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Educator Preparation Liaison Meet & Greet
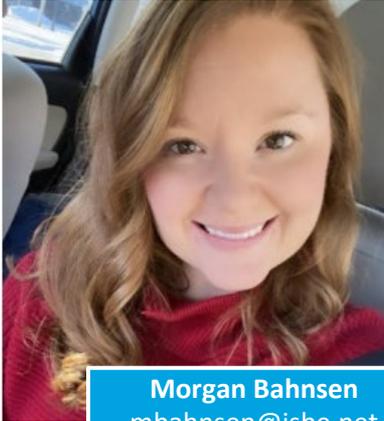
September 6, 2023

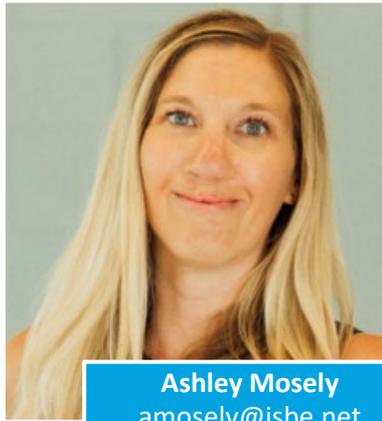**Equity • Quality • Collaboration • Community**

Today's Agenda

- Meet the Team
- Licensure Officers
- Rule & Law Changes
- Important Updates
- Quick Reminders
- Survey Questions

Meet the Team!

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Talor	Sabrina	Morgan	Ashley	Delaney
Augustana College	Blackburn College	Dominican University	Concordia University Chicago	Aurora University
Eastern Illinois University	Bradley University	Illinois College	Elmhurst University	Benedictine University
Greenville University	Chicago State University	Judson University	Erikson Institute	DePaul University
Hebrew Theological	Lake Forest College	National Louis University	Knox College	Eureka College
Illinois State University	Loyola University	North Central College	Lewis University	Governors State University
Millikin University	Monmouth College	Northwestern Illinois University	McKendree University	Illinois Wesleyan University
New Leaders	Northeastern Illinois University	Saint Xavier University	Northern Illinois University	North Park University Chicago
Quincy University	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	Olivet Nazarene University	Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Rockford University	The Chicago School of Pro Psychology	The University of Chicago	Relay/GSE	Trinity International University
Roosevelt University	Western Illinois University	University of Saint Francis	St. Augustine College	University of Illinois Springfield
University of Illinois Chicago	Wheaton College		Trinity Christian College	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
			Vandercook College of Music	

LICENSURE OFFICERS

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Liaison Communication

- Reach out directly to your Prep Liaison for:
  - Preparation-related questions
  - ELIS issues
  - Program Proposals/Changes/Discontinuations
  - Standard Alignment Materials

- The preparation@isbe.net email account will still be monitored. You can still use that email if your liaison is out of the office.

- Please do not refer candidates directly to Prep Liaison – they should be working through their Licensure Officer.

Licensure Officer Requirements

- Licensure Officers are required to complete trainings offered by ISBE per 25.170
- All institutions must have a Primary and Secondary Licensure Officer.

- Upcoming Licensure Officer Training
  - Registration link coming soon
  - Offered on two sessions:
    - Tuesday, October 24 at 2pm-3:30pm
    - Wednesday, October 25 at 10am-11:30am
  - Will be required for <u>all</u> LOs, time at end dedicated for <u>New</u> LOs
  - Work with your Liaison if unable to attend

New Licensure Officers

- Steps to take before Licensure Officers can begin entitling:
    - Update your ISBE Liaison
    - Request ELIS for Administrators Access
    - Update APR Contact page
    - Attend a New Licensure Officer Training webinar or view previously-recorded webinar
    - Review materials on Licensure Officer page
    - Seek out internal training at your institution

APR Contact Tip: If your LO holds more than one role at your institution (example: also the Dean), they can be listed twice as Contacts in APR to ensure inclusion on appropriate mailing lists

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Licensure Officer Advisory Group

- ISBE is seeking those interested in serving on a voluntary Licensure Officer Advisory Group to assist with:
  - Input and feedback on processes, including entitlement audit and data reporting
  - Inform updates for the entitlement wizard and data collection
  - Share common LO questions
  - Alert ISBE to ELIS concerns
  - Suggest changes and improvements on ISBE website
  - Suggestions for improvement

  Interested? Email preparation@isbe.net

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RULE & LAW CHANGES

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Rule Change: *ESL/Bilingual Methods*

Part 25.25: Professional Educator License Update

- ESL/Bilingual Methods Coursework is required prior to licensure for Illinois program completers
  - Previously only required for out-of-state

- Program coursework might already meet this requirement

- Coursework can be built into existing programs or added as stand-alone course (Program Change Forms required for changes to coursework)

- LOs should begin verifying completion of coursework by May 1, 2024

- Be able to identify what course(s) cover this topic for entitlement audits

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Law Change: *Elimination of edTPA*

PA 103-0488

- Effective immediately (Aug. 4) through August 31, 2025, no candidate completing a teacher preparation program or other candidate is required to pass a teacher performance assessment.
- Teacher Performance Assessment Task Force will evaluate potential assessment systems for 2025 implementation
- Any current and future licensure candidates in your programs are not required to complete the edTPA.
- Any prior candidates who did not pass the edTPA can also be entitled by your institution after you have verified all current licensure requirements are met.

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New Law: *Early Childhood AAS Degrees*

PA-102-0174

- Requires all <u>public</u> universities offering early childhood education programs to accept an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in early childhood education and grant junior-level status to any Illinois community college student who has graduated with this degree.

- <u>Public</u> universities may not require transfer students to repeat these courses successfully completed at the community college.

- Our team will be reaching out to each IHE with an approved early childhood education program soon to confirm compliance with the law.

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PA 102-971 Update: *Safety Education*

[PA 102-971](#)

- Mandates particular "safety education" topics that must be included in educator preparation programs
- Originally legislated in 2015; recent addition of gun storage safety effective 2023
- We have received a few inquiries about what topics IHEs are required to cover in coursework.
- We have sought advice from our Legal and Legislative Affairs teams and will communicate expectations, and collect required information, soon.

Part 25 Reminders

- New changes effective last summer
- 25.170
  - Sets forth criteria for licensure officer training, identifying primary and secondary LO, notify ISBE within 10 days of hire
  - LOs must provide candidates, upon enrollment, with written documentation about creating ELIS account and when to apply for entitlement
    - Important to avoid being charged twice for licensure

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Part 25 Reminders

- Must place candidates in Pre-completion status in ELIS within 60 days of enrollment (25.170)

  - Your list of candidates in the APR/IEPP data reporting is derived from this list. Anyone not in PC status will not be included in your candidates!

  - May result in inaccurate data on IEPP, leading to remediation plan or eventual program discontinuation

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Part 25 Reminders

- "Enrollment" means:
  - A declaration by a student who has accumulated at least 60 semester hours (or equivalent) of coursework with an intent to graduate with an undergraduate major or minor leading to educator licensure; OR
  - A graduate or post-baccalaureate registration as a candidate in a licensure program
- This definition must be used for the purposes of putting candidates into PC status and entering enrollment dates in ELIS. Will drive cohort data on the IEPP.

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IMPORTANT UPDATES

Updated Program Change Form

- COMING SOON!

- Program **Change Form** is appropriate for:
  - Course title/number changes
  - Switching mode of delivery to online with no other content change
  - Modifying less than 50% or less of course content
  - Adding an additional world language program

- New **Program Proposal** is appropriate for:
  - Replacing coursework with micro-credentials
  - Modifying 50% or more of course content
  - Implementing a new pathway
    - Adding a grad option to an existing undergrad program
    - Adding an alternative program option to existing program
    - Adding an apprenticeship addendum (coming soon!)

CRTL and Diverse Educator Updates

- **CRTL Standard Alignment**
  - Keep meeting with WestEd coaches (2 more between now and Nov 2024)
  - Webinar on new Candidate Assessment Rubric:
    - Monday, September 25 at 2:30pm
    - Register [Here](#)
  - Alignment materials can be sent to your liaison, but we are holding off on reviewing them until we have a Review Rubric from WestEd

- **Diverse Educator Recruitment and Retention**
  - Kickoff Webinar was postponed – watch your email for additional information coming soon!

Content Test Updates

- The Special Education General Curriculum Test (163) has been phased out, no longer available. Content previously covered on 163 is covered in redesigned special education content tests.

- Early Childhood Education Test (*only this test*)
    - Pearson to conduct enhanced test item review and validation, after which SEPLB will review and vote on cut score recommendation
    - ISBE considering a FLEX option
    - Free practice test with test registration; in place now

Disaster Proclamation Updates

- **<u>Content Tests</u>**: Anyone beginning student teaching or a residency in an alternative preparation program on or after January 1, 2024, is required to first pass a licensure content test.

- **<u>Grade of C- or Better</u>**: Candidates must pass any licensure coursework started on or after May 12, 2023 with at least a C- or equivalent. (EPPs may still honor courses with grades lower than C- if taken during time proclamation was in effect.)

- **<u>Short-Term Sub License</u>**: Application now available through June 30, 2028. Current STS license holders can renew for five years.

Website Changes

- There have been significant changes to ISBE website
- Licensure Officer Page remains the same
- Re-save links to pages or clear caches
- Don't recommend you save forms locally – always use what is online, those get updated regularly

QUICK REMINDERS

ELIS Reminders

- **Enrollment Date** - Within 60 days of enrollment in a program, licensure officers must place candidates in pre-completion (PC) status in ELIS. Taking this step is very important because candidate enrollment data in APR and on the IEPP pulls directly from ELIS.

- **Pre-Completion Status** – Helps prevent candidates from applying early directly through ISBE
  - This status should be removed if a candidate withdraws from program

- **83-12 Cooperating Mentor Form** – Most heavy audit finding, no verification of Cooperating Mentor Teacher. Be sure to use this form!

ELIS Reminders

- **Common Reasons for "Pending Review" Status**
  - **Science and Social Science Subsequent Endorsements** – ELIS looks for the additional content test and license ends up in Pending Review status. Send email to your Liaison and we can Issue once candidate has paid fee and you confirm candidates meets requirements via 12 content credit hours

  - **ESL Endorsement** – ELIS looks for "missing" content test. Send email to your Liaison and we can Issue once candidate has paid fee.

  - **Seal of Biliteracy** – Does not show up as a Test, shows up in ELIS as "Additional Credential." Send email to your Liaison and we can Issue once candidate has paid fee.

Review of Refund Policy

- When a candidate incorrectly applies for ISBE evaluation (but should have been entitled)
    - If the license required a **Full Program**, we issue refund even if an evaluation has already been completed (data tied to APR)
    - If the license was for a **Subsequent Endorsement,** we only issue the refund if an evaluation has NOT already been completed

ELIS Tip: Entering candidates into Pre-Completion as soon as they are enrolled will help prevent them from incorrectly applying for ISBE evaluation.

We will monitor refunds and may consider phasing out in the future due to staff capacity.

Standards Redesign Deadline Reminders

- CRTL Alignment (all preparation programs)
  - Due to ISBE: June 30, 2025
  - Approval Deadline: October 1, 2025

- Principal and Superintendent NELP Alignment:
  - Due to ISBE: July 29, 2025
  - Approval Deadline: October 1, 2025

- IPES Alignment (all teaching programs)
  - Due to ISBE: March 1, 2026
  - Approval Deadline: June 30, 2026

Standards Redesign Deadline Reminders

- Secondary Education/PK-12 Teaching Programs
  - Approval Deadline: October 1, 2024

- Special Education
  - Approval Deadline: October 1, 2025

Entitling for Approvals

- IHEs can entitle for approvals

- Common Approvals:
    - Early Childhood Special Education (ECT Approval)
    - ESL and Bilingual Special Education

- Requirements can be found here: https://www.isbe.net/Pages/educator-licensure-approvals.aspx

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QUESTIONS FROM SURVEY

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Pre-Webinar Questions

How will Licensure Officers mark off the edTPA requirement in ELIS now that it is no longer required?
Our tech team is working to remove the edTPA requirement within the ELIS system. For now, you can continue to use the edTPA Waiver option when entitling candidates. We will send out notification once it is updated in ELIS.

Where can we have updated ELIS screenshots for applying for licensure?
There are multiple videos and screenshots on this page:
https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Licensure-Webinar.aspx under the "ELIS How to Demonstrations." These videos can be shared with candidates, as they walk through the ELIS Application and Registration processes.

Pre-Webinar Questions

How can licensure officers document Individualized Pathways when licensing candidates?

You can review ISBE guidance on <u>Individualized Pathways to Licensure</u> via our website. The use of individualized pathways provides prospective Illinois teachers ways to supplement coursework with credit for prior skills and knowledge. EPPs have the autonomy to determine whether credit will be given for prior experiences. EPPs should upload the <u>83-85 Verification of Individualized Pathways Form</u> to the educator's ELIS account (Images section) when honoring prior learning assessments or other alternative means in place of coursework required as part of a licensure program. The form should be verified by the licensure officer or department head and uploaded prior to program completion.

Pre-Webinar Questions

What do we do for students who do not pass content exams? Do we delay graduation?

While passing scores on content exams are required prior to licensure, they are likely separate from your institution's graduation requirements. It is possible for an educator candidate to receive a degree from your institution without being eligible for licensure. In the event a candidate has trouble passing their content exam, we encourage them to review the test preparation materials on the ILTS website. Candidates can take the content exams multiple times until a passing score is achieved.

Pre-Webinar Questions

What is happening with the Directory of Approved Programs page on the ISBE website? Is it being phased out?

Over time, there have been issues in maintaining the DOAP page and concerns the information displayed there was not always accurate. In an effort to eliminate confusion, our Prep Team discussed a plan to remove the DOAP page from the website and, instead, keep our master list of approved programs as an internal document. We had recently communicated to IHEs the DOAP page would be phased out and eventually replaced. However, we have decided to **keep** the DOAP page active as a public list of approved programs and will be working to update the page. Once the page is updated, we will send out notification to IHEs so you can confirm accuracy.

Pre-Webinar Questions

What would prevent a content exam result from linking correctly to a candidate's ELIS account? Does ISBE follow up on scores that are not linked? Is the test taker notified?

For a content exam score to properly link to a candidate's ELIS account, the candidates need to use the same name and SSN when they register for the test as the name and SSN that appear on their ELIS account. If the information does not match _exactly_, the system cannot upload the score to ELIS. Common issues include middle names/initials, maiden names, capitalization, hyphens, apostrophes, etc. Here are some examples of how small differences can result in a missing content exam score:

Pre-Webinar Questions

What would prevent a content exam result from linking correctly to a candidate's ELIS account? Does ISBE follow up on scores that are not linked? Is the test taker notified?

Name in ELIS:	Name on Test:
John O'Neil	John O Neil
Antoinette L. Miller	Antoinette Miller
Donna Marie Peterson	Donna Marie Peterson Smith

Pre-Webinar Questions

What would prevent a content exam result from linking correctly to a candidate's ELIS account? Does ISBE follow up on scores that are not linked? Is the test taker notified?

ISBE does not work to "find" missing test scores and we do not get notified when a score does not automatically upload. We encourage all candidates to check for the test score after receiving their results. If the results do not appear in their ELIS account, the licensure officer should reach out to their liaison for assistance. Please provide a copy of the score report when available. If a candidate needs to update their ELIS account to match their current name/SSN, they can do that by submitting a 73-71 Form to licensureforms@isbe.net.

Pre-Webinar Questions

What are the rules and procedures for entitling individuals who are not students from our institutions?

If a licensed educator has returned to your institution as a "student at large" to take a series of courses leading to a subsequent endorsement, we encourage you to entitle this individual once they have completed the courses and passed the required test. IHEs can entitle for any subsequent teaching endorsement, even if they do not offer full programs in that content area. Exceptions are listed below:

Exceptions: LBS II, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Blind and Visually Impaired and Early Childhood Special education (endorsement, not the ECT approval) all require an approved program and can only be entitled if the candidate completed your approved program.

DIDN'T SEE YOUR QUESTION?

EMAIL YOUR LIAISON
WITH A FOLLOW UP.

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THANK YOU FOR COMING!