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INDIANA DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION
SEAL OF THE STATE OF INDIANA
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Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update

Weekly Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education

July 18, 2025

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Each year around this time, we get a look into ILEARN data from the previous school year. These results were released on Wednesday at the Indiana State Board of Education meeting. As an educator, I know there can be significant anticipation around the release of the statewide scores, as we all care and work hard throughout the year to positively move the needle for our students. It was often the chance to see our students' growth throughout the year and understand just how well they were mastering the foundations of English/language arts (ELA) and math.

As you review results over the coming days and weeks, consider your high points and also where students may have struggled. Consider how support can be provided in key areas to improve student learning and growth. And as we often focus (as we should), on where we must continue to improve, also remember to take a moment to celebrate your wins and the progress you've made year to year.

Drilling down into statewide results, we are seeing that math proficiency continues to increase, while ELA proficiency remained relatively flat year-over-year. Statewide, 40.6% of Indiana students in grades 3-8 are at or above proficiency standards in ELA, and 42.1% of students are at or above proficiency standards in math. This is up 0.1 (ELA) and 5.2 (math) percentage points since 2021, which represents the current Indiana baseline.

Here are some additional key takeaways from the data:

- **Since the 2021 baseline, ELA proficiency has increased across most grade levels, although not as significantly as math proficiency.**
  - **Third grade:** 1.6 percentage point increase
  - **Fourth grade:** 1.8 percentage point increase
  - **Fifth grade:** 1.3 percentage point increase
  - **Sixth grade:** 0.6 percentage points increase
  - **Seventh grade:** 3.2 percentage point decrease
  - **Eighth grade:** 1.2 percentage point decrease
- **Most grade levels remained *within one percentage point* of last year's results in ELA.**
  - The largest year-to-year increase was in grade three (1.7 percentage points). The largest year-to-year decrease was in grade seven (3.9 percentage points).
- **Indiana's increased emphasis and investments on early literacy began during the 2022-2023 SY. This focused investment on K-3 has directly impacted students who were in grades 3-5 in the most recent school year.**
  - As a result, ELA proficiency in grades 3-5 is slowly increasing, while ELA proficiency in grades 6-8 is decreasing. We must continue to focus on adolescent literacy.
- **Since the 2021 baseline, math proficiency has increased significantly across all grade levels.**
  - **Third grade:** 2.8 percentage point increase
  - **Fourth grade:** 5.5 percentage point increase
  - **Fifth grade:** 2.9 percentage point increase
  - **Sixth grade:** 6.7 percentage point increase
  - **Seventh grade:** 5.4 percentage point increase
  - **Eighth grade:** 6.7 percentage point increase
- **Most grade levels increased more than one percentage point in math compared to last year. Only grade three had a decline (0.9 percentage points).**
  - The greatest change was in grade eight (3.1 percentage point increase).
- **Students in grades five and eight had year-over-year increases in both ELA and math.**
- **Specific student populations are seeing improved growth.**
  - Since the 2021 baseline, math proficiency rates are higher for all student populations in 2025.
  - Black students had year-over-year increases in both ELA and math (0.9 and 2.0 percentage points respectively) and had the highest percentage point increase of all students in ELA.
  - Black and Hispanic students had the highest year-over-year percentage point increases of all students in math (2 percentage points).
  - Students in special education had year-over-year increases in both ELA and math (1.3 and 0.4 percentage points respectively) and had a greater year-over-year increase in ELA than their general education peers.
  - Students receiving free/reduced price meals had a greater year-over-year increase in math than students not receiving free/reduced price meals (1.4 percentage points).
  - English learner students had a year-over-year increase in math (0.6 percentage points), but declined 1.1 percentage points in ELA after an increase in 2024.

As we highlighted last week, approximately 1,350 schools piloted the new ILEARN Checkpoints and summative assessment this past school year. This provided educators and parents with real-time, actionable data to better support student learning throughout the year, rather than waiting until the end of the year for results. As the Checkpoints are implemented statewide during the coming school year, we will continue to work together with educators to gather feedback, share resources, and leverage this new Checkpoint data to maximize support for students.

Thank you to the many schools that participated in the Checkpoint pilot this year and shared feedback to help us keep getting better. Also a huge thank you to the school teams who work every day for our students!

Legislative Updates

REMINDER: Pilot Opportunity for Schools Seeking to Maximize Efficiency and Innovation in Facilities and Transportation

Applications are now open for two innovative, three-year pilot programs designed to increase community collaboration and maximize the use of school facilities and transportation services. Per House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1515, up to three applicants will be selected by IDOE for each pilot program. Participation is voluntary, and any interested school is encouraged to apply. Additional information, including a link to the application, can be found here. Applications are due on Tuesday, August 15. For more information, contact Lindsay Omlor.

REMINDER: 2025 Legislative Guidance

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 schools and educators. This guidance is a product of robust cross-agency collaboration and partnership with countless stakeholders. This is an iterative document that will continue to be updated and improved in collaboration with educators.

Office of Accountability

REMINDER: School and Profile Amendment Window

The school and corporation profile amendment submission window for the 2025-2026 school year is open from until Sunday, August 31. In order to ensure IDOE maintains accurate information, all schools and school corporations must provide notice when changes are made that affect school openings, closures, and reconfigurations. Information on the submission process can be found here. Contact IDOE's Office of School Accountability with any questions.

Office of Assessment

NEW: 2025-2026 Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant Guidance

The Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) approved assessment programs and specific universal reading screeners for use with the 2025-2026 Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant. Schools can now access the approved assessments memo on the Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant DOE webpage. Funding will be prioritized for students in kindergarten - Grade 2 and grades nine through ten with remaining available funds for 10% of requested students per grade level for grades three through eight. Eligible corporations, charter schools, and non-public schools may apply here for formative (interim) assessment grant funds for the 2025-2026 school year. Corporations must review the 2025-2026 Formative (Interim) Assessment Grant Guidance prior to submitting an application. Please note that for schools with an IREAD passing score below 70% must only request funds for Acadiance Reading, the approved preferred universal screener. All applications are due Friday, August 15. Public school corporations must complete this application at the district level. Charter schools and accredited non-public schools (including Choice schools and schools part of a diocese) must complete this application at the school level. Contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment with any questions.

Office of Educator Preparation

REMINDER: Annual Principal Survey Regarding Initial License Holders Closes Friday, August 1

Indiana Code 20-28-11.5-9 requires a principal at each school corporation, including both charter and virtual schools, to complete an annual survey for any teacher employed in his/her building who was initially licensed in Indiana during the previous two years. The purpose of the survey is not to assess the individual teacher, but the quality of preparation provided by the Indiana educator preparation program the teacher completed for licensure. A survey is not required for those who completed an out-of-state program for initial licensure. The 2025 survey can be accessed here, select "Complete the Survey" and then enter the access code provided to you earlier this year. The survey will close on Friday, August 1. Contact Scott Bogan with any questions.

Office of Educator Talent and Literacy Center

NEW: Weekly Office Hours Preferred Universal Screener Acadience Reading

Acadience Learning, Inc. will hold weekly office hours every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. ET starting from Wednesday, July 30, through Wednesday, September 24. This is for school leaders and educators to support the implementation of the assessment as the state's preferred screener. Click here to join each week. More information can also be found on the Indiana Acadience webpage here. Contact IDOE's Literacy Center with any questions.

NEW: Keys to Literacy No Cost Professional Development for Early Literacy Endorsement

IDOE Early Literacy Endorsement PD is available to current eligible Indiana educators who hold a valid professional educator license and teach in a content area that involves literacy instruction for PK-5 students. Eligible licensed Indiana educators may participate, at no cost, in Keys to Literacy. Registration will begin on Friday, August 1, for those who are eligible. Space is limited. Contact IDOE's Literacy Center with any questions.

UPDATE: Early Literacy Professional Development Approval and Praxis Voucher Request

Educators who need to submit a request to verify completion of an approved 80 hours can continue to follow the process outlined here. Educators that are requesting a Praxis voucher have until Sunday, August 31, and based on availability, to follow the process. Educators must schedule their exam within six months of receiving their voucher. Information about future opportunities with Keys to Literacy will be shared as it becomes available. Contact IDOE's Literacy Center with any questions.

Office of Information Technology

REMINDER: Needed–Organization Leaders' Designation/Confirmation of Security Coordinators

Access to most IDOE applications depend on the accurate role assignment within the LINK Portal. All superintendents and leaders of non-public schools should login to LINK and review/update who their Security Coordinators are.

- Instructions for organization leaders on how to designate/update the security coordinators is found here.
- New public and Choice schools setup of the LINK portal is found here.
- If you are a new superintendent or the organization leader of a non-public school and need the first account configured, please email link@doe.in.gov.

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 then this person logs in to designate up to two security coordinators, who are responsible for overseeing the setup of roles for others in the organization. Contact link@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Designation of Organization's Key Contacts

Security coordinators for all public, charter, and accredited non-public schools are responsible for ensuring their organization's key contacts for the upcoming school year are set. Required contacts are Superintendent, Principal, Special Education Director, and Chief Technology Officer. Additional contact descriptors can be found here.

LINK roles, including the key contacts, are designed to be sent from the local Student Information System (SIS) to Data Exchange/LINK. When a person has an account in the local SIS, this is where the LINK roles should be set, according to the SIS instructions. Otherwise, when the staff classifications are resynched/resent to Data Exchange/LINK, they will replace any roles set with what is in the SIS.

- Security Coordinator instructions can be found here.
- ICHAMP (Indiana Complaint, Hearings and Mediation Process) will utilize the following LINK key contacts: Superintendent and Special Education Director. It is essential that these two key contacts are reviewed by security coordinators and updated based on any necessary changes.

A list of key contacts assigned may be found here.

REMINDER: Enter Roles for 2025-2026 School Year Prior to Monday, September 1

The LINK Security Portal is now recognizing roles identified in both the prior and upcoming school years' databases. Roles for the new school year are to be entered prior to Monday, September 1. This data may be provided directly from a school's SIS. Staff not associated by this date will lose their access to IDOE systems. Prior year staff roles should not be removed. IDOE recommends roles be entered and managed in their local SIS; however, three options are available:

- **Preferred option:** Enter staff roles in the local student information system (SIS) per vendor's instructions and send educator data for the new school year to IDOE.
- Add a staff role manually for the new school year via the Security Portal.
- Upload templates via Data Exchange.

To avoid data loss, please refrain from using multiple methods for a staff member.

REMINDER: IEP/ILP System - IDOE Special Programs

IDOE is launching a new statewide platform for managing Individual Education Programs (IEPs) and Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) for the 2025-2026 school year mid-July. Developed in partnership with PowerSchool, IDOE Special Programs will replace the current IEP and ILP platform. All schools will have access to IDOE Special Programs starting today, Friday, July 18. Educators will access the new IDOE Special Programs system via the LINK portal by having the "Student Support Plans" role assigned to them for the upcoming school year. Ideally, these roles should be set within your local SIS. Those providing cooperative access will need their LINK Security Coordinators to enter this role via the LINK Security Portal for the new school year. A login guide for educators may be found here.

REMINDER: Report Student Enrollments As Soon As Possible for 2025-2026 School Year

Reporting enrollment data as soon as possible will be newly important for the 2025-2026 school year due to new state laws around promotion to fourth grade and because access to the state's new IEP system depends on this information. It is no longer necessary to wait until the first day of the school calendar to begin sending enrollment (SSA) records to Data Exchange (DEX). Beginning on Tuesday, July 15, IDOE began showing data provided to DEX and is now running validations against the data.

- Allowing enrollment data to flow as soon as possible will alert school staff if there are any concerns with a student being reported in fourth grade. (Data Exchange will process fourth grade enrollments according to new promotion rules related to IREAD proficiency.) Schools will have time to determine if the student without a passing IREAD score qualifies for a Good Cause Exemption (GCE) to the retention statute. The earlier this data is submitted, the more time schools will have to determine if the student must be retained in third grade, contact parents, make updates to student schedules, etc. The earlier schools have this information the better for school staff, parents, and students.
- Allowing enrollment data as soon as possible will also assist with the new IEP/ILP system, which is set to go live today, Friday, July 18. PowerSchool Special Programs (PSSP) will begin 'pulling' enrollment data from DEX which in turn will allow school staff to have access to student files within the special program's software. Staff access to an IEP/ILP is entirely dependent on accurate enrollment records being submitted to IDOE.

REMINDER: EdTech Index Now Available for EdTech Procurement Process

The EdTech Index is an initiative led by ISTE+ASCD in partnership with CoSN, Digital Promise, CAST, SETDA, 1EdTech, and InnovateEDU. The Index aggregates trusted third-party validations of digital products aligned to five important quality indicators: Safe, Evidence-Based, Inclusive, Usable, and Interoperable. Here are three ways the Edtech Index may be useful to you:

- Review the information in the EdTech Index to obtain critical insight into products you are evaluating.
- Consider including language about five quality indicators in your procurement processes. Sample language that may be included in your RFPs may be found at this link.
- Ask EdTech providers you are in contact with to ensure their products are up-to-date on the Edtech Index. A sample email is also available that you can send to companies that work with your district.

You are encouraged to explore the EdTech Index and consider how this resource might benefit your own procurement processes. If you have questions about how to do so, please contact Brad Hagg, Director of Educational Technology.

Office of School Finance

NEW: Reporting Virtual Students

In order to facilitate the collection of data regarding who is providing the education for virtual students, three new fields are being added in Data Exchange. The information provided will assist in the calculation of the teacher compensation percentage for those schools that have virtual students. Please see this memo for more information. Contact IDOE's Office of School Finance with any questions.

REMINDER: Form 9 Data

Form 9 financial data for the period of January to June 2025 may now be submitted. The deadline for Form 9 submissions is Thursday, July 31. The Form 9 application can be accessed via the Link Portal. Once in the portal, the financial administrator will navigate to the "Form 9" tile. Please contact form9@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Office of School Support and Transformation

NEW: Next Generation School Prioritized Expert Partners

The Office of School Support and Transformation is pleased to announce the Prioritized Expert Partners list for the Next Generation School Improvement Grant. Please see the memo to learn about these partners. These companies went through a rigorous evaluation process to qualify as a prioritized expert partner. The contact information for these partners is listed below. Contact IDOE's Office of School Transformation with any questions.

Office of Special Education, English Learning, and Migrant Education

NEW: IDOE Special Programs Platform Launch

IDOE has officially launched IDOE Special Programs, an IEP and ILP management system for the 2025–2026 school year, designed in partnership with PowerSchool. As of today, Friday, July 18, the system is live. This statewide platform is intended to serve as a new technological solution to better serve English learner and special education students in managing their education plans and documentation. The platform is accessed via the IDOE Special Programs tile within LINK, and a login guide for users can be found here. To access the platform, users must have the "Student Support Plans" role assigned to them and completed the required Training Certification through the Special Programs Academy. District- and school-designated Technical Contact(s), listed as IEP/ILP Support in DEX, are responsible for providing system access to users within 48 hours of receiving certification. Technical Contacts are users' first layer of support if assistance is needed in accessing IDOE Special Programs or managing security roles. To learn more about the platform, please visit the communication dashboard. System users will be provided with additional details and system updates over the coming weeks.

NEW: 2025-2026 Special Education Director Outreach Opportunities

The Office of Special Education is offering multiple support opportunities for Indiana special education directors and administrators through the 2025-2026 school year. The Directors Symposium will resume monthly to provide relevant policy and resource updates that guide directors toward higher rates of compliance in their corporation's reporting. Newly created Lead and Listen sessions will begin in August and allow the OSE director and specialists to answer submitted follow-up questions regarding the Directors Symposium. New Director Community Chats will also be established for special education directors and administrators, new to their positions within the last three years, to ask questions and gain additional information following the Directors Symposium. Specific information, including dates, times, and registration information can be found here.
Contact spedassistance@doe.in.gov with any questions.

NEW: EL Summer Spotlight - Open Q&A

IDOE's English Learning team will be hosting its final summer spotlight session of the year on Wednesday, July 23, at 10 a.m. ET. The focus will be on general EL-related questions and answers from the field covering a broad range of topics for the 2025-2026 school year. Visit the Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar for the meeting link. Contact IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education with any questions.

REMINDER: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Part B Grant Proportionate Share Release Request Forms Are Available

The FY 2024 Part B 611 and 619 grant proportionate share release forms are now available, in the Office of Special Education Moodle Community. Completed requests with supporting documentation must be submitted to IDOE's Office of Special Education Part B Grants team by Friday, August 29. Following the acceptance of the release form, a Part B grant budget modification request must be completed by Monday, September 15, to transfer funds across budget scopes. Download the release request form and instructions from the Office of Special Education Moodle Community. Contact IDOE's Office of Special Education with questions.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 School Year RoboKind Grant Opportunity

Through House Enrolled Act 1001 (2025), IDOE offers the RoboKind Grant opportunity for select corporations and schools to purchase robotic technology and provide professional development endorsed by the Council for Administrators of Special Education (CASE) to improve the social and behavioral skills of students with autism. RoboKind's programs are delivered by engaging virtual avatars. While the programs no longer require a physical robot, districts currently implementing the robot-led program may continue using their robots if they apply for a renewal. Existing partner districts will also receive access to the virtual avatar-led programs, in addition to their current robot-led implementations. RoboKind supports research-based curriculum across social skills and phonics. Information and the application can be found here. For the budget template, click here. Grant application deadline is Friday, August 15. Email the signed application and budget to robokind@doe.in.gov to submit your application. Contact robokind@doe.in.gov with additional questions.

REMINDER: IDEA Part B Reimbursement Requests

Due to the significant unspent grant balances, IDOE's Office of Special Education has implemented a new fiscal monitoring for Part B funds. Reimbursement requests must be submitted within one month of incurring expenses on the first or 15th of the month. Corporations, cooperatives, and inter-locals can no longer keep reimbursement requests open until the end of the award period. If your school corporation is not current with your IDEA Part B reimbursements, we request that you submit expense reimbursements through June 30, 2025, by July 31, 2025. Submit the form by email to specialedpartb@doe.in.gov with "FY2024 or FY2025 reimbursement form" in the subject line.

REMINDER: Encumber All FY 2024 Part B Grant Funds by Tuesday, September 30

To ensure sufficient time for budget modification review and approval, submit all FY 2024 IDEA Part B grant budget modification requests by Monday, September 15. All FY 2024 Part B funds must be encumbered by Tuesday, September 30. The FY 2024 Part B grant reimbursement requests must be submitted to specialedpartb@doe.in.gov by Monday, December 15. The form to request the FY 2024 Part B Grant Proportionate Share Release form will become available on Tuesday, July 1. The due date for the next round of Part B monitoring reports is Thursday, July 31. All Part B grant forms and related guidance are available under Part B Grants for Special Education in the Office of Special Education Moodle Community's Fiscal section. Contact IDOE's Office of Special Education's Part B grants team with any questions.

REMINDER: 2024-2025 Paraprofessional Training Grant Reimbursement Requests

The 2024-2025 Paraprofessional Training Grant closed on June 30, 2025. The Office of Special Education requests that expense reimbursements are submitted by Thursday, July 31. Reimbursement requests should be submitted by email to para@doe.in.gov with "FY24-25 Para Grant Reimbursement" in the subject line.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 Annual EL Directors Meetings Save the Dates

IDOE's English Learning team will be hosting their Annual EL Directors Meetings virtually for the 2025-2026 school year, and the dates have been set. Day one will feature content for new EL directors and will take place on Thursday, August 7. Day two is geared toward all EL directors, both new and returning, and will take place on Thursday, August 14. Both days will have morning and afternoon sessions. More details will be forthcoming, and the meeting times and links can be found on the Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar. Contact IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education with any questions.

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

NEW: High-Quality Curricular Materials (HQCM) Guidance for Curriculum Providers: Application Window Opens Soon

IDOE will soon accept core curriculum materials aligned with the Next Level Programs of Study (NLPS) course 4565 Computing Foundations for a Digital Age, an approved course identified to fulfill a graduation requirement for students beginning with the 2029 cohort. Only submitted materials aligned with this specific NLPS course will be accepted. Application details and project timeline for IDOE's upcoming HQCM evaluation process are outlined in this memo. The required letter of intent JotForm will become active on Friday, August 1. Curricular materials approved during the upcoming review cycle will be recommended for inclusion on IDOE's HQCM Advisory List for K-12 STEM for use beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Prospective curriculum providers may contact IDOE's Office of Teaching and Learning with any questions.

REMINDER: Participants Needed for Indiana's World Language Standards Revision Committees

IDOE's Office of Teaching and Learning is recruiting educators and other stakeholders for review committees that will review the Indiana Academic Standards for World Language (Classical-Modern, East Asian, and Heritage Language Learners). Interested individuals should complete and submit this form by 11:45 p.m. ET on Tuesday, July 22, to be considered for this collaborative opportunity. IDOE will review all submissions and select participants based on many criteria (e.g., teaching experience, current role, student populations served) to help maximize representativeness of each committee. Contact the Office of Teaching and Learning with any questions.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 STEM Integration Grant Application Now Available

The 2025-2026 STEM Integration Grant is designed to expand access to high-quality instruction across K-12 schools in order to enhance student participation and achievement in STEM disciplines. This is a competitive grant open to Indiana public school corporations, charter schools, or entities as long as they meet the following criteria. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend the virtual informational session at 2 p.m. ET on Tuesday, July 22, to learn more about the grant and application process. The grant will launch on Friday, July 25. Applications are due by 11:45 p.m. ET on Friday, August 15. Contact TLgrants@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resources

Resources supporting AI literacy are available in the Indiana Learning Lab, including collections for administrators, classroom teachers, and parents/families.

- AI in the Classroom Spotlight Series
- AI Insights for Educators Workshop Series
- AI Resources for Parents
- PD Playbook: AI Literacy for Educators
- AI Resources for School Leaders

Contact IDOE's Office of Digital Learning with any questions.

Office of Title Grants and Support

REMINDER: FY2026 Pre-Application Virtual Help Desk

Need help with the Pre-App? Want to get answers to your questions in real time? Join the virtual help desk on Thursday, July 24, 10 to 11 a.m. ET to ask questions of Title I, II, III, and IV specialists. Contact TitleI@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: July Coffee Chat

Join IDOE's Office of Title Grants and Support for monthly Coffee Chats! Coffee Chats are the last Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. ET. July's topic will cover Title I-IV Budget Applications. Please join us via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, July 31, and forward this link to necessary stakeholders within your district. Contact TitleI@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver Annual Performance Report (APR)

The Ed-Flex waiver APR for all ed-flex waivers used in the 2024-2025 school year (FY25/FFY24) are due by Friday, August 1. Please note that an APR submission is required for continued use of future ed-flex waiver flexibilities. If multiple ed-flex waivers were used in the 2024-2025 school year, a separate APR must be submitted for each waiver. If you have questions regarding a specific waiver, please contact jgrabowski@doe.in.gov for waiver #1, ahedden@doe.in.gov for waiver #2, and TitleIV@doe.in.gov for waiver #4.

REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver Applications

The Ed-Flex waiver application for waiver #2 is due Wednesday, July 30 for implementation or continued use of previously approved waivers in the 2025-2026 school year. As noted in the Ed-Flex FAQ, applications for waiver use in cohort 2 are required annually. Please note, a waiver #2 application for paraprofessional requirement flexibility is required if an LEA is using any hiring requirements that do not meet the three federally defined requirements: 1) Completed two years of study at an institution of higher education; or 2) Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree; or 3) Met a rigorous standard of quality through a formal State or local academic assessment (ParaPathways). For questions regarding waiver #2, please contact ahedden@doe.in.gov.

REMINDER: FFY2025/FY2025 Pre-application Now Available

The FFY2025/FY2026 Pre-application is now available through the Title Grants Pre-app Moodle. All instructions, forms, and submission information may be found within the Moodle course. The Pre-application is due July 1, 2025 (please note, reimbursement eligibility begins July 1, 2025 or the date at which the Pre-application is submitted in reviewable format, whichever is later). Contact titlei@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver Application #4

Due to the delay in receiving Title IV allocation amounts, the Ed-Flex waiver application for waiver #4 is now due Saturday, September 30, for the FFY25 Title IV budget application. As noted in the Ed-Flex FAQ, applications for waiver use in cohort 2 are required annually, or per federal fiscal year (FFY) for Title IV budget applications. For questions regarding waiver #4, please contact TitleIV@doe.in.gov.

News From Our Partners

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

Lilly Endowment is accepting applications for its Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program. 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 125 grants, each totaling up to $15,000, in 2026. The application deadline is 6 p.m. ET on Monday, September 8. Two information sessions will be held in August:

- Thursday, August 7
- Tuesday, August 19

To learn more or register for one of these sessions, visit the Lilly Endowment website. Contact Lilly Endowment staff with any questions.

NEW FROM KEEP INDIANA LEARNING: Teacher Evaluation Training & RISE Certification

Effective teacher evaluations play a critical role in both recognizing and retaining educators. In this session for new or want-a-refresher administrators, participants will explore the RISE rubric and learn to deliver constructive feedback designed to foster professional growth. This training will provide practical strategies for conducting classroom observations and establishing meaningful goal-setting processes. Learn more and register. Please contact Keep Indiana Learning with questions.

REMINDER FROM THE DYSLEXIA INSTITUTE OF INDIANA: Until Everyone Can Read Literacy Summit

Join educators from across Indiana for the full day Until Everyone Can Read Literacy Summit on Saturday, August 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Marian University. This conference features two national keynote speakers—Lyndsay Kemeny and Dr. Steve Dykstra—alongside respected literacy leaders from around the state. Participants will dive into practical, actionable strategies for implementing Structured Literacy, explore best practices tailored to various grade levels and student needs. Sessions will cover beginner to advanced topics. Participants can earn six Professional Growth Plan (PGP) points or CEUs by attending the full day. Don't miss this chance to stay local and grow your literacy skills. Click here to purchase your tickets. Contact Katie Enyon with any questions.

REMINDER FROM INDIANA SPORTS CORP: Calling All Third Grade Teachers - Register for Read to the Final Four

It's time to get your class in the game! Get ready to spark a love of reading in your classroom with Read to the Final Four, a statewide literacy challenge celebrating the 2026 NCAA Men's Final Four® in Indianapolis. Third-grade classrooms across Indiana will log reading minutes through Beanstack, earn digital badges, and compete in a tournament-style bracket for exciting prizes and statewide recognition. It's a fun, engaging way to boost literacy while bringing the energy of March Madness into your school. Register your class in Beanstack before Friday, August 1, to get a head start! Register here.

REMINDER FROM ACADIENCE LEARNING: Register for Training

Acadience Learning is excited to have Acadience Reading K-6, be named the Preferred Universal Screener for Indiana Schools. We are partnering with the Indiana Department of Education to provide support to schools to help them onboard Acadience Reading K-6, including support for our online scoring and data management platform, Acadience Learning Online (ALO). Please visit our Indiana-specific website for information and updates. Click here for more information.

Weekly Updates

View previous weekly updates from Dr. Katie Jenner here.

Stay Informed

Did you miss a message? View previous weekly emails here.

Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update from the Indiana Department of Education is distributed every Friday morning.

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