



## An Update From the Indiana Department of Education for January 5, 2024

Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 01/05/2024 07:00 AM EST



### Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

#### A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Welcome back! Hopefully, you had a nice winter break! During the week between Christmas and New Years, I try to spend time with my family before launching into another year...and I also reflect on the past year in order to improve for the future. During this reflection time, I started making a list of some of the incredible things we accomplished TOGETHER in 2023 to collectively move the needle for our students.

I was really humbled and grateful seeing it all on paper, so before we get too far into the new year, let's take a moment to celebrate some 2023 WINS...



- ✓ Increased school-level science of reading instructional coaching and support for educators through the [Indiana Literacy Cadre](#). Participation in 2023 grew nearly five-fold, with 199 total schools opting into cohorts one and two. NOTE: See details on signing up for cohort 3 below!
- ✓ Expanded the number of schools opting-in to administer the state's **IREAD-3 assessment for second grade students** to 771 schools. This allows teachers, parents, and families to immediately know if a child is on-track or at-risk when it comes to mastering foundational literacy skills.
- ✓ Provided **\$10 million in cash stipends to teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff** at all corporations and charter schools who are responsible for the implementation and delivery of early literacy and reading instruction through the [Literacy Achievement Grants](#).
- ✓ Increased (significantly) the implementation of evidence-based practices for over 65,000 students across Indiana through the [competitive science of reading grant](#), which awarded **nearly \$15 million to 72 school corporations**. This is in addition to the multiple other initiatives supporting science of reading.
- ✓ Developed **online professional development modules supporting Indiana educators with additional science of reading training** (designed to be accessible 24/7, when most convenient for the educator). Over 2,500 educators are currently participating (with many more to come!) and will receive a \$1,200 stipend upon completion. Visit the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) to get started.
- ✓ Provided **over 77,000 hours** of learning support and tutoring services to over **18,000 students** through [Indiana Learns](#) (regardless of a family's ability to pay!). The recent [expansion](#) allows students and families access to additional funds once their initial \$1,000 award has been spent.
- ✓ Grew the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) from 6,000 users in 2021 to over 55,000 users today (just two years later), including launching the **Parent and Family Support Hub**, which provides no cost, 24/7 access to resources for parents and families to support their student's learning.
- ✓ Supported schools to increase students' access to STEM courses, programs, and resources through the [STEM Integration Grant](#) with **over \$2.5 million awarded to 56 school corporations and charter schools**.

- ✓ Earned [national recognition from Code.org](#) as one of the top states in the nation for computer science, with 91% of public high schools in Indiana offering a foundational computer science course (the national average is 57.5%).
- ✓ Supported STEM education for students with more **elementary and middle school robotics teams** than *any other state in the nation!* The **largest robotics state championship** in the nation is in Indiana with over 300 teams and 1,600 students competing.
- ✓ Received more team invitations to the **VEX World Robotics Championship** than *any other state or even country* (163 Indiana teams)! Fun fact...do you want to know who comes in second after Indiana? China! Followed by some of our largest U.S. states.
- ✓ Launched an **Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered platform** to determine how we might best leverage AI to support student high-dosage tutoring and reduce overall teacher workload. In addition to supporting over 45,000 students statewide, 2,500 educators are also receiving training to integrate AI tools into instruction.
- ✓ Received **two national awards** for the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) and [Indiana Graduates Prepared to Succeed \(Indiana GPS\) dashboard](#) from the State Educational Technology Directors Association, which recognizes the top states in the nation for their solution-driven achievements.
- ✓ Increased the [statewide graduation rate](#) to 88.98%, an increase of more than two percentage points over 2022. Overall, graduation rates increased for Black students, Hispanic students, English learners, students in special education, as well as students receiving free and reduced price meals.
- ✓ Positively impacted **over 3,900 high school students** through the **Crossing the Finish Line initiative**. There has been a **year-over-year increase** in the number of students seizing this opportunity for the third consecutive summer, and this year alone participating students and families saved over \$8 million in tuition, fees, and textbook costs.
- ✓ Launched a collaborative and comprehensive effort to determine how we might [rethink high school](#) in Indiana to ensure the four years are as valuable as possible...and that we offer more seamless pathways for students as they pursue employment, enrollment, or enlistment. This includes determining how we might increase course flexibility, work-based learning experiences, and credential of value completion opportunities.
- ✓ [Continued to enhance](#) how we show student and school data through the [Indiana GPS](#) performance dashboard, including displaying a variety of student indicators longitudinally and disaggregated by student population.
- ✓ Recognized and elevated Indiana teachers, including 2024 Indiana Teacher of the Year [Eric Jenkins](#), an English teacher at Franklin Community High School. Emma Donnan Elementary and Middle School Principal [Kendra Randle](#) and Plymouth High School English/language arts teacher [Josh Dingeldein](#) were also surprised with the prestigious **Milken Education Award**, which comes with a prize of \$25,000 from the Milken Family Foundation.
- ✓ Celebrated the incredible impact of our schools and educators in true red carpet style at the [second annual Indiana Educational Excellence Awards Gala](#), where **nearly \$5 million** was awarded to help schools and educators continue to grow their impact for kids.
- ✓ [Streamlined K-12 Indiana Academic Standards](#) in English/language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and computer science, reducing standards in each core subject area by 25% or more.
- ✓ [Redesigned Indiana's largest assessment](#) (ILEARN) to include "**through-year checkpoints**" to better understand and improve student learning. With a month left, over 440 schools have already opted in to pilot the redesigned assessment in 2024-2025.
- ✓ Leveraged technology to better connect our potential educators (supply) to open positions at our schools (demand) and ultimately, **strengthen the state's overall educator pipeline** through the [launch of phase two of the Educator Supply and Demand Marketplace](#).
- ✓ Recruited and are actively training **over 800 future teachers in STEM content areas** through the newly-developed [I-STEM initiative](#). This aims to strengthen Indiana's STEM educator pipeline by funding coursework leading to full licensure in STEM content areas... it's also in addition to the previously launched initiatives to strategically increase talented educators with English learner ([I-TELL](#)) and special education ([I-SEAL](#) and [ASSET](#)) licensure.

All of this is possible because of you. And, as Helen Keller said, "Alone we can do so little. Together, we can do so much."

Thank YOU, and let's keep the good work happening for students in 2024!

Office of Accountability

#### NEW: 2023-2024 Petition to Seek Performance-Based Accreditation Submission Window

The submission window for non-public schools to submit a petition for performance-based (state) accreditation closes on Tuesday, April 30. A petition for accreditation must be completed and submitted to

the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) prior to the school year for which accreditation would begin. The petition for performance-based (state) accreditation may be found [here](#). This petition only applies to non accredited non-public schools that want to apply for performance based (state) accreditation. Schools that already have performance-based accreditation do not need to reapply. Direct questions or submit the completed petition to IDOE's [Office of School Accountability](#).

### **REMINDER: Non-Public Schools Interested in Applying for the National Blue Ribbon Award**

Assessment percentiles that can be used to assist non-public schools in the application process for the 2024 Blue Ribbon awards are available in the School Accountability and Accreditation Moodle Community (Awards > [Blue Ribbon](#)), using enrollment key "AccountabilityCommunity." The Blue Ribbon award application process for non-public schools is administered through the [Council for American Private Education \(CAPE\)](#), and the deadline for application is Friday, January 12.

Office of Student Assessment

### **NEW: Additional ILEARN Checkpoints Pilot Webinar Available & Webinar Recording**

Join IDOE for three additional ILEARN Checkpoints Pilot opportunity question and answer (Q&A) webinars. Log in or create a free Indiana Learning Lab account to view [the recording of this live session](#). Register to attend upcoming sessions [here](#).

- Tuesday, January 9, 3 to 4 p.m. ET
- Thursday, January 18, 2 to 3 p.m. ET
- Friday, January 19, 9 to 10 a.m. ET

Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Apply for the ILEARN U.S. Government Standards/Cut Score Confirmation Committee**

IDOE invites current teachers, instructional coaches, and curriculum leaders with expertise in required content and skills for the high school U.S. Government course to apply for the [ILEARN U.S. Government Standards/Cut Score Confirmation Committee](#). This committee will convene virtually on Thursday, February 22, to review the current cut scores for the ILEARN U.S. Government End-of-Course Assessment (ECA) to ensure alignment to the 2023 Future-Focused Indiana Academic Standards. Committee participants will receive a \$160 honorarium and Professional Growth Plan (PGP) points for their participation. IDOE will follow up with selected participants. [Apply here by Monday, February 5](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Register for January College Board Training Opportunities**

College Board is hosting several training sessions for staff supporting administration of the SAT School Day this spring.

- [Official SAT Practice Webinar](#): Thursday, January 18, 10 a.m. ET
- [BigFuture and Opportunity Scholarship Webinar](#): Monday, January 29, 10 a.m. ET

Contact [College Board](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: ILEARN Checkpoint Pilot Opt-In Opportunity Now Available**

IDOE invites schools to opt in to the ILEARN Checkpoints Pilot for the 2024-2025 school year. Schools can sign up to pilot the three checkpoints included in the ILEARN through-year design, but will still participate in the same statewide summative assessment. Refer to the following resources for an overview of the opportunity, reasons for participating, and how to sign up. IDOE will host three [live Q&A sessions](#) in January to answer questions over the pilot.

- [ILEARN Checkpoint Pilot Opt-In Opportunity Overview](#)
- [ILEARN Checkpoint Pilot Live Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
- [ILEARN Checkpoint Pilot Data Overview](#)

Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

Office of Educator Talent

### **NEW: Strasbourg Cultural Exchange Opportunities**

High school educators interested in learning more about opportunities to partner with Strasbourg schools through linguistic and cultural exchange programs can complete this [form](#) to receive more information

about the specific opportunities available and how to get connected. Contact IDOE's Office of [Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

### **UPDATED: Nominations Open for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching (PAEMST)**

Established by Congress in 1983, PAEMST is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government to educators teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Each year the President may recognize up to 108 exemplary teachers. Kindergarten through sixth grade educators are eligible during this cycle. More information about the process can be found [here](#). Nominations must be submitted by Monday, January 8. Contact [Anne Marie Milligan](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Webinar Recording Now Available**

The [video](#) and [slide deck](#) from "An Introduction to Teacher Apprenticeships" hosted by IDOE and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) are now available. Contact [Anne Marie Milligan](#) with any questions.

#### **Office of School Finance**

### **NEW: Form 9 Financial Reporting for January to June 2024**

Beginning in January 2024, the Chart of Accounts will be modified to streamline the transfer reports completed in step four of Form 9 data submissions. Instead of using accounts 60100 and 5200 to indicate every fund transfer, school corporations and charter schools will indicate the funds involved in the transfer by using expenditure and receipt accounts specific to the fund transfers. Please read this [memo](#) regarding the changes to fund transfer account numbers. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Form 9 Financial Reporting for July to December 2023**

The deadline to submit Form 9 financial data for July to December 2023 is Wednesday, January 31. The Form 9 application, which includes a link to the financial transparency submission page, can be accessed via the LINK Portal. Once in the portal, the financial administrator will navigate to the "Form 9 Financial Data" tile. Guidance on the submission process can be found in the Public Finance Community in [Moodle](#). Contact [form9@doe.in.gov](mailto:form9@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

#### **Office of School Support & Transformation**

### **REMINDER: Annual 1003 Flexibility Waivers**

IDOE's Office of School Support and Transformation is now [accepting applications](#) for 1003 flexibility waivers. Flexibility through waivers is offered to help support schools in their design efforts to improve student performance and outcomes, help to improve efficiency of school operations, and to help promote innovative educational approaches to student learning. Interested officials can read more about the opportunity in this [memo](#) and [Flexibility Guide for Indiana's K-12 Schools](#). Applications are now open and will be accepted on a rolling basis through Friday, April 5. Contact [Georgia Watson](#) with any questions.

#### **Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities**

### **NEW: 2023-2024 Homeless Children & Youth Data Report**

The Student Pathways & Opportunities McKinney-Vento team forwarded the 2023-2024 LEA Homeless Children & Youth Data Report to all Indiana school districts on Tuesday, January 2. This data report will be used by IDOE to collect and assess Indiana's homeless children and youth data for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year. The data report is separate from the homeless children and youth data school districts are required to submit to Data Exchange by June 30 annually. The 2023-2024 LEA Homeless Children and Youth Data report is due on Tuesday, January 16. Contact the [McKinney-Vento Team](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: 2023-2024 Student Pathways Monthly Webinars**

The Student Pathways team is hosting monthly webinars for alternative education, graduation pathways, high ability, and McKinney-Vento throughout the 2023-2024 school year. Monthly webinar dates and links can be found [here](#). No registration is required. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities](#) with questions.

### **REMINDER: Explore, Engage, Experience (3E) Grant Reimbursement Requests**

All 3E grantees should be regularly submitting reimbursement requests to IDOE. Reimbursement forms should be completed, signed by the preparer, and submitted to [DOE Cares](#) on the 1st and 15th of each month. Grantees must keep receipts, invoices, staff time and effort logs and all other relevant documentation of grant expenses on file locally, in the case of an audit. These documents do not have to

be submitted to IDOE when seeking reimbursement. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities](#) with questions or for a copy of the reimbursement form.

## Office of Special Education/English Learning and Migrant Education

### **NEW: WIDA Standards Spotlight Session: Setting Language Expectations**

IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education will host a WIDA Standards Spotlight session in the Indiana Learning Lab on Tuesday, January 9, from 4 to 4:30 p.m. ET. The session will focus on the Language Expectations of the WIDA Standards framework, which sets goals for multilingual learners' content-driven language development. [Registration is required](#) and the session is open to all educators. See the previous WIDA Standards Spotlight session on assessing academic language growth [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Indicator 4 Suspension and Expulsion Stakeholder Input Convening**

IDOE seeks stakeholder input regarding proposed changes to the state's process for identifying potential [Indicator 4](#) noncompliance. Stakeholders may [submit their interest](#) in participating in a two-part, virtual meeting held in January and February. Daytime and evening sessions will be available to accommodate schedules. IDOE staff will contact applicants directly. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education monitoring team](#) with any questions.

## Offices of Teaching and Learning, Digital Learning, and Kindergarten Readiness

### **NEW: Apply for Cohort 3 of the Indiana Literacy Cadre**

Indiana schools are invited to apply for Cohort 3 of the [Indiana Literacy Cadre](#), a collaborative effort designed to develop and implement key professional development for K-3 educators to support literacy and reading instruction aligned with science of reading practices. Learn more about the benefits of participating [here](#). Submit the [interest form](#) for additional information on how to join this initiative. Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) or the [Indiana Literacy Cadre](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: January Professional Development (PD) with IDOE & On-Demand Sessions**

2024 PD with IDOE begins on Wednesday, January 10, at 4 p.m. ET with *Digital Learning Grant Success Stories* presented by the Office of Digital Learning and Digital Learning Grant recipients. View a full list of January sessions [here](#). To register for workshops, or view on demand sessions, create a free Indiana Learning Lab account by visiting the [LINK Portal](#) or the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) directly and use your school email address to log in. The December sessions [21st Century Community Learning Centers: High Quality After School Programming](#) and the [Introduction to the Employability Skills Playbook](#) are also available on the Indiana Learning Lab. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Blended Learning Series with Dr. Catlin Tucker Continues Monday, January 8**

The [Blended Learning Series](#) with Dr. Catlin Tucker, a renowned author and expert on blended learning strategies, continues this month with three new live sessions for Indiana educators.

- *Station Rotation Model: Grades 6-12*: Monday, January 8, at 4 p.m. ET
- *Flipped Instruction: Grades K-5, English-Language Arts and Math*: Tuesday, January 16, at 4 p.m. ET
- *Flipped Instruction: Grades 6-12*: Monday, January 22, at 4 p.m. ET

[Register for the series here](#). Previous sessions in the series are also [available on demand](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions

### **NEW: Digital Learning Day Celebration on Thursday, February 15**

IDOE's Office of Digital Learning is celebrating Digital Learning Day with the third annual Digital Learning Day Double Down at 4 p.m. ET on Thursday, February 15. This session will feature teachers from across the state who use educational technology to engage, extend, enable, and elevate student learning. Any teachers interested in sharing can apply [via this form](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Future-Focused Indiana Early Learning Standards Course Now Available**

The new [2023 Future-Focused Indiana Early Learning Standards Course](#) connects foundational understandings of leadership, teaching, and assessment with developmentally-appropriate, intentional

implementation of the eight domains of early learning in early care and education environments. Playful learning experiences are supported through authentic assessment, purposeful planning, and increased contextual relevance. This allows for individualization while preparing a child for kindergarten. The course is free and available in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). PGP points are available upon completion. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Showing Up Matters - Learn How Attendance and Healthy Practices Impact Future School Readiness**

Join IDOE in the Indiana Learning Lab for sessions on [why attendance matters](#) on Wednesday, January 24, and [keeping children healthy during the winter months](#) on Wednesday, January 31, geared toward educators and families. Both sessions will be held from noon to 12:30 p.m. ET in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with additional questions.

#### **Office of Title Grants and Support**

### **NEW: Save the Date - 21st Century Community Learning Centers to Launch New Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Cohort 12 of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant (Title IV part b) will be released on Monday, February 23. This competitive grant provides funding for Local Education Authorities (LEAs) (including non-public and charter schools) and community-based organizations to run safe and accessible out-of-school time programming that promotes academic, social, and behavioral growth. To learn more about the 21st Century Community Learning centers grant and access the RFP once it launches, visit the [website](#) or contact the [Out-of-School Time Program](#).

### **NEW: Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BCSA) Ramp Up! Series**

IDOE's Office of Title Grants and Support will host a series of webinars discussing critical topics elevated by the field regarding BCSA initiatives. The goal of this series is to connect interests to best practices and content experts. The first topic will be led by IDOE's School Safety team and revolve around best practices in implementing Multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Teams locally and nationwide. Join [here](#) on Thursday, January 18 at 10 a.m. ET. Contact [Lacey Bohnen](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: 2023 Risk Assessment Results and Monitoring**

Risk Assessment Results and Desktop Monitoring notices were distributed to LEAs on or about December 27, 2023 and Wednesday, January 3, respectively. Please check your e-mail inboxes to confirm receipt. Contact your grant specialist or [the Title I team](#) with any questions, or to update any contact information.

### **REMINDER: Title Con 2024 Call for Proposals**

The Title Grants and Support team is excited to announce Title Con 2024. The event will be held on Wednesday, April 10, and Thursday, April 11, in Plainfield. Title Con 2024 will bring together hundreds of Indiana educators and school personnel from across the state to learn and build stronger federal programs for student growth and achievement. Title Con seeks dynamic presentations on topics related to Title grants and federal funding that align with the theme of "The Student Behind the Funding." Please review the [call for proposal form](#) for more information. All submissions are due by today, January 5. Contact [Caitlin Laurino](#) with questions.

#### **News From Our Partners**

### **NEW FROM THE INDIANA STATE POLICE: 2024 Indiana Missing Children's Day Poster Contest**

The Indiana State Police is partnering with the U.S. Department of Justice for the National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest, which provides an opportunity for schools, law enforcement, and families to discuss and promote child safety. Indiana's winner will receive a national award certificate from the U.S. Department of Justice, and the student's poster will be selected to go to the national judging competition. The national winner, along with the student's parents and teacher, will be invited to Washington, D.C. to participate in the U.S. Department of Justice's National Missing Children's Day ceremony. More information, including contest rules, is available [here](#). The deadline for submissions is Friday, February 16. Poster submissions can also be mailed to Sergeant Tumey at 8660 E. 21st Street, Indianapolis, IN 46219. Contact [Sergeant Seth Tumey](#) with questions.

### **NEW FROM THE INDIANA SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (ISCA): 2025 ISCA Awards Nominations**

Nominations for the 2025 ISCA Awards are now open through Sunday, June 2. Recognize exemplary school administrators, school counselors, and school support staff by nominating them for a 2025 ISCA Award. The nomination process is modeled after the ASCA national award model. Winners will be selected by the ISCA Awards committee and will be invited to attend the ISCA Fall Conference to receive their award. One school administrator and one support staff member will be selected as the 2025 Indiana state winners. The 2025 School Counselor of the Year winners will be selected by level (elementary,

middle, and high). More information about criteria for the annual ISCA Awards can be found [here](#). Contact the ISCA Awards Chair [Timothy Adams](#) with questions.

### **NEW FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DWD): Learn more about Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG)**

JAG Indiana is seeking schools to add 50 new programs this fall as part of [Governor Holcomb's plan](#) to double the workforce program across Indiana. The expansion plan invites middle school, high school and alternative education/credit recovery programs to be part of JAG, and the 40,000 Hoosier youths it has served since its inception in 2006. Ready to become a JAG school or interested in learning more? [Complete this survey](#), or email the [JAG Indiana team](#).

### **NEW FROM KEEP INDIANA LEARNING: Register for MidCon Events**

Join Keep Indiana Learning and the Indiana Middle Level Educators Association for four free virtual events on the [Road to MidCon](#)! These virtual sessions throughout this semester will focus on the adolescent brain, classroom pedagogy, social development, and leadership. Registration is also open for [MidCon 2024](#), a two-day, in-person summer learning conference geared towards middle school educators. Contact [Keep Indiana Learning](#) with additional questions.

### **NEW FROM THE PATINS PROJECT: Basics of Assistive Technology (AT) Team Development and Evaluations**

Join the PATINS Project on Thursday, January 18, at 3:30 p.m. ET to learn about how AT teams can benefit your school. This session is intended for corporation/school staff who would like to develop or update their AT team. Each team will find direction in producing policies, procedures, and forms that fit their unique needs. [Register](#) in advance for this session and visit the [PATINS Project website](#) for more information. Contact the [PATINS Project](#) with questions.

### **NEW FROM MARTIN UNIVERSITY: Martin University College Prep Rally**

Martin University is hosting a College Prep Rally on Saturday, January 27, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Martin University will provide help to complete all the necessary steps to prepare for college including on-site admissions, a financial literacy and college prep panel discussion, and a half-time presentation featuring Brave Majorette and Drumline. This event is geared towards potential students as well as non-traditional students thinking about coming back and finishing their degrees. Visit the Martin University [website](#) for more information.

### **NEW FROM REMOTE TEACHER COLLABORATIVES: Advanced Placement Teacher Investment Program (AP-TIP)**

The next round of remote teacher collaboratives will take place on Wednesday, January 10 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. ET. Remote teacher collaboratives are live, discussion-based professional workshops. Participants delve into high-impact practices that facilitate the instruction of AP content and empower all students. Registration for these sessions is now open. Learn more and register [here](#).

### **REMINDER FROM NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE CAMP (NYSCamp): Application for 2024 Session Now Open**

Applications are now available for students in the classes of 2024 and 2025 to represent Indiana at the [2024 NYSCamp](#) from Saturday, June 29, to Saturday, July 20. Hosted in Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia since 1963, the NYSCamp is a residential science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) program designed to honor and challenge some of the nation's rising STEAM leaders, provide them with opportunities to engage with STEAM professionals, and participate in exciting outdoor activities. The NYSCamp is offered to selected participants at no cost—including meals, housing, and transportation—so that talented students may attend regardless of their financial ability. [Applications](#) are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on Thursday, February 29. Contact NYSCamp Director [Kiona Y. Meade](#) with questions.

### **REMINDER FROM THE INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (CHE): Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship Application is Now Available**

CHE is accepting applications for the [Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship](#) and the Next Generation Hoosier Minority Educators Scholarship. High-achieving high school and college students who plan to teach in Indiana for at least five years can receive up to \$10,000 per year (\$40,000 total). Current college students who apply must be able to use the scholarship for two full academic years. Apply through [ScholarTrack](#) by Wednesday, January 31. Please contact the [CHE](#) for more information.

### **REMINDER FROM TEACH INDY: Register Now for the 2024 Teach Indy Educators Conference**

The 2024 Teach Indy Educators Conference will be at the Ivy Tech Community College Culinary and Conference Center on Saturday, March 2. Join us to enhance teachers' expertise, share best practices, amplify the educator's voice, and seize the opportunity to learn and grow. All current and aspiring educators are welcome. Register [here](#) and contact [Teach Indy](#) with questions.

## **REMINDER FROM WORK AND LEARN INDIANA: The 2024 Indiana Work-Based Learning Conference**

The [Indiana Work-Based Learning Conference](#), featuring the 18th Annual Impact Awards, will be on February 22 at the Embassy Suites in Noblesville. The event is a convening of best practices and sharing of ideas toward growth and partnership within workforce and education. Register [here](#) or contact [Sally Saydshoev](#) for more information.

## **REMINDER FROM THE INSTITUTE FOR WORKFORCE EXCELLENCE: AHEAD Human Resources Information Session**

The Institute for Workforce Excellence, a 501(c)(3) subsidiary of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with IDOE will be hosting an AHEAD Human Resources representative to address employer questions related to work-based learning workers compensation and liability. During the virtual information sessions, AHEAD Human Resources will address questions and concerns from the audience while also providing an overview of services offered. The final session will take place on Thursday, January 11, from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. ET. Register [here](#) or contact [Sally Saydshoev](#) for more information.

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### **Weekly Updates**

View previous weekly updates from Dr. Katie Jenner [here](#).

### **Stay Informed**

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