



# The Torch

The official newsletter for State of Indiana employees

May 2026

## Greetings from the Governor

- Watch Governor Braun’s latest [video message](#) to State employees.
- Sign up for the Governor’s weekly newsletter, [here](#).



## Reminder about the Designated Orthopedic Network



Article by the Indiana State Personnel Department

A reminder for Anthem HealthSync members: As of January 1, 2026, hip and knee replacement surgeries must be performed at a HealthSync Designated Orthopedic Network facility to be covered.

This value-based network includes high performing providers and facilities focused on quality care. The designated network includes OrthoIndy and Franciscan

Orthopedic Surgery/Forté Sports Medicine, offering multiple convenient locations.

### OrthoIndy – Preferred Provider for State of Indiana Employees

OrthoIndy Concierge: 317-802-2188

- 400 Northwest Blvd. Indianapolis, IN 46278
- 1260 Innovation Pkwy. Greenwood, IN, 46143
- 9070 E. 56th Street Brownsburg, IN 46112
- 246 E. 175th Street Westfield, IN 46074

### [OrthoIndy Initial Visit Locations:](#)

Members may use this link to schedule appointments for general orthopedic services.

### Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center (Forté)

Forté Concierge: 317-419-6055

- 10777 Illinois Street Carmel, IN, 46032

### [\(Forté\) Initial Visit Locations:](#)

Members may use this link to schedule appointments for general orthopedic services.

### Key Reminders

- Surgeries performed outside the network are not covered without prior approval.
- Members living more than 100 miles from a designated facility are exempt and may use any in-network HealthSync provider.

[Learn more.](#)

The Torch is published monthly by the Indiana State Personnel Department and is available online at [on.in.gov/TheTorch](https://on.in.gov/TheTorch).

### Want more content?

Check out the State of Indiana on LinkedIn and Facebook and @WorkForIndiana on X and Instagram.

### Have a story?

Submit your story ideas to: [spdcommunications@spd.in.gov](mailto:spdcommunications@spd.in.gov)

# May training workshops open to all employees

Article by the Indiana State  
Personnel Department

The Indiana State Personnel Department (INSPD) offers workshops for all State of Indiana employees to engage with resources, skills, and strategies presented by INSPD subject-matter experts. To review learning objectives and register for one of these virtual workshops, please visit the class registration page in SuccessFactors Learning or select the class you wish to attend below.

- [Setting Performance Goals & Expectations](#): May 19, 9 to 10:30 a.m.
- [Measuring Progress & Utilizing Feedback](#)\*: May 19, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



- [Fostering & Pursuing Continuous Employee Development](#)\*: May 20, 9 to 10:30 a.m.
- [Engaging in Effective Feedback](#): May 20, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

\*Please make sure to complete the [Performance & Goals: Foundations of Effective](#)

[Evaluation](#) prerequisite before registering.

Please direct any questions to the INSPD Learning and Development team at [SPDtraining@spd.in.gov](mailto:SPDtraining@spd.in.gov). For current and aspiring managers, please check out the available monthly workshops on [Indiana Manager Central](#).

## Trainings: Using Copilot in your daily work

Article by the Indiana Office of Technology  
and Management Performance Hub



Here's your chance to take a deep dive into all things **Copilot Chat** with a Microsoft

expert! All sessions are 1-hour and will take place live on Teams. Sessions will be focused on the Copilot Chat tool, though the content will be beneficial for both Copilot Chat and Copilot M365 licensed users.

### [Copilot Chat in Finance and Logistics - May 14 at 11 a.m.](#)

Explore how to use Copilot Chat to analyze financial data, explain trends, draft summaries, and reason through logistics scenarios

using natural language prompts grounded in enterprise data. The session focuses on turning questions into insights without requiring advanced analytics tools.

### [Copilot Chat in Customer Service, Communications, & Human Resources - May 19 at 11 a.m.](#)

Explore how Copilot Chat can help draft responses, summarize issues, generate internal communications, and support HR scenarios through effective prompting. Participants learn how to use Copilot as a thinking and writing partner for high-volume, people-centric work.

### [Copilot Chat in Project/Program Management - May 21 at 11 a.m.](#)

Explore how Copilot Chat can be

used to summarize project context, surface risks, track themes, and generate status updates across complex initiatives. The focus is on using prompts to reason over scattered information and support decision making.

### [Copilot Chat in Analytics May 26 at 11 a.m.](#)

Explore how Copilot Chat can help interpret data, explain patterns, and answer analytical questions in plain language without writing queries or formulas. This session emphasizes using Copilot to accelerate understanding and storytelling from existing data sources.

# Mental health resources for State employees

Article by the State Personnel Department

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and the State of Indiana has many resources that can offer support. If you're looking to connect with a therapist, find tips for stress reduction, or take care of your mental health in other ways, these programs and tools are a great place to start.

## Employee Assistance Program (EAP):

The [Optum EAP](#) is a free service for all full-time state employees and those in their household and can be a beneficial tool to improve your overall well-being. You have 8 free face-to-face EAP counseling visits with a licensed therapist available per issue, per year. These tools and resources are available 24/7 and are completely confidential. Check out the [virtual overview session on Monday, May 11 from 1-2 p.m.](#) to learn more about Optum EAP.



**Anthem Resources:** Anthem has [many programs](#) available to help State employee health plan members navigate the healthcare system, maintain health, and manage health conditions. Visit [Anthem.com](#) or use the Sydney App to find everything you need to know about your Anthem benefits — personalized and all in one place.

**Stress Management resources:** Meaningful programs and opportunities are available to support healthier, happier individuals, families and communities. Connect with these helpful resources to support health and well-being for you and your family. [View the full list of resources.](#)

# Earn \$500 through the Wellness Rewards Program

Article by the Indiana State Personnel Department

Through the 2026 Wellness Rewards Program, employees and spouses on the State employee

health plan can each earn up to \$500 in gift card rewards.

All you (and your covered spouse) have to do is complete preventive care screenings and wellness activities.

healthier habits in ways that work for you.

Visit the [Wellness Rewards Program webpage](#) to view the full list of activities and descriptions, and log in to the [Mobile Health Consumer portal](#) to get started.



With more than [20 rewardable activities](#) to choose from, the program is designed to help you build

## Resources

- [How to log in to the Mobile Health Consumer portal](#)
- [Wellness Rewards Program activity list](#)
- [Wellness Rewards Program FAQ](#)

## Wrap up PSRW with these events this weekend



Since 1985, the first full week in May has been designated as [Public Service Recognition Week](#) (PSRW), honoring those who serve our nation as federal, state, county, or local government employees.

This year we're celebrating our State's public servants May 3-9.

As PSRW comes to a close, be sure to check out these events for State employees and their families.

Visit a State park for free on **Saturday, May 9!** The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is offering free admission to State employees at all [State parks and other DNR properties](#) with entrance fees on May 9. Show the gate attendant your State employee ID badge for free admission.

**State Employee Appreciation Weekend at Indiana Beach – May 9 & 10:** State employees and their guests can get tickets for just \$16.99. **Discounted tickets are only available at the Group Sales booth in the South parking lot.** Please bring your employee ID. [Learn more.](#)

## Data Day 2026 sessions now available on demand

Article by *Indiana Management Performance Hub*

Data Day 2026 brought more than 750 data professionals working in state government and the statewide data community to the Indiana Government Center on April 30 for Indiana's premier annual data conference, hosted by the Indiana Management

Performance Hub (MPH).

This year's event featured a keynote panel on AI adoption in state government and 16 breakout sessions at every experience level across four tracks — AI and Emerging Technology, Data Governance and Privacy, Visualization and Analytics and Data in Action.

Couldn't make it — or want to revisit a session? Data Day On Demand has breakout session recordings and presentation slides available [now on the MPH website.](#)



## 12,540 pounds of e-waste collected at IDEM E-Cycle event

Article by the *Indiana Department of Environmental Management*

On April 15, State employees recycled 12,540 pounds of electronic waste (e-waste) at a collection event organized by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). This represents the largest total weight of e-waste collected

at a one-day government center collection event!

Couldn't make it to the event? Visit IDEM's website, [idem.IN.gov/recycle/electronic-waste](http://idem.IN.gov/recycle/electronic-waste) to learn more about how to dispose of your unwanted electronics safely. For additional assistance, contact IDEM E-Cycle Program Manager Will Foster at [Wfoster@idem.IN.gov](mailto:Wfoster@idem.IN.gov).

