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Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

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 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

30. IDOE's Literacy Center released the 2025 annual reading plan guidance. Contact IDOE's Literacy Center with additional questions.

School and Corporation Profile Amendment Window

Deadline Approaching for Annual Reading Plan Guidance

The school and corporation profile amendment submission window for the 2024-2025 school year is open. 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.

Schools with students enrolled in kindergarten through grade eight are required to submit an annual reading plan to IDOE by Monday, June

will make an announcement when it is available again.

REMINDER: StateAid Maintenance To prepare for fiscal year 2026, the tuition support worksheet portion of StateAid will not be available beginning on Monday, June 16. We

The Office of School Finance will virtually host the Annual Finance Workshop later this month. Videos are available on our moodle

REMINDER: Annual Finance Workshop

community. On Wednesday, June 25, at 10:30 a.m. ET, the Office of School Finance will host a special question and answer session. The link to the question form and to the office hours are posted in moodle.

NEW: School Technology Advancement Account (STAA) Applications

Choice Scholarship Program

School corporations may file an application for an STAA through Friday, July 11. The STAA application can be completed online and must be completed in one sitting. A sample application and certification page can be found in Moodle. Contact commonschoolfund@doe.in.gov

Choice Specialist Realignment The following counties have been assigned a new Choice specialist: Adams, Boone, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Crawford, Fulton, Hamilton,

month.

with any questions.

Questions and Answers on Serving Children with Disabilities Placed by their Parents in Non-Public Schools in

Hendricks, Howard, Huntington, Kosciusko, Lake, LaPorte, Lawrence, Marshall, Miami, Orange, Perry, Porter, Pulaski, St. Joseph, Starke, Tipton, Wabash, and Wells. If your school was re-assigned to a new Choice Specialist, you should have received an email earlier this

Exit dates must be entered for all students within five days of the last day as indicated on your school calendar in DEX. The July

Data Entry Reminder

certification census date is Monday, June 30. Automatic nightly validation ends on Tuesday, July 1, with certification starting on Monday,

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

July 7, and ending on Friday, July 11.

Indiana

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.

(https://apps.doe.in.gov/choice). Only those with a LINK role of Superintendent, Principal, LEA Administrator, and/or School Administrator

New this year, the application must be accessed using the LINK portal, using the "Choice Scholarship" tile on the LINK dashboard

will be able to access the new Choice system. LINK roles are assigned by your school's LINK Security Coordinator.

Office Hours The next office hours session will be held on Tuesday, July 8. Each session begins on the half-hour, with the first session at 9 a.m. ET and the last session at 10:30 a.m. ET. The link to join is here. Choice Office Hours information and the link to join is also posted in the Non-

Choice Shadow Program

Public School Community in Moodle.

Approved Choice schools for 2025-2026 may also request to have your assigned Choice Specialist visit your school to assist with entering student applications and answer questions. To request a school shadow visit, please reach out to choiceschool@doe.in.gov. Your school should have at least 10 Choice student applications to submit during the visit. The window for a school shadow visit will close at the end of July.

or returning schools with new Choice staff.

Choice Annual Conference

Choice Certification Training

Certification training will take place on Tuesday, June 24, and Tuesday, July 15. The morning session will run from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. ET and the afternoon session will run from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET. Any school interested in attending may sign up here.

Choice certification operates like a "Choice 101" course and provides an opportunity to learn about the Choice program, with emphasis on the annual cycle of Choice requirements. Anyone is welcome to attend, but certification training may be particularly useful for new schools

Communications

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations, do not include both student name and STN in

When sending email to your Choice specialist or to the Choice general email, include your school number and the general subject in

The Choice Annual Conference will be held on Wednesday, July 16, at Indiana Government Center- South. Choice schools will be able to

hear from several different IDOE teams about information pertinent to accredited nonpublic schools. Schools may register here.

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.

the mailing list.

the subject line.

Information for all schools is published weekly in Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update. Click here for previous editions and to be added to

Choice program announcements are made each Friday in the Non-Public School Community in Moodle. If you have not yet joined

this community, contact choiceschool@doe.in.gov for information on how to create an account and join.

Department News

Accountability

5/28/2025 Indiana Department of Education Announces 2024-2025 STEM Certified Schools 4/2/2025 Governor Braun Announces New Partnerships Providing High School Students a Direct Path to Their Future

6/4/2025 Indiana Education Leaders Kick Off Collaborative Process to Refocus School

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