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INDIANA DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update

Weekly Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education

August 1, 2025

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Buses are rolling in Indiana! This week we had several schools kick off their first day, and the next two weeks will be our peak time for "first days of school" across Indiana. Welcome back!

Most of you have likely heard the saying that "time goes faster the older you get." While I didn't necessarily understand that growing up, it now feels very true, as it seems like just a few days ago we were talking about graduation season. While the summer has flown by, I do hope over the past couple of months that you have had an opportunity to rest, do something fun, and focus on some *YOU* time!

The energy of starting a school year brings excitement, an eagerness to get the year going, and some anxiousness too. I can remember not getting much sleep the night before a new year began as my mind raced through all the final details...many of you can probably relate! Preparing our students, schools, and classrooms for a new year is hard work, so from our parents and families...to teachers and administrators...to our school cafeteria, custodial staff, and bus drivers...*thank you* for the time and care you take in ensuring our students and schools are ready to learn and grow in the coming year.

Let's continue to work together, keep improving, and make the 2025-2026 school year a great one for Indiana students.

From the U.S. Department of Education

NEW: Release of Title Funds
On Friday, July 25, IDOE received a message from the U.S. Department of Education (USED) regarding the release of Title funds. Beginning the week of July 28, 2025, USED will begin releasing funding for the current federal and education fiscal year for the following formula programs:

- Title I-C, ESEA: Migrant Student Education;
- Title II-A, ESEA: Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants;
- Title III-A, ESEA: English Language Acquisition; and
- Title IV-A, ESEA: Student Support and Academic Enrichment State Grants.

We look forward to working with schools to distribute these funds and will share information as we know more from USED.

REMINDER: Title IV-B Funding
USED released Title IV-B funding (21st Century Community Learning Centers) on Monday, July 21. IDOE is working with grantees to communicate additional information and specific next steps. We look forward to working together to finalize all federal grant agreements. Contact OSTProgram@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Legislative Updates

REMINDER: 2025-2026 Required Training for School Employees
Following each legislative session, IDOE provides an updated list of state- and federally-required training for school employees. The list for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year can be found here. This list does not include optional training or training required by a local school corporation or governing body.

REMINDER: Clarification on Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 482
Recently we have had an increased number of school leaders, parents, and other stakeholders reach out for clarity on the implications of SEA 482, a new law passed in 2025 regarding school attendance.

The primary change as a result of SEA 482 is that **schools** will now report additional data regarding the type of *excused* absence. Many schools already collect this data, which allows schools, educators, parents/families to work together to support the student, as well as triage attendance challenges, as needed.

There is not an impact on **students or families**, as SEA 482 does not change who decides what counts as an excused or unexcused absence. Local school boards and district policies still make those decisions. An excused absence could include, but is not limited to, illness verified by communication from a parent/guardian, illness verified by communication from a healthcare provider, a family funeral, absences related to deployment and return from military-connected families, etc.

There are no penalties for excused absences in Indiana law. State law only requires intervention after 10 or more *unexcused* absence. Any decision beyond this is determined locally.

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

NEW: Third-Party Accreditation Petition Window is Open
Accrediting organizations for kindergarten through grade 12 schools that are interested in being recognized by the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) may submit a notice of intent between August 1 and September 1. Upon receipt of the notice of intent, the Department will provide the accrediting organization seeking recognition with the petition outline and required assurances form. The accrediting organization seeking recognition has until November 30 to compile and submit their petition for recognition during the 2026-2027 school year. The accrediting organization will not be considered for Board recognition if the organization fails to submit its notice of intent or petition by the stated deadlines. Pursuant to statute, IDOE will provide a recommendation to SBOE within six months of receipt of a petition. **This is also a reminder for third-party organizations that are already recognized by the SBOE to resubmit a petition for approval for any changes to their accreditation processes that were not initially approved by the Board (for example; provisional or foundational accreditation).** Additional information and the third-party notice of intent and third-party accreditation petition can be found on IDOE's accreditation website. Contact IDOE's Office of Accountability with any questions.

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 Assessment Milestones Now Available
New milestones documents to support the administration of 2025-2026 statewide assessments are now available:

- SAT School Day Milestones
- PSAT/NMSQT Milestones

Some dates are approximate and may be subject to minor changes. Contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment with any questions.

REMINDER: Register for Upcoming College Board SAT Suite of Assessments Implementation Workshops
College Board and IDOE will host in-person SAT Suite of Assessments Implementation workshops for the 2025-2026 PSAT 8/9, PSAT/NMSQT, and SAT administrations. Corporation Test Coordinators (CTCs), School Test Coordinators (STCs), Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Coordinators, and additional testing staff are encouraged to register. In-person workshops will occur Monday, August 18, through Friday, August 22, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. local time. Register for the sessions below and Contact College Board with any questions.

- Monday, August 18: Indianapolis
- Tuesday, August 19: Charlestown & Greenwood
- Wednesday, August 20: Evansville
- Thursday, August 21: Fort Wayne
- Friday, August 22: Merrillville

A virtual SAT Suite of Assessments Implementation Webinar is available for those unable to attend in-person on Wednesday, September 3, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. ET. Contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment with any questions.

Office of Educator Talent and Literacy Center

REMINDER: Weekly Office Hours Preferred Universal Screener Acadience Reading
Acadience Learning, Inc. will hold weekly office hours every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. ET 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.

REMINDER: 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 begins today, Friday, August 1, for those who are eligible. Space is limited. Contact IDOE's Literacy Center with any questions.

REMINDER: 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. 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's new statewide platform for managing Individual Education Programs (IEPs) and Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) for the 2025-2026 school year is now live. Developed in partnership with PowerSchool, IDOE Special Programs replaces the IEP and ILP platform. Educators can 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 student information system. 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). 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 now live. 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: Teacher Compensation, Funding Floor, and Minimum Salary Updated information
The Teacher Compensation FAQ and Funding Floor FAQ have been updated to reflect recent legislative changes. In addition, this memo, outlines changes to the minimum salary requirements and process. Contact IDOE's Office of School Finance with any questions.

NEW: Form 9 Automation Project restarting
The Form 9 automation project that was paused in late March is restarting. IDOE will reach out to vendors to restart this project. Contact IDOE's Office of School Finance with any questions.

REMINDER: School Summer School Reimbursement
The window to submit final 2025 summer school costs is now open. Instructions for submitting summer school costs can be found in this memo. The deadline for submitting 2025 summer school costs is Monday, September 15. Contact IDOE's Office of School Finance with any questions.

REMINDER: Form 9 Data July - December 2025
Please read this memo regarding Form 9 accounting changes for July to December 2025. Contact IDOE's Office of School Finance with any questions.

REMINDER: 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 January through June 2025
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

REMINDER: 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 Support and Transformation with any questions.

Office of Special Education, English Learning, and Migrant Education

REMINDER: English Learner (EL) Exit Criteria Submission Deadline
IDOE's EL team has provided guidance on the process to exit eligible students from EL status through an additional evidence review. The Exit Criteria for English Learners Guidance has been updated to apply to 2025 WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS results. Accompanying resources, such as training materials and Decision-Making Tool templates, can be found on IDOE's English Learning and Migrant Education webpage. Per the guidance, students provisionally determined proficient via an additional evidence review must be submitted to IDOE for approval prior to formally exiting. The window to submit these students closes on Friday, August 22. 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: 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: 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.

REMINDER: 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. 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.

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

NEW: Work-Based Learning Menu of Experiences
To support the ongoing implementation of the new Indiana high school diploma, IDOE and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education Career and Technical Education Team have collaborated on Work-Based Learning (WBL) guidance to support the ongoing implementation of the new Indiana high school diploma. The WBL Menu of Experiences provides a summary of different types of WBL experiences available to students aligned to Indiana's new diploma requirements and Honors Seals. The menu includes links to examples of highlighted WBL experiences currently available to students across the state. It also includes additional guidance on the WBL definition approved within the diploma requirements to help stakeholders understand the key elements necessary for a WBL experience to count towards graduation requirements. The WBL Menu of Experiences can be found here. Contact CTE@che.in.gov with any questions.

Office of Student, School, and Family Engagement

NEW: Webinar for School Attendance Officers
IDOE will host a webinar for school attendance officers on Monday, August 25 from 2 to 3 p.m. ET. This webinar will provide information on attendance data, as well as an opportunity to discuss policies, procedures, and initiatives to increase and sustain student attendance. Please register for the webinar here. Contact Stephen Balko with any questions.

NEW: Applications Now Open for Career Coaching Grant
The Career Coaching Grant is designed to assist with the implementation of the Comprehensive Career Navigation and Coaching System for Indiana that provides timely, comprehensive, relevant, and useful information on careers; and establishes strategies and identifies capacity to deliver career navigation and coaching to kindergarten through grade 12 students. Grant guidelines and more information about eligible entities can be found here. The application deadline is Friday, September 5, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Contact IDOE's Office of Student, School, and Family Engagement with any questions.

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

NEW: 2025-2026 (FY26) High Ability Program Grant Applications Due Friday, August 15
The 2025-2026 (FY26) High Ability Program Grant is designed to support eligible entities in establishing or maintaining high ability programs in accordance with IC 20-36-2-2. All public and charter schools are eligible to receive grant funding for high ability identification and programming. Schools' completed grant applications are due next Friday, August 15. Contact the Office of Teaching and Learning with questions.

NEW: Application Window Opening Soon - High-Quality Curricular Materials (HQCM) Computer Science Educator Reviewers
IDOE will soon accept applications from interested secondary-level computer science educators to review vendor-submitted core curriculum materials aligned with the Next Level Programs of Study (NLPS) course 4565 Computing Foundations for a Digital Age. More details and an application form will be available in next week's issue of Dr. Jenner's update. Only submitted materials aligned with NLPS course 4565 Computing Foundations for a Digital Age will be accepted during the upcoming HQCM evaluation process. 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 in support of the newly legislated high school course requirement. Contact the Office of Teaching and Learning with questions.

NEW: High-Quality Instruction & Tiered System of Supports Model for Mathematics
Beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, IC 20-32-6.5-3 requires schools to provide mathematics intervention for students in kindergarten through grade eight at risk of not meeting grade-level proficiency through a multi-tiered system of support. Initial guidance related to this intervention model is now available in the High-Quality Instruction & Tiered System of Supports Model for Mathematics two-page overview. The model offers a framework for high-quality instruction through a tiered system of supports, consisting of three levels that progressively intensify to meet students' mathematical needs. Further detailed guidance and implementation support will soon be available through the Indiana Learning Lab, including grade-banded (K-2, 3-5, and 6-8) math intervention toolkit courses and suggested integration of high-quality instruction and the intervention model with current Assessment and Instructional Frameworks. Contact the Office of Teaching and Learning with questions.

NEW: Kindergarten Enrollment Guidance for Schools & Families
In Indiana, a school corporation is required to provide a kindergarten program for eligible students that are five years old on or before August 1 of the school year. However, a school corporation may enroll a student who is five by October 1, and still receive average daily membership (ADM) funding. IDOE provides the following school enrollment guidance and Kindergarten Entrance Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for more information. Families are provided with additional Kindergarten Enrollment FAQs. All documents may be found on IDOE's Kindergarten webpage. Contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment with any questions.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 STEM Integration Grant Applications Due Friday, August 15
The 2025-2026 STEM Integration Grant is designed to expand access to high-quality instruction across K-12 schools and enhance student participation and achievement in STEM disciplines. This is a competitive grant open to Indiana school corporations, charter schools, and/or entities who meet the criteria in the grant guidance. Interested applicants are encouraged to view the Pre-Launch Meeting slides and session recording that explain the application process. The application can be found here. Completed applications are due by 11:45 p.m. ET on Friday, August 15. Contact TLgrants@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Transition to Kindergarten Professional Development Cohort
Schools are invited to participate in the Early Childhood Transitions Facilitation Cohort Plan pilot program. This program is an initiative led in collaboration by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), Family Social and Services Administration Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning (OECOSL), and the Indiana Head Start Collaboration Office (IHSCO) to enhance early childhood transitions into kindergarten across the state. Participation in this program is a unique opportunity for educators and administrators to receive access to tailored support, collaborate with key early learning partners, innovate new practices, and lead the way in improving outcomes for children and families statewide. In addition, participants may be eligible for a financial incentive for their time and effort. Participants will attend a total of two partner group meetings, with the first one scheduled in late August, and two tailored professional development workshops. Complete the School Interest Form to indicate your school or corporation's interest. For additional questions or details, please visit the expectations or FAQ document or contact the Office of Kindergarten Readiness.

Office of Title Grants and Support

UPDATE: 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: Public Comment for IDOE's FFY2023 (FY2024) Fiscal Waiver
IDOE intends to apply for flexibility regarding the following to allow LEAs to more effectively encumber their FFY2023 federal funds: Title I-A/SIG, Title II-A, Title III-A, Title IV-A, Title V-B, and IDEA Part B Section 611. Specifically, IDOE is requesting the following requirement be waived: 1) Section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) to extend the period of availability of FFY2023 funds for programs in which your SEA participates under its approved consolidated State plan until September 30, 2026. Feedback will be accepted through this JotForm until 5 p.m. ET on Monday, August 18. Contact Frank Chiki with any questions.

REMINDER: Title IV and Indiana Construction Roundtable Foundation Partnership
The Title IV Team has partnered with Indiana Construction Roundtable Foundation (ICRF) to provide construction clubs for elementary and middle school students in fall 2025. The construction clubs provide six weeks of hands-on learning opportunities related to the construction industry while exploring careers in the field. ICRF provides lesson plans and supplies to each participating club at no cost to the district. To learn more about bringing a construction club to your district, please visit ICRF's website.

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 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 MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (MIT): Calculus for America High School Pilot Program
MIT invites high schools with low enrollment, completion rates, and passing of AP exams in Calculus to participate in a Fall 2025 Pilot of MIT Calculus for America. This pilot program will align trained MIT students and alumni with high school sites where they will support introductory high school calculus courses through tutoring and mentoring. MIT students and alumni will help high school learners in these classes succeed via remote tutoring and, when appropriate, AI tutors will be made available to assist with student learning. For more information about the program's mission, vision and Fall Pilot Program visit the MIT Calculus for America website and brochure. Interested schools may reach out to mitforamerica@mit.edu with any questions.

NEW FROM CANDLES HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER: Fourth Annual Terry Fear Holocaust Educator in Action Award and the Evening of Light Student Essay Contest
CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center recognizes one educator each year through the Terry Fear Educator in Action Award, established in 2022. CANDLES honors Terry's legacy by presenting this award to an educator who supports Holocaust and Genocide Education. This award seeks to identify, support, and celebrate educators who live and teach in a way that honors the life and work of Terry Fear. More information can be found here.

CANDLES founder and Holocaust survivor Eva Kor lived by four life lessons. Students are invited to select one lesson and write an essay that explains how this lesson applies to their life. CANDLES will select up to two winners. Each winner will receive two tickets for the "Evening of Light" dinner: one ticket for the student and one for a teacher, parent, or adult to accompany the winner. (The winners may also purchase additional tickets.) Winners will also receive a CANDLES shirt, a certificate, and will be announced at the dinner. More information can be found here.

NEW FROM IU ONLINE: M.S.Ed. in the Science of Reading
This fully online degree equips Indiana educators with evidence-based practices, strategies and stackable credentials, including the Early Literacy Endorsement, authorized Dyslexia training, and a literacy coaching credential. Already hold your Endorsement? Apply six credits toward the 30-credit program and complete your degree in as little as one year. Apply now. Info sessions will be held on:

- Wednesday, August 6, at 4 p.m. ET
- Monday, August 11, at 5 p.m. ET

Sign up for info sessions here. Contact Jacquelyn Singleton with any questions.

REMINDER FROM INDIANA SCIENCE OLYMPIAD: 2025 Coaching Clinics & STEM Competition Resources
Indiana educators are invited to participate in Science Olympiad programming and professional development for the 2025 season. Science Olympiad is a nationally recognized STEM competition for grades six through 12 that promotes hands-on learning and teamwork across 23 science, engineering, and technology events. Upcoming opportunities include coaching clinics—starting at the HASTI Mini-Conference in September—and year-round support to help schools start or strengthen a team. Coaches gain access to event guides, mentorship, and professional growth points. Perfect for science, STEM, and enrichment for educators looking to expand student engagement in high-impact STEM experiences. Learn more and get involved here. Contact Jamie Lies with any questions.

REMINDER 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.

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 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.

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