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LINK

Licensure Information, News and Knowledge

- Providing educator preparation and licensure information
- Developing a better-informed workforce
- Improving the lives of Illinois students



Illinois
State Board of
Education

You can locate and review all previous LINK communications directly from our [website](#).

ROEs/ISCs

SPRING 2023 ROE-ISC TOUCHPOINT

ISBE will be holding its bi-annual ROE-ISC Touchpoint from **9 a.m.-noon on Tuesday, March 28**. Each ROE-ISC should have at least one member in attendance. Topics that include renewal, licensure updates, and news regarding rules and legislation, will be covered. Please follow this [link](#) to register. Once you register, you can add the invitation to your personal calendar.

APPROVED PD PROVIDER RENEWAL

Per 21B-45 of the School Code, all approved professional development providers are required to renew their registration with ISBE annually in order to offer professional development in the new fiscal year. Provider renewal will open on April 1 and close on June 30. Any approved provider that does not renew by June 30 will be removed from the approved provider listing until their registration is renewed. Renewal registration will be completed through PD+. Please review this [guide](#) to assist you with your renewal.

EDUCATOR LICENSE RENEWAL BEGINS APRIL 1

License renewal season is quickly approaching. There are approximately 115,000 licenses due for renewal this year. Renewal will open for all educators on April 1 in ELIS. For additional information regarding license renewal requirements, please visit our [website](#).

PD+ UPDATES

The system now provides specific instructions to educators attempting to register for an activity from a direct link. In addition, providers have new features within the create activity wizard. For more information regarding recent changes, please visit the [ISBE PD+ webpage](#).

LICENSURE WEBPAGE UPDATES

The [ISBE Educator Licensure webpage](#) has recently been updated. Users will now notice different pages for educator license renewal, license reinstatement, and information for professional development providers.

WHAT DOES THE END OF THE STATE'S PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY MEAN FOR EDUCATORS?

Governor JB Pritzker [announced](#) that the state's public health emergency will end on May 11, aligning the state with the federal government's decision to end the national public health emergency. ISBE adopted rules (see Sections 25.25, 25.720, and 25.1015 of the [Illinois Administrative Code](#)) that waived or reduced professional educator license requirements during the public health emergency. The rules also provided a grace period that would extend beyond the lifting of the disaster proclamation before regular licensure

requirements would resume. The governor's announcement has several implications for individuals seeking educator licensure in Illinois. [Read more details here.](#)

Illinois Institutions of Higher Education

2023-24 IMPACT ACADEMY

Deans for Impact's [Impact Academy](#) is a year-long fellowship that convenes educator preparation leaders and provides them with the support and resources to foster transformative change within their programs. Several leaders, including deans at Northern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, National Louis University, and more have previously gone through the fellowship.

The [application for the 2023-24 cohort](#) has now launched! If you are interested in applying or have questions regarding the process, please reach out to Academy Director Jim Heal at jheal@deansforimpact.org to learn more.

If you know of any leaders in particular who you think would benefit from this opportunity or other professional organizations whose members might like to know about it, please complete this [90-second recommendation survey](#) and let us know.

APR SYSTEM CLOSES APRIL 30

The Annual Program Reporting (APR) system opened Feb. 1; the collection window will close April 30. Please ensure that you have uploaded and certified your report year data by the closing date. We have included resources to assist you in the reporting process on our [website](#). If you have questions, you can consult the APR user guide or reach out to the ISBE educator preparation team at preparation@isbe.net.

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ILLINOIS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR STANDARDS AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING & LEARNING STANDARDS CROSSWALK

ISBE recently finalized a [crosswalk](#) between the Illinois Professional Educator Standards and the Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Standards. The crosswalk may aid Educator Preparation Programs (EPP) as they redesign their programs to meet both sets of standards.

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING & LEARNING STANDARDS REDESIGN

Illinois recently finalized a partnership with West Ed, a national leader in research, development, and service. West Ed works with education and other communities to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning outcomes for children, youth, and adults. [Learn more about the West Ed team here.](#)

West Ed will be providing support to EPPs and ISBE throughout the Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Standards redesign process.

Below is a description of the support West Ed, in conjunction with ISBE, will provide to our Illinois EPPs:

- **EPP Leadership Training: Leading Teams through the Redesign Process:** This webinar is specific to education deans, program chairs, and individuals in other leadership positions who will guide program faculty and staff through the redesign process. This meeting took place March 21. A recording is coming soon.
- **EPP Kickoff Meeting:** This meeting is for EPP leadership, faculty, and other team members who will play a key role in the redesign effort. At this webinar, EPPs will learn about strategies for incorporating culturally responsive teaching and leading practices, connect the standards with on-going equity work at their institutions, and engage in meaningful instruction with fellow EPPs to share ideas and strategies for implementation. This meeting will take place **March 30**.
- **Individual Coaching Meetings:** Each EPP will be partnered with a coach from West Ed who is available to meet with the IHE to assist with reviewing draft plans, providing formative feedback, and/or assessing success after implementing the standards. The meetings will be tailored to each IHE's needs and will take place between spring 2023 and summer 2024. **Each IHE must attend at least two of the meetings**, but ISBE encourages IHEs to take advantage of this opportunity for feedback and attend all three meetings. At the conclusion of the meetings, EPPs will submit their redesign plans to ISBE for approval (early fall 2024).

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- **Small Group Meetings:** These meetings will allow IHEs to collaborate and learn from their peers.

West Ed will also develop resources to assist ISBE and EPPs in evaluating successful implementation of the standards in programs, assist ISBE with evaluating and providing feedback to each EPP on their submitted plans for program redesign, and support ISBE in determining how candidate competence should be assessed.

DIVERSE EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PLANS

A few EPPs have inquired about the Diverse Educator Recruitment and Retention plan work. ISBE had posted a procurement for a partner to provide support and services to EPPs and ISBE in developing, implementing, and assessing the success of diverse educator recruitment and retention plans. Unfortunately, our selected vendor withdrew their bid during the contract drafting. ISBE is in the process of finalizing a contract with a new vendor. We will share more information once the contract is executed.

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The Illinois State Board of Education is the State Education Agency for Illinois. Our mission is to provide each and every child with safe and healthy learning conditions, great educators, and equitable opportunities by practicing data-informed stewardship of resources and policy development, all done in partnership with educators, families, and stakeholders.

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