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INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT of  
EDUCATION

## An Update From the Indiana Department of Education for July 14, 2023

Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 07/14/2023 07:00 AM EDT



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

### A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Earlier this week, we gained [additional insights](#) into student proficiency in English/language arts and math in grades three to eight, as well as an update on how our students are recovering following the academic impacts of the pandemic. I know I am preaching to the choir here, but just need to say it...to provide the most effective learning support and interventions for our students, it is essential that we know where student learning is today. The ILEARN and academic impact data released on Wednesday is *just one data point* that we can use to identify specific cohorts, student populations, and individual students who need ongoing, targeted support.

I'll share below some of the key takeaways from the state level, but as you dig into your results locally, I encourage you to celebrate your local progress and the continued hard work of students and educators. And when it comes to areas of improvement, one of the best pieces of advice I received as an educator early on is to "*focus on the step in front of you, not the whole staircase.*" Identify two to three actionable items that will move the needle for students, and start there.

Our complete statewide data can be found [here](#), but I'd also like to share a few key takeaways below.

**ILEARN proficiency data**



- **Statewide ILEARN results reflect a modest increase in math across all grade levels.**
  - The highest increases were in grade four (1.3 percentage points), grade six (2.8 percentage points), and grade eight (1.6 percentage points).
- **Most grade levels remained relatively stable in ELA.**
  - Grade six (1.8 percentage point *increase*) and grade seven (2.9 percentage point *decrease*) are the exception.
- **As we begin to see overall stabilization and improvement in proficiency, specific student populations are seeing improved growth.**
  - Black students have proficiency percentage point increases in *both* ELA and math following the pandemic.
  - Hispanic students, students eligible for free and reduced lunch, students in special education, as well as English learner (EL) students have proficiency percentage point increases in math specifically.
  - Increased targeted support is still needed in ELA for middle school students, as well as English learners.

### Student Learning Recovery Data

- **Students are continuing to stabilize or accelerate/recover in math following the pandemic.**
- **The rate at which students are stabilizing or accelerating/recovering in ELA varies by student population.**
- **Students who were not proficient in ELA and math prior to the pandemic are not recovering at the same rate as their peers. Students who were proficient in ELA and math prior to the pandemic continue to stabilize and accelerate their rates of learning.**
  - Black students, as well as students eligible for free and reduced lunch are now stabilizing across all grade levels in both ELA and math.
  - Hispanic and EL students will need continued targeted support.

Immediately following the pandemic, we saw the **greatest academic impact in math**, so the fact that we have now seen gains in math for two consecutive years is positive—yet there is more work to do. **ELA is an area where many students continue to need additional support**, particularly our *English learner* and *middle school students*.

We knew that experts were projecting *years* in recovery time, and yet, the urgency is real, and requires us all to keep our foot on the gas pedal. Together, we must continue to prioritize literacy instruction, rooted in the science of reading, as well as high-quality STEM instruction for *all* Indiana students. It will also be essential for schools and educator teams to continue working with parents, families, and community partners to provide strategic, targeted opportunities for students who need it the most.

Thank you for all of your work during the administration of the 2023 ILEARN assessment, for the innovative instructional methods and partnerships you have implemented following the pandemic, and for your continued work ahead to keep getting better for our students. While it is clear that our recovery continues, your work is *making a difference* and it is greatly appreciated! Every grade level in the life of a child counts...so, let's keep at it!

## **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 Student Assessment

## **NEW: Indiana Assessments Policy Manual, Accessibility & Accommodations Information, & WIDA Guidance Now Available**

IDOE's Office of Student Assessment has released updated policy/informational resources to prepare schools for the 2023-2024 school year of assessments.

- Indiana Assessments Policy Manual: Located on IDOE's [Assessment webpage](#).
- Accessibility & Accommodations Information for Statewide Assessments: Located on IDOE's [Assessment webpage](#).
- WIDA Assessment Guidance: Located on IDOE's [WIDA webpage](#).

School staff must ensure that this guidance is reviewed and disseminated for staff assisting with testing in the upcoming school year. Refer to the [2023-2024 Assessment Windows](#) and [running assessment calendar](#) for additional preparation. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

## **NEW: 2023-2024 Assessment Milestones Now Available**

New milestone documents to support the administration of 2023-2024 statewide assessments can now be found on IDOE's [Assessment webpage](#). Documents with [ILEARN Milestones](#), [IREAD-3 Milestones](#), [SAT Milestones](#), [IAM Milestones](#), and [PSAT/NMSQT Milestones](#) are now available. Some dates are approximate and may be subject to minor changes. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

## **NEW: 2023-2024 ISPROUT Window 1 Opens Monday, July 17**

The first window for the ISPROUT 2023-2024 assessment opens Monday, July 17, to begin recording observations within the updated ISPROUT [KReady System](#). Additional information regarding participation and requirements can be found on IDOE's [ISPROUT webpage](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Update/Confirm Corporation Test Coordinator (CTC) Information for 2023-2024 School Year**

Corporations and non-public schools must confirm or update CTC information within [DOE Online](#) in preparation for the 2023-2024 school year. Refer to [this guidance](#) regarding confirming or designating the CTC role. Contact IDOE's [Office of Data Reporting](#) with any issues regarding this reporting requirement.

### Office of Communications and External Affairs

## **NEW: 2023 Required Educator Training**

Following recent legislative changes, IDOE [updated guidance](#) on state- and federally-required training for school employees. This guidance does not include training that is optional for schools, and additional training may be required by the school corporation or governing body. Contact [Emily Black](#) with any questions.

### Office of Educator Licensing

## **NEW: License Verification and Information System (LVIS) Upgrade Schedule**

LVIS is being upgraded to LVIS360. To accomplish this transition, **the LVIS online licensing portal will be unavailable to all users from 5 p.m. Friday, July 28, through 7 a.m. on Monday, July 31.**

## **REMINDER: Educator Licensing Office Hours**

The Office of Educator Licensing is offering [office hours](#) every Thursday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. ET. Please share [this link](#) with administrative and instructional teams so they can log in to ask any licensure questions they may have. Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Licensing](#) with any questions.

### Office of Educator Talent

## **REMINDER: Registration Open for Indiana Educator Talent Marketplace Webinars**

Learn more about how you can use Indiana Educator Talent Marketplace to find great candidates for your open roles. This webinar will walk through the marketplace's newest offering, share tips about how to attract the best talent, and answer your questions.

- Monday, August 1, at noon ET

Click [here](#) to register. Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Level Up Leadership Participant Application Open Through Monday, August 14**

The 2023-2024 Level Up Leadership series is an opportunity for emerging leaders to engage in innovative and relevant professional development in order to "level up" the leadership capacity of educators across the state. Educators (teachers, instructional coaches, deans, etc.) with a desire to expand their capacity as an emerging leader can learn more [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Staff Performance Evaluation Plan Submission**

[Senate Enrolled Act 486](#) (2023) requires each school corporation to develop or adopt a plan for annual performance evaluations for each certified employee. Staff performance evaluation plans must be submitted via JotForm by Friday, September 15. **Evaluation plan cover sheets are no longer required as part of the submission.** For more information, click [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Teacher Appreciation Grant (TAG) Policy Submission Required**

Information regarding the TAG policy submission can be found [here](#). Local educational agencies (including charter and virtual charter schools) must submit the TAG policy for approval via JotForm by Friday, September 16, to be eligible to receive TAG funding. Contact [tag@doe.in.gov](mailto:tag@doe.in.gov) 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

## **REMINDER: LINK Portal Setup and Review of Security Coordinators**

The [LINK Portal](#) is able to recognize all public, charter, and accredited non-public schools' local Google G-Suite or Microsoft 365 accounts. IDOE configures the organization's leader as the first account, and the organization leader must log in to designate up to two security coordinators responsible for overseeing the setup of roles for others in the organization. All superintendents and leaders of non-public schools should log in to the LINK Portal and review/update their security coordinator information.

- Instructions for organization leaders on how to review/designate the security coordinators can be found [here](#).
- New public and Choice schools registration process for the LINK Portal can be found [here](#).
- New superintendents or organization leaders of non-public schools who need the first account configured should email [link@doe.in.gov](mailto:link@doe.in.gov).

## **REMINDER: Designation of Key Contacts**

Security coordinators for all traditional public, charter, and accredited non-public schools are responsible for ensuring their organization's key contacts for the 2023-2024 school year are set. Key contacts including the roles of Superintendent, Financial Contact, Special Education Director, Principal, Data Exchange Contact, etc. are needed for the 2023-2024 school year even if those contacts were provided last school year.

For school corporations that have an Ed-fi student information system (SIS), key contacts and other staff role assignments should be entered and managed in the local SIS and then provided to Data Exchange/LINK for the new school year. However, all three options below are available:

1. Provide staff classifications in the local SIS per vendor's instructions,
2. Add a staff type manually for the 2023-2024 school year via the Security Portal, or
3. Upload [templates](#) 008\_StaffAssociation\_StaffEdOrgAssignmentAssociation and 0009\_StaffOrganizationContactAssociation into Data Exchange.

Schools utilizing options two and three may cause overriding or loss of data. Schools should connect with their SIS vendor to better understand how to avoid data loss when providing data via multiple methods.

IDOE will recognize active staff assignments/roles during the summer months from the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years and will begin recognizing only the 2023-2024 school year assignments beginning **Friday, September 1**. Security coordinator instructions can be found [here](#). Contact the [Data Exchange Team](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: SIS Vendor Changes**

IDOE-issued Data Exchange credentials (key and secret) are tied to the supporting SIS vendor. If your corporation will be changing or adding an SIS vendor for the 2023-2024 school year, please email [link@doe.in.gov](mailto:link@doe.in.gov) with these changes. Your organization will receive a new set of credentials for the new vendor. Please note that participation in the 2023-2024 school year Kick-off Sessions is required in order to receive and activate the credentials. A SIS vendor certification status list can be found [here](#). Additional information on the implementation of Data Exchange can be found on the [Data Exchange webpage](#). Contact the [Data Exchange Team](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Kick-off Session Participation Required to Receive Data Exchange Credentials**

Schools are expected to join the 2023-2024 school year Kick-off Session that is specific to their SIS. The session schedule can be found in the [Moodle Data Exchange Training and Community](#) and should be attended by at least two individuals from each school corporation – the individual in the lead data role and the superintendent, assistant superintendent, chief financial officer, chief information officer, or director/head of school. Schools will gain access to Ed-Id API after the completion of the Kick-off Session. Please allow up to three business days for IDOE to confirm attendance and update access for organizations, after which schools will be able to submit data to IDOE. Schools will continue to have access to the Ed-ID Portal Interface to assign STNs and SPNs. The 2022-2023 school year data collection closed on Wednesday, July 12, after which time no further data changes will not be allowed. Contact the [Data Exchange Team](#) with any questions.

Office of School Finance

### **REMINDER: School Technology Advancement Account (STAA) Applications**

Today, Friday, July 14, is the final day a school corporation may file an STAA. The STAA application can be completed [online](#) and must be completed in one sitting. A sample application and certification page can be found in [Moodle](#). Contact [commonschoolfund@doe.in.gov](mailto:commonschoolfund@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: July Tuition Support Payments**

Please read this [memo](#) regarding the July tuition support payment. Form 54 is now available. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Form 9**

The deadline to submit Form 9 financial data and financial transparency data for January 2023 to June 2023 is Monday, July 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. Please review the [Form 9 Overview](#) for instructions. Additional guidance can be found in the Public School Finance Community in [Moodle](#). Contact [form9@doe.in.gov](mailto:form9@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

## REMINDER: Updated Subcategory Memo June 2023

Please read this [memo](#) regarding subcategory changes taking effect Saturday, July 1. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

## Office of School Support and Transformation

## REMINDER: Next Generation School Improvement Grants (NextGen SIG)

The Office of School Support and Transformation is now accepting [applications](#) for planning grants as part of the NextGen SIG program through Friday, August 4. This is a competitive grant to aid in school transformation. Eligibility for this grant extends to all schools currently identified as Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) under Indiana’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan. Interested school officials can read more about the grant program in the [NextGen SIG overview](#). A list of eligible schools can be found [here](#).

Application window	Review period (tentative)	Finalist interviews (tentative)	Announcement (tentative)
Friday, June 9, through Friday, August 4	Tuesday, August 8, through Friday, September 1	Wednesday, September 6, through Friday, September 8	Friday, September 15

The scoring rubric used to evaluate the application is found [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of School Support and Transformation](#) with any questions.

## REMINDER: School Improvement Plans

The submission window for Comprehensive Needs Assessment/School Improvement Plans (CNA/SIP) is now open. Use of the state CNA/SIP template fulfills all requirements under state law and ESSA for schools identified for CSI, TSI, and/or Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ASTI). Submissions are due by Friday, October 6. This [memo](#) provides additional information, including links to the CNA/SIP Google doc and CNA/SIP template. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Support and Transformation](#) with any questions.

## REMINDER: Student Learning Recovery Grant - Expanding What Works

The Expanding What Works program promotes regional partnerships between community organizations, local non-profits, municipal partners, and/or local school corporations to replicate the successful [Indy Summer Learning Labs](#) at a regional level. This competitive grant program will prioritize applicants that

demonstrate a commitment to partnering with the Lavinia Group to implement a high-quality, research-based summer learning curriculum and fidelity to the core design principles of the Indy Summer Learning Labs. More information and applications are available [here](#). Contact [CommunityLearningGrant@doe.in.gov](mailto:CommunityLearningGrant@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

## Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

### **NEW: 2023-24 Alternative Education Program Renewal**

All approved alternative education programs must complete the annual [renewal application](#) by Saturday, September 30. In order to remain an approved program eligible for alternative education funding, this renewal must be submitted by the September deadline and approved by IDOE's Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities. Upon submission of the JotForm, a confirmation email with a copy of the responses will be sent to the superintendent. Contact [studentpathways\\_alted@doe.in.gov](mailto:studentpathways_alted@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Alternative Education Grant Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) Report**

In order to distribute alternative education funds in a timely manner, Alternative Education Grant FTE Student Reports must be submitted by Sunday, July 30. No extensions will be granted. If your school corporation had an [approved alternative education program](#) during the 2022-2023 school year, an FTE Student Report must be submitted in [DOE Online](#). Contact [studentpathways\\_alted@doe.in.gov](mailto:studentpathways_alted@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

### **NEW: McKinney-Vento Subgrant Application Opens Friday, July 28**

The 2023-2024 McKinney-Vento Subgrant application will open in JotForm on Friday, July 28. This year's application will be available for both individual LEAs and consortiums. The application deadline is Friday, August 25. Contact [Mckinneyventopoc@doe.in.gov](mailto:Mckinneyventopoc@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: SAT and Transcript Guidance**

Updated guidance regarding the SAT and transcript requirements is now available. [This memo](#) provides additional clarification regarding high school transcripts and statewide assessment program test results. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Pathways](#) with any questions.

## Office of Student Support and Accessibility/Special Education

### **NEW: Alternate Diploma Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

In an effort to provide clarity regarding previously issued guidance on this topic, the [alternate diploma FAQ](#) has been updated to reflect recent administrative and legislative changes and supersedes any previously issued guidance. Please contact IDOE's Office of Special Education with any questions.

### **NEW: Ukrainian Student Data Collection for Additional Funding**



The U.S. Office of Refugee and Resettlement granted Indiana funding to support the needs of students displaced from Ukraine in 2022-2023. This funding is an extension of [IDOE's Refugee School Impact Grant](#), and will be administered via a grant opportunity to local educational agencies (LEAs) with current students from Ukraine or other non-Ukrainian individuals as delineated within [ORR Policy Letter 22-13](#). Eligible students must have enrolled after February 24, 2022. To determine funding allocations, IDOE is collecting data on eligible students enrolled during that time frame. LEAs with eligible students that are interested in receiving additional funding must complete [this Jotform](#) by Friday, August 4, to submit student enrollment data. Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

## **NEW: Join the New English Learning (EL) Director Professional Learning Community (PLC) Beginning this Fall**

IDOE's Office of Student Support and Accessibility and Office of English Learning and Migrant Education will offer a PLC for new directors of EL programs during the 2023-2024 school year. This will be a place to network with other new directors, access timely program information, and bring questions. Complete this [interest survey](#) to receive notifications on meeting dates, times, and links to the virtual meetings. Please contact IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) with questions.

## **NEW: July PATINS Project Opportunities and Resources for Indiana Educators**

The PATINS Project offers opportunities and resources for educators across the state. Opportunities and resources offered are [listed here](#). Contact the [PATINS Project](#) or IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) with any questions.

## **UPDATE: Special Education Paraprofessional Training Grant**

IDOE'S Office of Special Education is offering a grant opportunity to school corporations, charter schools, state schools, and special education cooperatives, joint services, and interlocals to guarantee that **paraprofessionals**, as defined in 511 IAC 7-32-69, receive training to assist students with disabilities. More information can be found in the [Paraprofessional Grant memo](#). Contact [para@doe.in.gov](mailto:para@doe.in.gov) with additional questions.

## **REMINDER: Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 & American Rescue Plan (ARP) Part B Grant Proportionate Share Waiver Request Form Now Available**

The FY 2022 Part B 611, 619, ARP 611 and ARP 619 Grant Proportionate Share Waiver request form is now available in the [Office of Special Education Community in Moodle](#). Completed requests with supporting documentation must be submitted to [partbgrants@doe.in.gov](mailto:partbgrants@doe.in.gov) by Thursday, August 31. Following waiver approval, a Part B grant budget modification request is required to transfer funds among budget scopes and must be submitted by Friday, September 15. Download the waiver request form and instructions from the Office of Special Education Community in Moodle. Please contact IDOE's [Part B Grants team](#) with additional questions.

## **REMINDER: Part B Fiscal Office Hours - Proportionate Share Waivers and ARP Funds**

IDOE's Office of Special Education Part B fiscal team is hosting an office hours session to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) with the Proportionate Share Waivers for FY22 Part B 611, 619, 611 ARP and 619 ARP Grants. This forum is to help with questions or issues concerning completing the Proportionate Share Waiver and/or answer questions regarding spending ARP funds. View [this resource](#) for examples of how other LEAs spent ARP funds. The session is structured as a time for individual questions, there will be no formal presentation. Join the meeting on [Wednesday, July 19, from 1 to 2 p.m. ET here](#). Please contact IDOE's [Part B Grant team](#) with additional questions.

## **REMINDER: Annual August EL Directors' Meetings**

The dates and times for the Annual EL Directors' Meetings for the upcoming school year have been set. Meetings for new EL directors will be held on Wednesday, August 9, and will cover the basics of compliance, grants, and programming. Meetings for all directors, both new and returning, will be held on Thursday, August 10, and will cover timely EL topics and updates for the upcoming school year. The meetings will be held virtually and consist of a morning session from 9:30 a.m. to noon ET, and an afternoon session from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. ET. Visit the [EL PD Opportunities Calendar](#) for meeting links and contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

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

### **NEW: Professional Development (PD) Playbook – Digital Literacy**

Digital literacy skills are embedded in much of what takes place in schools today. IDOE's Office of Digital Learning's [PD Playbook: Digital Literacy](#) is now available in the Indiana Learning Lab. This resource unpacks digital literacy, offering workshops, activities, and readings to support professional learning. These might be used in staff sessions or as resources to give to teachers interested in the topic. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Early Learning Standards PD Sessions**

IDOE's Office of Kindergarten Readiness is hosting three training sessions on the new [Early Learning Standards](#) in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). Learn about the standards, ideas for implementing them, and ways to assess learning in all settings on Tuesday, August 8, Tuesday, August 15, and Tuesday, August 22, from 4 to 5 p.m. ET. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with questions.

## News From Our Partners

### **NEW FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (IDOH): Getting Students Active with Purpose PD Regional Trainings**

Join [PL3Y, Inc.](#) and the [Indiana Department of Health, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity \(IDOH, DNPA\)](#) for "Get Students Active with Purpose," free professional development trainings for K-12 Indiana physical education teachers, health educators, and youth-serving organization program coordinators to engage students in active movement throughout before, during, and afterschool settings and enhance your understanding of physical literacy. Explore new games that develop fundamental movement skills and learn about Teaching Games for Understanding (TGfU), a student-centered approach that develops decision-making and skill acquisition through game-based activities. Discover the benefits of mindfulness and learn practical strategies to promote focus and well-being through dance, brain breaks, indoor recess activities, and more! Leave empowered with practical ideas to improve physical activity and physical literacy in the youth and adolescents you serve. Space is limited (please only sign up for one) and this an

active training, so please be prepared to engage in movement and dress comfortably. Please contact [Emma Smythe](#), Youth Physical Activity Coordinator, IDOH with any questions.

- **Ft. Wayne, IN:** Wednesday, September 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET at The Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Indiana
  - [Click here](#) to register and for more details.
- **South Bend, IN:** Thursday, September 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET at The Beacon Resource Center
  - [Click here](#) to register and for more details.
- **Indianapolis, IN:** Tuesday, September 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET at Broad Ripple High School
  - [Click here](#) to register and for more details.
- **Terre Haute, IN:** Thursday, September 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET at Indiana State University; Health and Human Services Building
  - [Click here](#) to register and for more details.

## **REMINDER FROM IDOH: 2022-2023 School Vaccination Coverage Assessment**

IDOH has posted a School Vaccination Coverage Assessment for the 2022-2023 school year. Please review statewide data regarding immunization compliance along with medical and religious exemption information. The report does not include individual school data points but does provide a snapshot of state-level data. The report can be accessed [here](#).

## **REMINDER FROM WHITE RIVER STATE PARK: Back to School Drive**

White River State Park is collecting school supplies to distribute to students in need in the Indianapolis area in bins at the Indiana State Museum and the park's Visitor Center at 801 West Washington Street. High-need items include folders, notebooks, calculators, crayons, erasers, glue sticks, pencils, and pens. Join us to celebrate and collect additional supplies on [Friday, August 4](#), from 5 to 8 p.m. on the Indiana State Museum Lawn for games, music, food trucks, and a bounce house. Learn more about the event or sign up to volunteer [here](#).

## **REMINDER FROM THE INDIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (IEDC): ConnectIND, First-of-its-Kind Entrepreneurship Portal**

Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers recently announced the launch of [ConnectIND](#), a digital portal designed to increase support for entrepreneurs and founders and power Indiana's entrepreneurial ecosystem. The new tool is a first-of-its-kind statewide listing of resources, programs and services for entrepreneurs. The portal provides curated connections to Indiana's robust network of support organizations, mentors, accelerators, capital opportunities, space, licensing and permitting, community connections and more. ConnectIND also offers a matching tool and a dedicated, statewide team of ecosystem navigators through the Indiana Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to help entrepreneurs narrow in on the right tools for them. For more information, contact the [IEDC Entrepreneurial Ecosystem team](#).

## REMINDER FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (IDHS): Indiana's Secured School Safety Grant Now Open

The Indiana Secured School Safety Grant Program provides matching grants to school corporations, accredited non-public schools, charter schools or a coalition of school corporations and/or charter schools applying jointly to support overall school safety. Applications, a list of allowable uses, and additional grant information can be found [here](#). Applications close Wednesday, July 26, at 4:30 p.m. Additionally, IDHS is offering a virtual training session with a question-and-answer opportunity via Microsoft Teams. After registering for the training session, participants will receive an email containing the link to join the meeting.

- **Training session 2:** Wednesday, July 19, at 10 a.m. ET

Register for training sessions [here](#). Contact [IDHS](#) with any questions.

## REMINDER FROM THE LILLY ENDOWMENT: Renewal Grants for Indiana K-12 Educators

The Lilly Endowment is pleased to announce the 37th round of its Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program (TCFP). This program supports educators throughout Indiana by providing resources for them to take time for meaningful renewal. The Endowment believes that through new experiences, exploration, and reflection educators can generate renewed energy in their careers, innovative approaches to teaching and educational leadership, and thoughtful ways to encourage students' creative thinking. The Endowment expects to award approximately 100 grants, each totaling up to \$15,000, in 2024. The application deadline is 5 p.m. ET on Monday, September 11. Three information sessions will be held on:

- Tuesday, August 8
- Thursday, August 10

To learn more or register for one of these sessions, visit the [Lilly Endowment website](#). Contact Lilly Endowment staff at [teachercreativity@lei.org](mailto:teachercreativity@lei.org) with any questions.

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### Weekly Updates

View previous weekly updates from Dr. Katie Jenner here.

### Stay Informed

Did you miss a message? View previous weekly emails here. Want daily updates? Be sure to follow the Department on Twitter and Facebook.

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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