager for Pontiac-William Holliday School District 105 in Fairview Heights. Check out all of [last year's nominees](#)  (/Documents/2017-School-Nutrition-Champ-Nominees.pdf).

Free Healthier Meals Cooking Classes Available for School Nutrition Professionals

ISBE is offering free Healthier Meals Cooking Classes. Those working with the National School Lunch Program, as well as the Child and Adult Care Food Program, are welcome to attend the classes. Space is limited!


"Baking and Whole Grains" is offered in partnership with Kaskaskia College in Centralia, Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, and Kendall College in Chicago. Classes are scheduled in February, March, and April. The course is worth four continuing education units.

Next up on the calendar is a class at 9 a.m. Feb. 8 in Centralia and at 10 a.m. Feb. 23 in Springfield.

For a detailed schedule and to register for courses, look under "What's New?" on the [Nutrition webpage](#) (/Pages/Nutrition-and-Wellness.aspx).

Please note that while this is considered the Level 3 course in Healthier Meals Cooking Classes series, the Level 1 and 2 courses are not required before taking "Level 3: Baking and Whole Grains."

Guidance Issued on Market Basket Analysis for Procurement Procedures

On Jan. 17, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) issued the "[Market Basket Analysis When Procuring Program Goods and Modifying Contracted-For Product Lists](#)"  (<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/fdd/FD-144-market-basket.pdf>) policy memo. The memo (FD-144, SP 04-2018, SFSP 01-2018, CACFP 04-2018) is intended to assist program operators in the National School Lunch Programs, School Breakfast Programs, Summer Food Service Programs, Child and Adult Care Food Programs, and Food Distribution Programs (collectively referred to herein as "Programs"). The memo outlines the acceptable procedures for awarding a contract based on a practice sometimes called "market basket." Market basket is a process of awarding contracts based on an evaluation of the lowest price a vendor can offer for a representative sample of goods the Program operators wish to obtain. From the memo:

"In this memorandum, FNS provides clarity as to how to ensure this evaluation and award process is compliant with the Federal procurement standards. Program regulations at 7 CFR 210.21, 215.14a, 220.16, 225.17, 226.22, and 250.4(d) direct Program operators to comply with procurement requirements as outlined in those parts. In addition, all procurements should be undertaken consistent with State and local requirements, and may benefit from consultation with State agency and local counsel.

"Program operators must also comply with the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200, which include procurement standards required for all federal awards to non-federal entities. Evaluating the price on *all* goods, either as an aggregate (bottom line or total cost) or by line item, is the preferred method of awarding a contract. However, we recognize price analysis can be simplified and a valid price analysis can still be achieved when only the bottom line costs of major items are totaled to determine lowest price between bidders. As always, consistent with 2 CFR 200.320, all contracts must be awarded to responsive and responsible contractor(s), price must be the primary factor when evaluating bids and proposals, and contracts must be awarded to the lowest bid or proposal most advantageous to the Program.


"FNS is also aware of Program operators purchasing additional goods from the contractor with which they have a contract without using any of the approved procurement methods in 2 CFR 200.320. An example of this practice is the addition of new goods after a competitive solicitation was published and a contract was awarded. This guidance and the attached questions and answers address these practices."

Contact ISBE's Nutrition Division at (800) 545-7892 if you have questions.

Promote Healthy Eating Habits Early With National CACFP Week

Help the Illinois State Board of Education celebrate National Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Week, which is set for March 11-17. ISBE administers the child portion of CACFP, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (The adult care portion of the CACFP is administered by the [Illinois Department on Aging](https://www.illinois.gov/aging/CommunityServices/Pages/Child-and-Adult-Care-Food-Program-%28CACFP%29.aspx) (<https://www.illinois.gov/aging/CommunityServices/Pages/Child-and-Adult-Care-Food-Program-%28CACFP%29.aspx>).

CACFP provides aid to child and adult care institutions and family or group day care homes for the provision of nutritious foods that contribute to the wellness, healthy growth, and development of young children, and the health and wellness of older adults and chronically impaired disabled persons. [Read more on the USDA website](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program) (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program>).

National CACFP Week is sponsored by the [National CACFP Sponsors Association](https://www.cacfp.org/news-events-conferences/national-cacfp-week/cacfp-week-providers-challenge/) (<https://www.cacfp.org/news-events-conferences/national-cacfp-week/cacfp-week-providers-challenge/>). The website features a variety of resources to mark the special week, including a sample news release and a social media toolkit (#cacfpweek) to help promote CACFP. There is also the [CACFP Week Providers Challenge](https://www.cacfp.org/news-events-conferences/national-cacfp-week/cacfp-week-providers-challenge/) (<https://www.cacfp.org/news-events-conferences/national-cacfp-week/cacfp-week-providers-challenge/>) and [CACFP Week Celebration & Awareness Toolkit](https://www.cacfp.org/files/9915/1674/8982/CACFP_Week_2018_Guide_cacfp.org.pdf)  (https://www.cacfp.org/files/9915/1674/8982/CACFP_Week_2018_Guide_cacfp.org.pdf).

For more information about CACFP in Illinois, [visit ISBE online](#) (</Pages/Child-Adult-Care-Food-Program.aspx>) or call the Nutrition Division at (800) 545-7892.

GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY TRANSPARENCY ACT

Required FY 2018 Grantee Periodic Performance Reports

Periodic performance reports are required for all fiscal year 2018 grants administered by the State of Illinois unless specifically exempted. Exempted ISBE programs include Evidence-Based Funding, Mandated Category, and Drivers Education.

The reports include information on the accomplishment of deliverables described in the grant, the status of performance measures, and the alignment of accomplishments to date with spending to date. Reports are due quarterly except in cases where responses to programmatic risk assessments indicated the need for monthly reporting. ISBE has implemented the periodic performance reporting requirement through an IWAS-based system called the **Grant Periodic Reporting System**.


Outstanding first quarter reports are past due. Second quarter reports are due now. Please submit your reports for those periods ASAP if you have not yet done so.

NOTE: This performance reporting is **in addition to** the regular fiscal reporting done through the Electronic Expenditure Reporting system.

To learn more about the new reporting system and your obligations, please view the recorded webinar that can be found in the “What’s New?” section on ISBE’s [GATA page](/Pages/Grant-Accountability-and-Transparency-Act.aspx) (</Pages/Grant-Accountability-and-Transparency-Act.aspx>). Questions may also be submitted to the ISBE GATA administration staff at GATA@ISBE.net (<mailto:GATA@ISBE.net>).

FUNDING & DISBURSEMENTS

Final 2016-17 School Year Mandated Categorical Prorations Now Calculated

Final prorations and payments have been calculated for all 2016-17 school year categorical programs. View a narrative of each program and the statutory formula for computing payments  (/Documents/mcat-narrative.pdf). If you have questions regarding this information, contact ISBE's Division of Funding and Disbursements at (217) 782-5256.

The 2016-17 school year programs reimbursed in fiscal year 2018:

- Special Education Private Facility – 90 percent
- Special Education Transportation – 91 percent
- Regular/Vocational Transportation – 84 percent

The 2016-17 school year programs reimbursed in fiscal year 2017:

- Special Education Orphanage – 100 percent
- Regular Orphanage – 100 percent
- Illinois Free Lunch/Breakfast – 22 percent

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Webinars for Professional Development

ISBE's Early Childhood Professional Development projects have been offering webinars for several years. STARNET provided 57 webinars with 1,719 participants in the 2016-17 grant year. Please check out our current webinars and workshops in the [statewide calendar](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bzm_3Jr5ZB6udExUV1ZxUmZwWmVQUVRSc0YwWDBWTjdyRkR3/view) (https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bzm_3Jr5ZB6udExUV1ZxUmZwWmVQUVRSc0YwWDBWTjdyRkR3/view) of events.

The Center: Early Childhood Professional Learning (ECPL) scheduled a series of webinars ([Competency Webinars](http://conta.cc/2G6jpcW) (<http://conta.cc/2G6jpcW>)) based on the leader competencies identified in the National Association of Elementary School Principals book, *Leading Pre-K-3 Learning Communities*.


Leader Learning Exchange workshops ([Leader Learning Exchange](http://conta.cc/2F4EVxt) (<http://conta.cc/2F4EVxt>)) will be offered in Arlington Heights, West Chicago, and Bloomington.

ECPL, in collaboration with the Illinois Principals Association and Illinois STARNET, is offering online [Administrator Academies on early childhood topics](https://accounts.google.com/signin/v2/identifier?service=wise&passive=1209600&continue=https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2SycMsishjGeUZVUzU4SDRnVXJ1eFRDWnotU0pZUUtDcWNV/view?usp%3Ddrive_web&followup=https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2SycMsishjGeUZVUzU4SDRnVXJ1eFRDWnotU0pZUUtDcWNV/view?usp%3Ddrive_web&flowName=GlifWebSignIn&flowEntry=ServiceLogin) (https://accounts.google.com/signin/v2/identifier?service=wise&passive=1209600&continue=https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2SycMsishjGeUZVUzU4SDRnVXJ1eFRDWnotU0pZUUtDcWNV/view?usp%3Ddrive_web&followup=https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2SycMsishjGeUZVUzU4SDRnVXJ1eFRDWnotU0pZUUtDcWNV/view?usp%3Ddrive_web&flowName=GlifWebSignIn&flowEntry=ServiceLogin). Upcoming academies will cover ECERS-3, Early Childhood Inclusion, Multi-Tiered System of Supports in Early Learning Environments, and Leadership Strategies for Adopting the Pyramid Model with Fidelity.

Upcoming Science Workshop

STARNET Region II is hosting a training on March 14 in Glendale Heights on the topic of science in the early childhood classroom. It is easy for teachers to be intimidated by the topic of science, but the reality is that young children do not need explanations on why magnets stick together or what goes on inside a cocoon. Young preschool scientists need adult learning partners who will be curious with them, help them notice everyday things, and think and talk about what they find. In this session, we will explore how activities as simple as

looking at a tree trunk or wondering about a mud puddle can build science skills as well as skills crucial to being a lifelong learner. Participants will gain knowledge about how children “think like scientists” – observing, asking questions, investigating, analyzing, and communicating what they learn to others.

Full details and registration information  (<http://www.thecenterweb.org/starnet/pdfs/calendar1.pdf>) are available.

IN BRIEF

Upcoming Events

- The **Illinois Global Scholar Student Summit** will held on March 3 at the I Hotel in Champaign. The theme of the summit is "The Power of Perspective." Students and educators attending will have opportunities to develop global competencies, recognize the perspectives of self and others, and sharpen social-emotional learning skills. [Registration now available](http://global-illinois.org/champaignsummit/) (<http://global-illinois.org/champaignsummit/>). Contact Seth Brady at sbrady@global-illinois.org (<mailto:sbrady@global-illinois.org>) with any questions.
- The Illinois Student Assistance Commission is hosting a webinar on Feb. 13, **IT Apprenticeship: Solving the Software Development Pipeline Crisis – Using Apprenticeships to Develop IT Talent** (https://nationalfund.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?service=1&siteurl=nationalfund&nomenu=true&main_url=/mc3200/e.do?siteurl%3Dnationalfund%26AT%3DMI%26EventID%3D593924327%26UID%3D528499697%26Host%3DQUhTSwAAAASvs60Tw8-qYiqBmKalz2jrfXcjhD4aZu6UU5ysrlvCYaHbn1Qhf8QrtHT6lkNL5LgnI3xnpYRUu10vV33r-oPX0%26FrameSet%3D2%26MTID%3Dm56305db691e99a7290c22a99aec1d803). The hour-long webinar will feature two presenters implementing innovative apprenticeships in IT coding and cybersecurity.
- Plan something special for **School Lunch Hero Day (May 4) and School Nutrition Employee Week (May 7-11)** (<https://schoolnutrition.org/SLHD/SamplePressReleaseProclamation/>)!
- Advance Illinois' **fifth annual Illinois 60 by 25 Conference** (<http://60by25.org/2018conference/>) will be held on Feb. 6-7 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Bloomington. The focus of the conference is on collective impact strategies to advance educational equity and increase degree attainment in Illinois communities. Guest speakers include State Superintendent of Schools Tony Smith and other school officials, business leaders, and national partners. [Register for the conference here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/illinois-60-by-25-network-annual-conference-feb-6-7-2018-tickets-39520026463) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/illinois-60-by-25-network-annual-conference-feb-6-7-2018-tickets-39520026463>).

Recognition Opportunities

- The Illinois Department on Aging is accepting nominations for the **2018 Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame**, an annual event recognizing exceptional individuals over 65 who have positively influenced Illinois communities. One of the four categories is Education. For more information and the nomination form, please visit Illinois Department on Aging's [Hall of Fame page](http://www.illinois.gov/aging/HallofFame/Pages/default.aspx) (<http://www.illinois.gov/aging/HallofFame/Pages/default.aspx>).

Administrator Recognition

- Congratulations to **Amy Quattrone of Westmont Junior High School**, who was named 2018 Illinois Assistant Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association!
- Congratulations to **Paul Kelly of Elk Grove High School**, who was named 2018 Illinois High School Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association!
- Congratulations to **Dr. David Schuler**, superintendent of High School District 214 in Arlington Heights, for being named one of four finalists for the [National Superintendent of the Year](https://www.d214.org/district-214-leader-named-finalist-for-national-superintendent-of-the-year/) (<https://www.d214.org/district-214-leader-named-finalist-for-national-superintendent-of-the-year/>) by the American Association of School Administrators!

Student Opportunities

- The American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division is hosting the **2018 Law Day Art Contest** (https://www.americanbar.org/groups/young_lawyers/initiatives/law_day_art_contest.html) for high school students. Participants are asked to create an art piece exploring the theme "Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom." The deadline to submit is March 31.
- The Federal Bar Association and Federal Judges' Association is sponsoring a **nationwide civics essay/video contest** (http://www.fedbar.org/Outreach/Inaugural-Civics-Essay-Contest_1.aspx) for high school students. This year's topic is on the "14th Amendment – What Does Equal Protection Mean for Students?" The deadline for submissions is 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 28.

District Recognition

- Congratulations to **West Aurora SD 129** for offering Illinois' first [Federally Registered Apprenticeship Program](https://www.sd129.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=13&ModuleInstanceID=4899&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=8799&PageID=19&GroupByField=&GroupYear=0&GroupMonth=0&Tag) (<https://www.sd129.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=13&ModuleInstanceID=4899&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=8799&PageID=19&GroupByField=&GroupYear=0&GroupMonth=0&Tag>) in a health field at the secondary education level!

School Recognition

Congrats to the below schools for receiving [2017 HealthierUS School Challenge: Smarter Lunchrooms](https://www.fns.usda.gov/hussc/healthierus-school-challenge-smarter-lunchrooms) (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/hussc/healthierus-school-challenge-smarter-lunchrooms>) awards!

- **Arthur E. Canty Elementary School** in CPS 299 – Silver level award
- **Namaste Charter School** in CPS 299 – Gold Award of Distinction
- **Crestwood School** in Paris CUSD 4 – Bronze level award
- **Carolyn Wenz Elementary School, Mayo Middle School, and Memorial Elementary** all in Paris Union SD 95 – Bronze level award

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>).