

# Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

This monthly newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) combines new information, resources, and support for school finance professionals, serving all school types in a single location.

## Office of School Finance

### Period 2 Membership Census Date

The census date for period 2 Membership is Monday, February 3. It is not too early to start reviewing the data. Schools should work with their SIS to report data and resolve any trouble in reporting. If the SIS is not able to resolve the problem, submit a help desk ticket [here](#).

### Form 9 Submissions Due Today, Friday, January 31

Form 9 submissions for the period of July 2024 through December 2024 opened on January 1, and are due to IDOE today, Friday, January 31. Contact [form9@doe.in.gov](mailto:form9@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

### Indirect Cost Rates for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

The Office of School Finance is now accepting applications from local education agencies (LEAs) eligible to receive FY 2026 Indirect Cost Rates. School corporations and charter schools that provided Form 9 financial information for FY 2024 are eligible to receive a restricted and an unrestricted indirect cost rate in FY 2026. New charter schools are eligible to apply but will be subject to the median rate. [This memo](#) includes the application instructions. Contact [icr@doe.in.gov](mailto:icr@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

## Choice Scholarship Program

### Choice Regional Meetings

Regional meetings will be held in February on the dates shown below. Each meeting begins at 9 a.m. local time. The February regional meetings will focus primarily on school and student Choice applications. Please use [this JotForm](#) to register. Contact [choiceschool@doe.in.gov](mailto:choiceschool@doe.in.gov) or your Choice specialist with questions or comments.

- **Wednesday, February 5, in Evansville**
  - Welborn Baptist Foundation
  - 20 NW 3rd St, Evansville, IN 47708
- **Thursday, February 6, in LaPorte**
  - Saint John's Lutheran School
  - 111 Kingsbury Ave., LaPorte, IN 46350
- **Friday, February 7, in Indy North**
  - Saint Luke Catholic School
  - 7575 Holiday Dr. E, Indianapolis, IN 46260
- **Wednesday, February 12, in Seymour**
  - Immanuel Lutheran School
  - 520 S. Chestnut St., Seymour, IN 47274
- **Friday, February 14, in Fort Wayne**
  - LCMS District Office
  - 1145 S. Barr St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802
- **Thursday, February 27, in Indy South**
  - Roncalli High School
  - 3300 Prague Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46227

### Choice Scholarship Period 2 Endorsement Forms

The window to upload signed endorsement forms for period 2 Choice students is now available and the forms must be uploaded on or before Friday, February 28. As a reminder, signatures must be verified with a time/date stamp or be a 'wet' signature. Stamped signatures and using cursive fonts are not accepted. A document outlining the process to download and upload endorsement forms is posted in the Non-Public School Community on Moodle. For more assistance with download or upload of the forms, contact [choiceschool@doe.in.gov](mailto:choiceschool@doe.in.gov)

### Choice School Application for the 2025-2026 School Year

The application for schools to apply to participate in the Choice Scholarship Program for the 2025-2026 school year will open today, Friday, January 31. The packet of application materials will be posted on the Choice Scholarship Program website and in the Non-Public School Community on Moodle. Schools wishing to participate in the program should take the time now to review accreditation status and school policies. Schools should only submit their application to be a Choice school after the admission, tuition, fee, and discount policies are final. Accreditation must be through the State Board of Education (SBOE) or through an agency recognized by SBOE and must be in good standing for the entire 2025-2026 school year. A list of accrediting agencies recognized by SBOE is posted on IDOE's [Accreditation webpage](#). The deadline to apply to be a participating Choice school for the 2025-2026 school year is Monday, September 1.

### Choice Student Application Training

The STN Application Center is being sunset for Choice after the period 2 application window of the 2024-2025 school year. Beginning with period 1 student Choice applications for the 2025-2026 school year, schools will be entering the applications in a new system. Training will be offered before the student application opens on Saturday, March 1.

### Office Hours

Office hours are not offered in February due to specialists being out at Choice regional meetings. Please join us for office hours again on Tuesday, March 11. Each session of Choice office hours begins with a short agenda of current events and then is opened up for questions and comments from schools. Please don't hesitate to take advantage of this opportunity to speak with the Choice team. The dates for office hours for 2024-2025 are shown below. The link to join is [here](#). Choice office hours information and the link to join is also posted in the Non-Public School Community in [Moodle](#).

- Tuesday, March 11
- Tuesday, April 8
- Tuesday, June 3, and Tuesday, June 17
- Tuesday, July 8, and Tuesday, June 22

The sessions begin on the half hour, the first is at 9 a.m. ET. The final session begins at 11 a.m. ET. Each session begins promptly at the assigned time and lasts until there is no additional discussion for up to 30 minutes each session. Click this [link](#) to join at the time that is most convenient for you.

### Petition to Seek Performance-Based Accreditation Submission Window

The submission window for non-public schools to submit a petition for performance-based state accreditation is open through Wednesday, April 30. Petitions must be completed and submitted to IDOE prior to the school year for which accreditation would begin.

Schools may also submit a Notice of Intent to alert IDOE of their intention to submit a petition. 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. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Accountability](#) with any questions.

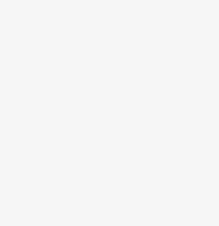
### Communications

- In compliance of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations, do not include both student name and STN in the same email. For additional information about FERPA, [click here](#).
- When sending email to your Choice specialist or to the Choice general email, include your school number in the subject line.
- Weekly Choice announcements are sent through the Non-Public School Community ([Moodle](#)). If you are not receiving the notifications, check the preferences in your Moodle profile. If you have not joined the community, please do so. If you need assistance, contact your Choice Specialist or email [choiceschool@doe.in.gov](mailto:choiceschool@doe.in.gov).
- Information for all schools is published weekly in Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update. Click [here](#) for previous editions and to be added to the mailing list.
- Choice program announcements are made each Friday in the Non-Public School Community in [Moodle](#). If you have not yet joined this community, contact [choiceschool@doe.in.gov](mailto:choiceschool@doe.in.gov) for information on how to create an account and join.

## Upcoming Dates



Friday, January 31	Form 9 submissions due
Friday, January 31, through Monday, September 1	Application window for schools to participate in the Choice Scholarship Program for the 2025-2026 school year
Monday, February 3	Period 2 membership census date
Wednesday, February 5, at 9 a.m. CT	Choice Regional Meeting in Evansville
Thursday, February 6, at 9 a.m. CT	Choice Regional Meeting in LaPorte
Friday, February 7, at 9 a.m. ET	Choice Regional Meeting in Indy North
Wednesday, February 12, at 9 a.m. ET	Choice Regional Meeting in Seymour
Friday, February 14, at 9 a.m. ET	Choice Regional Meeting in Fort Wayne
Thursday, February 27, at 9 a.m. ET	Choice Regional Meeting in Indy South
Friday, February 28	Choice Scholarship period 2 endorsement forms due
Saturday, March 1	Period 1 Choice Scholarship applications open for the 2025-2026 school year
Tuesday, March 11, at 9 a.m. ET	Choice office hours
Wednesday, April 30	Deadline to seek Performance-Based Accreditation



## Department News

- 1/29/2025 Indiana Jumps to Sixth in Nation in Reading
- 1/15/2025 Secretary Jenner Unanimously Elected as State Board of Education Chair for Fifth Consecutive Year

Consecutive Year

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