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INDIANA
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION

An Update From the Indiana Department of Education for October 6, 2023

Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 10/06/2023 07:00 AM EDT



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

As we head towards mid-October, the first quarter is nearing completion, and many of you are either starting or gearing up for fall break. I hope you'll be able to unplug and enjoy your fall break time and prepare mentally and physically for the second half of the semester.

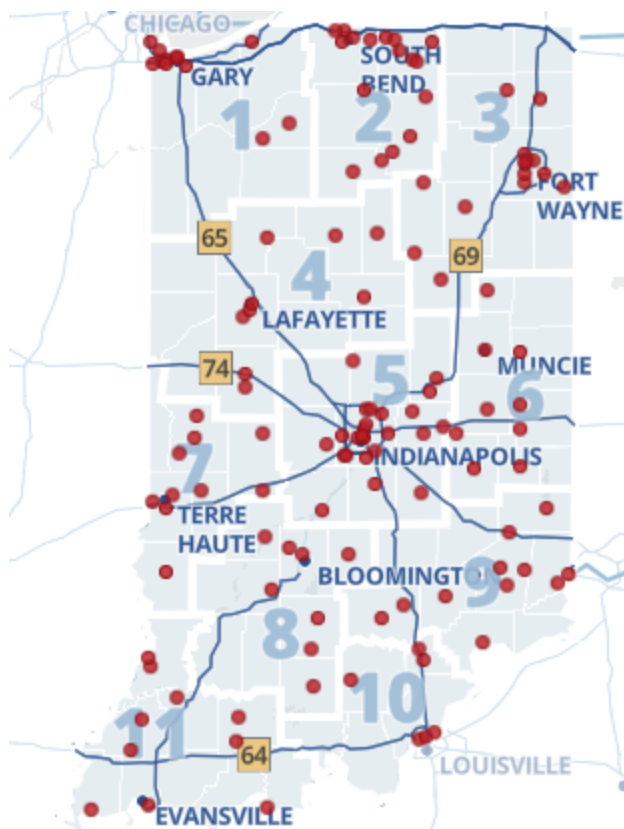
As we talk about often, to really move the needle for our students, we must blur the lines between pre-K-12, higher education, and the workforce. And one example of an initiative that is helping to blur those lines across the country, and right here in Indiana, is **Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG)**.

If you're not familiar, JAG helps high school students, encountering significant barriers to graduation, learn in-demand employability skills and access career exploration and experiences. I remember when working at Madison Consolidated Schools, JAG really helped us to engage students who we were sometimes struggling to reach in other ways. Our JAG teacher/mentor at the time helped to empower students to see their skills and abilities, as well as their potential. And as their confidence grew, we also saw many of them blossom in other classes, making them more eager to come to school, and ultimately, providing more seamless connections to their next step.

In addition to helping students to see the range of career opportunities available to them after high school, JAG also helps students to increase their educational attainment. Since its inception in 2006, JAG Indiana



has served 40,000 Hoosier youth and graduated more than 95% of its students from high school, with many students choosing to continue their education after high school.



JAG program locations across Indiana.

And in case you missed it, Governor Holcomb recently [announced](#) the goal to expand from 125 to 250 *JAG programs* in Indiana by the end of the 2024-2025 school year, thus impacting an estimated 10,000 Hoosier high school students per year. Through a partnership between the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, this expansion will be based on the following:

- Schools that have **already expressed interest** in establishing a JAG program;
- Schools with **existing JAG programs** that have at least an additional 40 students who will benefit from the program; and
- Schools with **lower graduation rates** and **higher rates of Free-or-Reduced Lunch** and/or **special education** cohorts.

The expansion will also allow JAG to serve students in grades nine and 10, as well as add pilot programs for middle school students. By helping students consider a number of careers earlier in their K-12 journey, we can open additional doors of opportunity in high school and beyond. In addition to focusing on skill development and supporting students as they consider their best, unique path ahead, this expansion also focuses on educational attainment by growing the College Success Program at postsecondary institutions. This allows students to continue to participate in the JAG program beyond high school, providing access to resources designed to help them navigate college, earn their credential, and improve their future.

So, if you've been thinking about how you might provide additional career engagement and experiences for your students, particularly for those experiencing barriers to graduation, I encourage you to consider adding JAG to your toolbox. If you are interested in becoming a JAG school, you can learn more by visiting jagindiana.org.

As always, thank you for all that you do for Hoosier students, and enjoy fall break (next week or whenever it falls this month)!

Important Legislative Update

REMINDER: Legislatively-Required and Other Guidance Surrounding Newly-Enacted Legislation

Following the close of each legislative session, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) immediately begins working to implement newly-enacted legislation impacting K-12 education, which includes compiling guidance for educators. Guidance is a product of robust cross-agency collaboration and partnership with countless stakeholders. Any future updates will be added to [this comprehensive guidance document](#) and shared via the weekly newsletter.

Office of Accountability

REMINDER: 2023 Mandatory and Voluntary Graduation Rate Audits

The [mandatory and voluntary graduation rate audits](#) close on Friday, October 27. If you are unsure if your school was selected for the mandatory graduation rate audit, please check the [list of mandatory audit schools](#). All schools are welcome to participate in the voluntary graduation rate audit. If a change needs to be made to a student in the 2023 cohort, this will need to go through the [voluntary graduation rate audit](#) (unless you are trying to change their status to a graduate status – you can do that now in Data Exchange). The [voluntary graduation rate audit](#) involves submitting the student on the [voluntary graduation rate audit Excel template](#) and submitting the [supporting documentation](#). (Enrollment key: **AccountabilityCommunity**) The voluntary graduation rate audit is the final opportunity to request a change to the 2023 cohort. If you are submitting a voluntary graduation rate audit and are subject to the mandatory graduation rate audit, submit both audits in the same, single submission. Contact IDOE's [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: 2023 Federal Accountability Audit Requests Due Today, Friday, October 6

The final deadline to submit a graduate on Data Exchange is today, Friday, October 6. Please check your 2023 cohort on [EdData](#) to ensure that all students who graduated have a graduate status on the cohort report. Students who graduated and do not have a graduate status should be submitted now on Data Exchange. Graduates are submitted with a 2024 Enrollment Record and a Graduate Record. Students must have met graduation requirements by Saturday, September 30, 2023 to be a 2023 graduate. Contact IDOE's [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Third-Party Accreditation Petition Window is Open

Accrediting organizations for K-12 schools interested in being recognized by the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) may submit a petition to IDOE for review. A petition must be submitted by November 30 prior to the school year for which the organization seeks recognition. Pursuant to statute, IDOE will provide a recommendation to SBOE within six months of receipt of a petition. Additional information and the [third-party accreditation petition](#) can be found on IDOE's Accreditation [webpage](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Assessment

NEW: PSAT/NMSQT Testing Window Opens Tuesday, October 10

Indiana's digital PSAT/NMSQT testing window opens Tuesday, October 10. The state of Indiana will be billed directly for students in grades 10 and 11 enrolled in accredited Indiana public or private schools. Schools may choose to offer the test to other students, such as grade 9 students or homeschooled students, and those related expenses will be billed to the school. Access PSAT/NMSQT resources [here](#) and refer to the [PSAT/NMSQT Milestones document](#) for additional deadlines following testing. Contact [College Board](#) with any questions.

NEW: Smarter Annotated Response Tool (SmART) Webinar Now Available

IDOE has released an informational webinar over [SmART](#), a tool from Smarter Balanced used to explore released performance task assessment items and student responses for ILEARN assessments. This webinar provides an introduction to understanding how student writing is scored on assessments and how to support writing instruction in your school/classroom. Access the [webinar here](#) in IDOE's [ILEARN Moodle Course](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with questions regarding this webinar and [Smarter Balanced](#) with technical questions.

NEW: Apply for the 2024-2025 Dyslexia Assessment Program Approval Committee

IDOE seeks qualified committee members to evaluate dyslexia screener and diagnostic assessment programs for potential approval for the 2024-2025 school year using the [Indiana Dyslexia Assessments Evaluation Protocol](#). Interested educators must complete the [2024-2025 Dyslexia Assessment Program Approval Committee interest survey](#) by Friday, November 3. Completion of the interest survey is non-binding. Additional information regarding dyslexia assessments can be found on IDOE's [Dyslexia webpage](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) or [Literacy Center](#) with questions.

NEW: Apply for the 2024-2025 Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant Program Approval Committee

IDOE also seeks qualified candidates to evaluate formative (interim) assessment programs for potential approval for the 2024-2025 school year using the [Formative \(Interim\) Assessment Grant Program Evaluation Protocol](#). Interested educators must complete the [2024-2025 Formative \(Interim\) Assessment Program Approval Committee interest survey](#) by Friday, November 3. Completion of the interest survey is non-binding. Additional information can be found on IDOE's [Formative \(Interim\) Assessment Grant webpage](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with questions.

NEW: 2024-2025 Dyslexia Vendor Guidance & Evaluation Protocol

IDOE published the [2024-2025 Dyslexia Assessment Guidance for Program Vendors](#) and [2024-2025 Indiana Dyslexia Screener Evaluation Protocol](#) for dyslexia assessment program vendors seeking approval for the 2024-2025 school year. The final date to submit the [registration form](#) is Monday, November 6. Refer to IDOE's [Dyslexia webpage](#) for more information. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) or [Literacy Center](#) with questions.

Office of Educator Talent

NEW: 2024 Indiana Teacher of the Year Announced

On Monday, October 2, IDOE announced that Eric Jenkins, a language arts teacher at Franklin Community High School in Franklin Community School Corporation, was named the 2024 Indiana Teacher of the Year. The full release can be found [here](#). For more information about the Indiana Teacher of the Year program, contact [Rebecca Estes](#).

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

PAEMST is the highest honor bestowed to educators by the U.S. government, specifically for those teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to grades seven through 12. PAEMST was established by Congress in 1983 and the president may recognize up to 108 exemplary teachers each year. More information about the process can be found [here](#). Nominations must be submitted by January 8, 2024. Contact [Anne Marie Milligan](#) with any questions.

NEW: Nominations Open for the 2024 Recognizing Inspiring School Employees (RISE) Classified Staff Award

Districts, charters, and non-public schools across the state are encouraged to nominate up to two classified school employees for the [RISE Award](#). The RISE Award honors and promotes the excellence exhibited by classified school employees who provide exemplary service to students in pre-kindergarten through high school. The deadline to submit nominations is Thursday, October 19, at 5 p.m. ET. Nominations can be submitted via [JotForm](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions,

REMINDER: Additional Opportunities to Recognize Indiana Educators

Throughout the year, numerous opportunities arise nationwide to acknowledge the incredible work of Indiana educators. IDOE's Office of Educator Talent has developed [this document](#) which will be updated periodically with external opportunities to recognize educators. To submit an educator recognition opportunity not listed, contact [Anne Marie Milligan](#).

REMINDER: Register to Attend Be A Teacher Day hosted by Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)

Join FCCLA on Friday, November 3, for an exciting event that focuses on the Education and Training pathway. This event allows students interested in a future in education or even early childhood education to connect with numerous college programs from around the state. Students spend the day learning about how to go to college, pay for college, and where they might want to attend. [Click here](#) to learn more and to register. Contact [Alyson McIntyre-Reiger](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Application Center Reporting - Educator Evaluation Rating (ER) 2023

The ER 2023 data reporting guidance layout for educator staff employed in the 2022-2023 school year is posted to the [Data Exchange Moodle Community](#) under resources and in the [Data Exchange Knowledge Hub](#) at School Support Hub > Reporting Guides > Staff Employment > References > ER (Educator Rating) Data Layout 2023. ER data will be submitted via the STN Application Center. The Application Center reporting window is now open and will close Friday, October 27, at 4 p.m. ET. Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Indiana STEM (I-STEM) Educator Expansion Program Registration Now Available

IDOE is partnering with Educational Service Centers (ESCs) of Indiana to launch the I-STEM partnership. I-STEM provides support for both currently licensed teachers in non-STEM areas and prospective teachers who are not licensed and hold a bachelor's degree to become licensed to teach in a STEM content area. IDOE has identified eligible STEM content areas as life science, chemistry, earth/space science, physics, physical science, computer science, technology education, and mathematics. Click [here](#) for more information and registration. Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

Office of Information Technology

NEW: Membership Count Status

Monday, October 2, marked the first official membership count of the 2023-2024 school year. School data personnel have been working to ensure quality and accuracy. Many schools will be able to sign-off on their October data today, Friday, October 6. IDOE will work with schools over the next week to respond to open tickets and move all schools to a timely sign-off. See the item below regarding the resolution of conflicts where two or more schools claim the same student. Complete documentation regarding all data collection and certification is available on the [Knowledge Hub](#). Contact the [IT helpdesk](#) with any questions.

NEW: Resources for Cybersecurity Awareness Month

As you begin planning for your communication to stakeholders during Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October, here are some great resources to keep training and knowledge up to date:

- [Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2023 Resource Kit | KnowBe4](#)
- [Resources Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency \(CISA\)](#)
- [Toolkit from MS-ISAC](#).

NEW: National Cybersecurity Review (NCSR) Now Open

A great way to assess the cybersecurity posture of your school/school corporation is to complete the [free annual NCSR from MS-ISAC](#). As your team completes the survey, your information is secure and is only used to provide nationwide statistics and trending in aggregate. By completing the NCSR, you also have the option to review next steps at no cost during a meeting with a representative from MS-ISAC. You can also measure growth as you complete it each year. For a quick overview of the process, review this [one-page overview](#).

REMINDER: Resolution of Conflicts for Membership 2023

Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, IDOE will no longer be brokering the resolution of conflicts after the certification date. If, after the certification date, schools are unable to resolve an outstanding conflict, schools may petition the State Board of Education for an adjustment in their average daily membership (ADM) count by providing the Board with evidence supporting an adjustment in their membership claim. The process for petitioning the Board will be made available this fall and communicated in Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update. IDOE wants to make sure each school receives full funding for the students they are serving and completes the Membership count within two to three weeks of the

count date. This process will help achieve both of these goals. See this [memo](#) for a more complete explanation of this change. Contact the [Data Exchange Team](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Data Collection from Career and Technical Education (CTE) Centers

For the 2023-2024 school year, CTE centers are expected to submit the same data to IDOE as was submitted in the 2022-2023 school year. CTE centers will do this via Data Exchange. [This memo](#) explains how the various types of CTE programs should be reporting data in concert with local high schools. As new expectations come online for course-based data including graduation plans, course enrollments, and course outcomes, it is even more critical that the entire student academic record comes directly to IDOE from the source data systems. IDOE and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE) will continue to work together to improve the integration and streamlining of data collection from schools and CTE centers. Finally, IDOE has produced extensive documentation to support the accurate submission of required data elements. This documentation is available on the [Knowledge Hub](#). Contact the [IT helpdesk](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Cybersecurity for Education Toolkit 2.0 Now Available

Developed by the Indiana Executive Council on Cybersecurity (IECC), with support from IDOE, the Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency (CISA), and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (USDHS), the updated [Cybersecurity for Education Toolkit 2.0](#) is filled with a wide range of cybersecurity best practices, resources and tips for everyone in your K-12 school community. Visit [Indiana's Cybersecurity Hub webpage](#) for additional resources for inside and outside of the classroom.

REMINDER: CISA Offers Free Cybersecurity Resources for K-12 Schools

As shared in early February, CISA released "Partnership to Safeguard K-12 Organizations from Cybersecurity Threats," with an accompanying toolkit to provide schools with targeted resources to improve their cybersecurity posture. These resources call out very specific actions that schools can take to drastically reduce their cybersecurity risk. Schools are strongly encouraged to review and implement these recommendations as we begin the 2023-2024 school year. Also, the Free Cybersecurity Services and Tools link below provide access to many great resources that will assist schools as they implement the recommended actions.

- [Online Toolkit: Partnering to Safeguard K-12 Organizations from Cybersecurity Threats](#)
- [Free Cybersecurity Services and Tools](#)
- [Secure by Design, Secure by Default](#)
- [CISA Releases Updated Cybersecurity Performance Goals](#)

Office of School Building Physical Security and Safety

REMINDER: Basic Training Registration

Registration for Basic Training Group 25 of the Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy is now open and will close Monday, October 30. Basic Training will be held in the traditional format consisting of a total of three days in person, along with online courses. To be certified as a school safety specialist,

participants are required to complete all training. Register [here](#). To ensure successful registration, all forms must be completed and returned by Monday, November 6. Contact [Stephen Balko](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Advanced Training

Registration is now available for the Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy Fall Advanced Training. This training will take place on Thursday, October 12, and Friday, October 13, at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown (350 W. Maryland St., Indianapolis, IN). You can register for the training [here](#). Contact [Stephen Balko](#) with any questions.

Office of School Finance

NEW: Curricular Material Cost Report

Please read this [memo](#) regarding the submission of the curricular material cost report, which closes Tuesday, October 31. The cost of providing curricular materials for the 2023-2024 school year must be reported through a [JotForm](#). Contact doetextbooks@doe.in.gov with any questions.

NEW: Collective Bargaining - Second Notices

IDOE plans to email school corporations the second notice of the estimate of Education Fund revenue from tuition support the week of Monday, October 9. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Membership and Enrollment

As the membership census date approaches on Monday, October 2, enrollment questions have increased. The memos can be found in Moodle Finance under Membership. Contact [Cathy Danyluk](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

NEW: October Alternative Education Webinar

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the first 2023-2024 school year alternative education webinar on Thursday, October 12, from 10 to 11 a.m. ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this [link](#) to join. Contact Studentpathways_alted@doe.in.gov with any questions.

NEW: October Graduation Pathways Webinar

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the first 2023-2024 school year graduation pathways webinar on Thursday, October 19, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this [link](#) to join. Contact DOEGradpathways@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Offices of Special Education and English Learning and Migrant Education

NEW: Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Webinar for Part B Funding on Wednesday, October 11

IDOE's Office of Special Education Part B finance team will present the new MOE requirement for receiving Part B funding on [Wednesday, October 11, at 11 a.m. ET](#). All special education and fiscal directors are encouraged to attend, and instructions to download additional MOE support will be available in the [Special Education Community](#) in Moodle. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with questions.

NEW: RoboKind Grant Recipients Announced

Recipients for the [2023-2024 RoboKind Grant have been announced](#). This grant is designed to provide funds to purchase technology and professional development to improve the social and behavioral skills of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with questions.

NEW: Dual Language (DL) Office Hours Begins Thursday, October 12

Join IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education on Thursday, October 12, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. ET for the first DL Office Hours session of the 2023-2024 school year. *Dual Language 101* will discuss available resources, target language usage, and purposefully planning for language. Participants will have the opportunity to network and collaborate with other DL teachers in the state and will leave with a variety of tools and ideas for implementation. Visit the [Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar](#) for more information and the meeting link. No registration is required. Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Register Now for Elevating Education - Improving Outcomes for All Statewide Conference

Registration is open for [Elevating Education: Improving Outcomes for All](#), a new statewide conference from IDOE and the IEP Technical Assistance (TA) Center. The conference is intended for general educators, special educators, and administrators and will take place at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis and the Indiana Convention Center on Tuesday, November 28, and Wednesday, November 29. For more information on presenters and session descriptions, view the [registration brochure](#). Register [here](#), as space is limited. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) or the [IEP TA Center](#) with any questions.

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

NEW: 2024 Summer of Learning Grant Application Closes Friday, October 13

The 2024 Summer of Learning Grant application closes Friday, October 13, at 4 p.m. ET. Public school corporations and charter schools may apply to be one of several host sites throughout the state for this summer conference grant. Corporations must have completed the 2023 School Tech Plan Survey to be eligible to apply. See additional information and apply by Friday, October 13, via [this memo](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW: Virtual Learning Courses Now Available in the Indiana Learning Lab

Virtual Learning Design & Delivery: K-5 and Virtual Learning Design & Delivery: 6-12 are now available in the Indiana Learning Lab. These self-paced, introductory courses are ideal for educators who are new to virtual learning and want to learn the essential elements of designing and delivering virtual instruction. To learn more and enroll in the courses, check out [this resource](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW: On-Demand Sessions in the Indiana Learning Lab

Access on-demand PD sessions in the Indiana Learning Lab for September's PD with IDOE as well as the first two sessions of the *Blended Learning Series* with Dr. Caitlin Tucker.

- [New Virtual Learning Courses: A Walkthrough](#)
- [Academic Impact: Stabilizing for Many Indiana Students, But Targeted Support Still Needed](#)
- [Fostering Early Literacy: The Role of Reading Aloud in Young Children's Educational Journey - For Parents & Families](#)
- [Fostering Early Literacy: The Role of Reading Aloud in Young Children's Educational Journey - For Educators](#)
- [Blended Learning: Why, How, and What](#)
- [Blended Learning and Universal Design for Learning](#)

To register for workshops, or view on-demand sessions, create a free Learning Lab account by visiting the [LINK Portal](#) or the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) directly and use your school email address to log in. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW: Partnering for Preschool Series Continues Tuesday, October 10

Join IDOE in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) for [Partnering for Preschool: Nurturing Success in Early Education](#), a targeted learning series to support success in preschool and early education. The series continues Tuesday, October 10, from 4 to 5 p.m. ET with a session on starting the preschool conversation. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Competitive Science of Reading Grant Applications Close Today, Friday, October 6

Applications for the 2023-2024 Competitive Science of Reading Grant are open through 11:59 p.m. ET today, Friday, October 6. The grant period has been extended to August 31, 2024, and all funds must be expended by this date. This competitive grant opportunity is designed to support state-accredited schools that serve K-3 students with educators who are interested in implementing evidence-based practices aligned with science of reading and [Indiana's Priorities for Early Literacy](#). Information regarding the 2023-2024 Competitive Science of Reading Grant can be found in the [grant guidance](#), [planning guide](#), and [application](#). More information can be found in the [office hours recording](#) and [frequently asked questions resource](#). Contact [IDOE's Literacy Center](#) with any questions.

REMINDER (UPDATED): Educators Needed for High-Quality STEM Curricular Materials Review Committees

IDOE seeks qualified educators (including accessibility representatives) and other stakeholders to serve on high-quality curricular materials review committees, particularly in the areas of 9-12 science (i.e., Physics and Earth Space Science). View [this flier](#) for more information and apply using the [educator JotForm](#) or [community member JotForm](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: October Professional Development (PD) with IDOE

October PD with IDOE kicks off on Wednesday, October 4, at 4 p.m. ET with the [Partnering for Preschool: Nurturing Success in Early Education](#) series session *Employer-Sponsored Childcare Grant Opportunities* hosted by IDOE's Office of Kindergarten Readiness, The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, and Wawasee Community School Corporation. View a full list of the October sessions [here](#). To register for workshops or view on-demand sessions, create a free Learning Lab account by visiting the [LINK Portal](#) or the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) directly and use your school email address to log in. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: 2022-2023 Early Intervention Grant (EIG) End-of-Year Guidance and Final Report Form

Corporations and schools must encumber all distributed EIG funds by today, Friday, September 29, and return any unused funds to IDOE by Friday, December 15. Review the [2022-2023 EIG Final Report Guidance](#) for more details and submit the [final report](#) to verify your corporation or school's use of EIG funds by Friday, December 15. This grant was discontinued after the 2022-2023 school year since it was not included in the biennial budget passed during the recent legislative session. Contact IDOE's [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

Office of Title Grants and Support

NEW: Coffee Chats

Grab your favorite cup of coffee and join the Title Grants and Support team for monthly Coffee Chats. Coffee Chats have moved to the last Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. ET. The link will always be the same. Join via Microsoft Teams [here](#). October's topic will cover family engagement. Contact Titlel@doe.in.gov with any questions or suggestions for topics.

REMINDER: ESSER II/GEER II Late Liquidation

The U.S. Department of Education released a [FAQ](#) document regarding the late liquidation extension request template for grantee use for the CRRSA/ESSER II Fund and the GEER II Fund. A flowchart of the submission process can be found at [this link](#). Please view this [process flowchart](#) for information on how to apply for a late liquidation approval. Use this [JotForm](#) to submit the necessary information. Submissions are due no later than Friday, November 10. Contact esser@doe.in.gov or geersupport@doe.in.gov with any questions.

News From Our Partners

NEW FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (IDEM): Fall 2023 Environmental Education Bulletin Now Available

IDEM's fall 2023 Environmental Education Bulletin is now available [here](#). Topics that can be used to support student learning include composting in the classroom, preparing for America Recycles Day, in-class and virtual presentations for Earth Day, Monarch butterfly crafting, and more! Contact [Jessica Irvine](#), IDEM Environmental Education and Outreach Coordinator, with any questions.

NEW FROM THE K12 CYBERSECURITY TASK FORCE: FREE RESOURCES FOR CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

The Cybersecurity Task Force, a group composed of educational technology leaders selected from Indiana schools by the [Indiana CTO Council](#) and the Indiana Department of Education, has prepared a [free guide](#) to empower schools to offer meaningful activities during Cybersecurity Awareness Month with the purpose of improving cybersecurity posture and employee situational threat awareness.

NEW FROM INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY: Registration for The Power of Reading and Power of Math Summit 2023 Now Open

Registration is now open for the annual *Power of Reading Summit* and *Power of Math Summit* from Indiana State University on Monday, November 20, and Tuesday, November 21. This free summit is geared toward K-3 educators, and virtual or in-person attendance is available. View the lineup of speakers [here](#) and register for these events [here](#).

NEW FROM KEEP INDIANA LEARNING: Instructional Coach PD - Data-Driven Coaching Workshop

Keep Indiana Learning is hosting a one-day, in-person workshop on Tuesday, November 28, for instructional coaches to explore data-driven coaching conversations designed to move teaching and learning forward. Learn strategies for engaging in tough conversations that focus on what students are learning and what to do when they aren't. Learn more and register for this opportunity [here](#). Contact [Keep Indiana Learning](#) with questions.

NEW FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: National STEM Challenge Submissions Due Sunday, November 12

Students in grades six through 12 are invited to craft a STEM project that tackles a real-world challenge chosen from one of the 2024 themes of the [National STEM Challenge](#). The best project from Indiana will become a finalist with the opportunity to advance to the next level by submitting a video in the second round. Up to 200 National Champions will win a trip to the National STEM Festival in Washington, D.C. in April 2024, to showcase their projects to some of our nation's most influential leaders. The [National STEM Challenge](#) is co-presented by the [U.S. Department of Education](#) and [EXPLR](#). Contact support@nationalstemchallenge.com with any questions.

NEW FROM INDIANA ASSOCIATION FOR THE GIFTED (IAG): Annual Conference

IAG will host its annual conference Sunday, December 3, through Tuesday, December 5, at the JW Marriott in Indianapolis. This is an opportunity for high ability educators from across the state to come together and learn about best practices and innovations in high ability education. Sessions are geared toward teachers, coordinators, counselors, administrators and parents. Learn more and register [here](#). Contact [IAG](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: Proteus - National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP)

[NFJP](#) is funded through the U.S. Department of Labor and Proteus implements this program in [Iowa](#), [Indiana](#), and [Nebraska](#). Funding provided through this program supports the response to chronic seasonal unemployment and underemployment experienced by agricultural workers by offering educational assistance, short-term certification programs, job training, and/or career placements. The program helps farmworkers cover costs related to career and training programs such as tuition, books, tools/equipment, or provides a stipend for class attendance. Learn more about the program at their [website](#). Connect with your [region's liaison](#) to learn how your students and community can benefit from this program by emailing info@proteusinc.net.

NEW FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROTECTION: \$500 Million Available to Fund School Buses that Reduce Pollution, Save Money, and Protect Health

This year's \$500 million Clean School Bus Rebate Program will provide a combined funding amount to cover bus, workforce development costs, and infrastructure costs for awardees requesting electric school buses. Applicants can request up to \$345,000 per bus. Selectees may be eligible for Inflation Reduction Act tax credits applicable to their bus and infrastructure purchases. The amount of funding per bus will depend on the applicant's prioritization status, as well as the type and size of bus replacement(s) requested. EPA will prioritize applications that will replace buses serving low-income, rural, and Tribal communities. Large school districts with communities of concentrated poverty also will be prioritized if their application focuses on clean school buses serving those communities. To learn more about the rebate program, applicant eligibility, selection process, and informational webinar dates, visit the [Clean School Bus Program webpage](#). Contact CleanSchoolBus@epa.gov with any questions.

NEW FROM BUILD YOUR FUTURE (BYF): Indiana Construction Roundtable Foundation

The BYF team is hosting a girls construction camp to promote exploration in construction education. The camp starts Monday, October 16. Learn more in the [ICRF Newsletter](#). Contact [BYF staff](#) with any questions.

REMINDER FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (IDHS): Get Shakin' Video Contest

Sitting close to two seismic zones, both with the potential of producing major quakes, Hoosiers need to *Get Shakin'* when it comes to earthquake preparedness. The *Get Shakin'* competition allows students to create their own earthquake awareness video, with the contest winner receiving an Indiana Earthquake Day at their school and a visit by the [Quake Cottage](#) earthquake simulator. The contest is open until Tuesday, October 31. Student groups or classes can enter by submitting a student-produced video focused on earthquake preparedness and/or safety. A panel of judges from IDHS will select an overall winner for the grand prize: an "Indiana Earthquake Day" event, either at their school or at the State Emergency Operations Center in Indianapolis. Additional information about the video contest and earthquake safety is on the [Get Shakin' webpage](#). Teachers may request a teacher's earthquake preparedness toolkit by sending their information to pio@dhs.in.gov.

REMINDER FROM IDHS: School Resource Officer Reporting Requirement

By law, school corporations and charter schools are required to annually report the number of school resource officers employed by a school corporation or charter school. In 2023, the Indiana General Assembly modified IC 20-26-18.2-5, which requires school corporations and charter schools to annually report data to IDHS regarding school resource officers or law enforcement officers that serve a school corporation or charter school. Data submissions are due today, Friday, October 6. For safety reasons, IDHS is required to keep such information confidential and not release it for public disclosure. Please report data [here](#). Contact [Rusty Goodpaster](#) with any questions.

REMINDER FROM THE INDIANA STATE LITERACY ASSOCIATION (ISLA): Fall Literacy Conference

The Indiana State Literacy Association is excited to host educators for the Fall Literacy Conference in Indianapolis on Saturday, October 28. Keynote speaker and author John Schu will share his expertise in the morning with breakout sessions to follow for the afternoon. Come join the fun and walk away with literacy tips and strategies to grow your literacy community! [Click here](#) for additional details and registration. Contact [Dr. Ryan Eckart](#) with any questions.

REMINDER FROM THE PATINS PROJECT: Upcoming No-Cost Training & Weekly Office Hours

Register for no-cost training from the [PATINS Project](#). Visit the [training calendar](#) for all upcoming opportunities or view the [Professional Development Guide](#) for offerings by request. Meet with PATINS Project staff during virtual office hours to discuss Accessible Educational Materials (AEM), Assistive Technology (AT), and Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Find the full calendar and registration details on the [PATINS Virtual Office Hours webpage](#). Complete IDOE's [Technical Assistance \(TA\) Request Form](#) for additional support. Contact the [PATINS Project](#) with questions.

REMINDER FROM THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEACHER INVESTMENT PROGRAM (AP-TIP): Join Cohort 12

AP-TIP at the University of Notre Dame is now [accepting applications](#) from schools to join Cohort 12. For information about how AP-TIP supports professional development and stronger outcomes for students in AP math, science, and English courses across Indiana, visit the [AP-TIP website](#). AP-TIP will begin reviewing applications on Friday, November 3. Contact [AP-TIP](#) with any questions.

REMINDER FROM THE CENTRAL INDIANA CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP (CICP): See Yourself In Summit

Join [CICP](#) and its five talent and industry sector initiatives for the See Yourself In Summit on Thursday, November 16, or Friday, November 17. Attendees will hear about Indiana's industries of the future and learn from innovative teachers about how they are preparing students through unique programs and projects. Click [here to register](#). Questions may be directed to [Raquel Bahamonde](#).



Weekly Updates

View previous weekly updates from Dr. Katie Jenner here.

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The Weekly Update from the Indiana Department of Education is created by the Office of Communications, and is distributed every Friday morning.

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