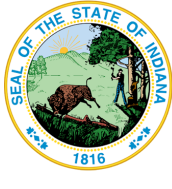


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**INDIANA
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION**

Mike Braun, Governor
Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

School Finance Newsletter

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

Legislative Guidance

2025-2026 Required Training

IDOE has created and posted a document that outlines the required training for school employees for 2025-2026, including those that are applicable to nonpublic schools. The link to the document can be found in [Dr. Jenner's weekly newsletter](#).

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 School Finance

New: 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.

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.

Choice Scholarship Program

Application Window

The Choice school and student application window closes at 11:59 PM on Monday, September 1.

- Applications that have been submitted but are in pending status when the application closes will be accepted.
- Any application conflicts (e.g.: reference ID does not match) must be received prior to the deadline in order to be considered.
- Please review your submitted applications for accuracy. Any changes to applications- including incorrect tuition, school corporation of legal settlement (SCOLS), and household information- that need to be made after Monday, September 1, will be reflected on your monitoring reports.
- Monday, September 1, is a holiday and IDOE will be closed. Any questions that require assistance from DOE staff should be sent by Friday, August 29, to receive a response.

Monitoring Reports have been uploaded to your school's Google folder. If you are a new school, you will receive a link to a Google folder for your school where documents will be uploaded throughout the year.

Office Hours

You can now submit questions in advance of Choice office hours. We will review any submitted questions prior to office hours and address them during each session. Submit your questions [here](#).

Our next office hours will be held on Tuesday, August 19. The first session will begin at 9 a.m. ET, with additional sessions starting every 30 minutes and the last one starting at 10:30 a.m. ET.

Special Education Reminders

All pending applications are checked by IDOE's special education team for eligibility. If an SE claim cannot be found for a student believed to be eligible for special education services, please submit the application and wait to hear back from your Choice Specialist whether eligibility could be confirmed.

IDOE Special Programs launch: the new IEP/ILP management system is live. Nonpublic schools may, but are not required to, use the program for ILP management for English language learners. The platform is accessed via LINK but is only available to users with the "Student Support Plans" role. A login guide may be found here. Please refer to Dr. Jenner's weekly newsletter for additional details.

The Office of Special Education, in collaboration with Dispute Resolution and the ADAC, have released a [frequently asked questions \(FAQ\) document](#) to help address common questions regarding students with disabilities who have been parentally placed in non-public schools.

Data Entry Reminders

School calendars must be entered into Data Exchange (DEX) prior to entering any student-level data. School calendars may be updated throughout the year so you will not be locked into dates by entering your school calendar in DEX. If you work with an SIS, please contact your SIS for any issues. If you use templates, please file a Help Desk ticket for any necessary assistance.

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.

School and Corporation Profile Amendment Window

The school and corporation profile amendment submission window for the 2024-2025 school year is open until Sunday, August 31. In order to ensure IDOE maintains accurate information, all schools and corporations must provide notice when changes are made that affect school openings, closures, and reconfigurations.

Information on the submission process can be found [here](#). Schools that have changes in grade configurations will not be able to access those grade levels in the student Choice application until the profile amendment has been approved through the Office of Accountability. Contact IDOE's [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

Choice School Application for the 2025-2026 School Year

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

Choice Student Application

The window to submit student Choice applications for Period 1 of the 2025-2026 school year is also currently open, and will remain open through Monday, September 1. The application is available to schools that have been approved for participation in Choice for the 2025-2026 school year.

New this year, the application must be accessed using the LINK portal, using the "Choice Scholarship" tile on the [LINK dashboard](#). Only those with a LINK role of Superintendent, Principal, LEA Administrator, and/or School Administrator will be able to access the new Choice system. LINK roles are assigned by your school's LINK Security Coordinator.

Communications

- In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations, do not include both student name and STN in the same email.
- When sending email to your Choice specialist or to the Choice general email, include your school number and the general subject in the subject line.
- Weekly Choice announcements are sent through the Non-Public School Community (Moodle). If you are not receiving the notifications, check the preferences in your Moodle profile. If you have not joined the community, please do so. If you need assistance, contact your Choice Specialist or email ChoiceSchool@doe.in.gov.
- Information for all schools is published weekly in Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update. Click [here](#) for previous editions and to be added to the mailing list.



Department News

- **8/13/25** Indiana Achieves Unprecedented Growth in Third Grade Literacy Rates
- **7/24/2025** Indiana Seeks Federal Flexibility to Strengthen Student Success and Reduce Bureaucracy
- **7/24/2025** Public Comment on First Draft of School Accountability Rule Open Through August 22

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