



The Torch

The official newsletter for State of Indiana employees

JULY
2025

Updated Remote Work Policy effective July 1, 2025

[Executive Order 25-16](#) directed all Executive Branch agencies reporting to the Governor to return to full-time on-site operations, unless otherwise directed. To support this transition, the Indiana State Personnel Department (INSPD), in partnership with the Office of Management and Budget, published a new Remote Work policy to replace the current Flexible Work Arrangements policy on July 1.

The updated policy can be found on the [INSPD: Laws, Rules, and Standardized Policies](#) webpage.

To equip you with the information you need to prepare for the transition, please find the following key points from the new Remote Work policy:

- Indiana's default expectation is onsite work.
- Remote Work may only be authorized when it serves a clear operational need.
- Remote Work Agreements (RWA)
 - Any existing Remote Work Agreement authorizing hybrid work will be rescinded July 1.
 - Only fully remote workers must annually complete an RWA aligned with the updated policy.

**View the updated
Remote Work Policy >**

A note from IDOA Commissioner Brandon Clifton

As we return to a more consistent in-office presence following the July 1st transition, I want to extend my thanks for your flexibility and share a few key reminders about parking at the Indiana Government Center campus.

**Read the full letter from
Commissioner Clifton >**

In this issue

- 2** A letter from State CIO Warren Lenard
- 3** Keeping you informed: Four policy updates effective July 1
- 4** New employee resource for pregnancy/childbirth, adoption, and foster care
- 5** Make a difference—and tell us about it!
- 6** Mine rescue team places first in safety competition
- 7** Governor's Summer Interns met with Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Chief Justice
- 8** Performance management myth: "There's no time to manage performance"
- 9** Health and Wellness Week is July 14-18
- 10** Tips for prioritizing your health at work
- 11** Three State employees who are making health a priority
- 12** Annual Indiana Health Fair to offer more than \$4,000 in free health screenings
- 14** Say hello to ServiceNow, your new IT Help Portal

The Torch is published monthly by the Indiana State Personnel Department and is available online at on.in.gov/TheTorch.

Got a story?

Submit your story ideas to:
spdccommunications@spd.in.gov

X



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A letter from State CIO Warren Lenard

Fellow State employees,

Going back to working together in person is a significant change and opportunity for our work culture. It's an excellent chance for us to look each other in the eye, quickly share ideas, build a team spirit, and improve the services we offer to Hoosiers.

One big advantage of meeting in person is that we can easily share ideas when we're all together. Brainstorming sessions become energized as team members bounce ideas off each other and gather inspiration from their peers. This teamwork not only helps individual projects, but also creates an atmosphere of creativity that can improve our partnerships across the agency. Being together in the same space can lead to great ideas that wouldn't come up if we were talking through a screen. So, returning to the office is not just about going back to old habits; it's about refreshing our creativity and improving the quality of our work.



Also, the way we communicate face-to-face isn't something we can fully recreate online. We can pick up on non-verbal cues like body language and facial expressions that help us understand one another better. When team members can see each other's reactions and adjust their words right then and there, they can make better decisions and avoid misunderstandings that could slow down our work.

Those casual interactions that happen in an office—like quick chats in the hallway or conversations by the water cooler—often spark great ideas that wouldn't come up in planned virtual meetings. These moments help different teams mix ideas together, pushing innovation beyond regular project limits.

Returning to the office also helps us build stronger team bonds. The relationships we create during relaxed chats, shared meals, or just passing each other by in the hallway help build trust and friendships that are harder to develop when we work remotely. Knowing each other personally makes working together, communicating openly, and finding solutions as a group easier. In-person collaboration facilitates more effective knowledge transfer and mentorship opportunities. Junior team members can observe senior colleagues in action, learning not just what decisions are made, but how they're made. This transforms our work environment into a place where sharing ideas and helping each other become the norm.

Celebrating our successes is also more meaningful when we can do it together in person. Whether we finish a big project or hit a milestone, sharing those moments strengthens our team bonds and motivates everyone. It builds a culture of appreciation that is often quieter in remote settings.

Returning to an in-person workspace makes our work more efficient and boosts our team's morale and satisfaction. It represents our commitment to creating a collaborative environment where creativity flourishes, relationships grow stronger, and productivity increases. As we transition back, we're not just returning to old ways but seizing the chance to build a connected, empowered, and innovative workplace, setting us up for future success. These relationships become the foundation for sustained high performance, resilience during challenging periods, and the kind of collaborative excellence that defines exceptional organizations.

Regards,
Warren Lenard
State CIO | Agency Head Indiana Office of Technology

Keeping you informed: Four policy updates effective July 1

The Indiana State Personnel Department is committed to keeping you informed of all policy changes affecting your work. Effective July 1, 2025, INSPD:

- Published two new policies: the [Childbirth Recovery Leave](#) policy in accordance with EO 25-34 and the [Remote Work](#) policy in accordance with EO 25-16.
- Rescinded the Flexible Work Arrangements policy in accordance with EO 25-16.
- Updated the [Leaves and Absences](#) policy in accordance with Senate Bill 409.

These updates reflect recent legislative action, executive leadership priorities, and ongoing efforts for continuous improvement to best serve the State of Indiana. Below is additional information regarding each of these changes.

Leaves and Absences Policy: New Allowance for Educational Meetings

In compliance with Senate Bill 409, the [Leaves and Absences policy](#) has been updated to ensure that State employees are not penalized for attending certain meetings related to their child's education such as parent-teacher conferences and meetings involving individualized education programs (IEPs).

This change underscores the State's support for working parents and reinforces the importance of active involvement in a child's academic journey. The policy update provides clarity and protection for parents who need to attend these vital

meetings during working hours.

Childbirth Recovery Leave Policy: New Process for Expanded Paid Leave for Mothers

The request process for paid [Childbirth Recovery Leave](#) has been added to PeopleSoft and a [dedicated page with instructions and resources](#) is now live under the Policies and Procedures section on the INSPD website. Effective July 1, 2025, the PeopleSoft request process replaced the interim process temporarily used following the signing of Executive Order 25-34 by Governor Mike Braun on March 3, 2025.

Since March 3, 2025, mothers giving birth have been eligible for six to eight weeks of paid Childbirth Recovery Leave, in addition to the already existing New Parent Leave (NPL). Additionally, mothers whose delivery experience results in the tragedy of fetal death after 20 weeks gestation are also eligible for this leave. This enhancement reflects Indiana's commitment to supporting employees through all phases of life.

Remote Work Policy: A New Standard

A newly published [Remote Work policy](#) is now in effect, replacing the previously rescinded Flexible Work Arrangements (FWA) policy. This new policy reflects current operational expectations across State government and makes two core principles clear:

The default work expectation for all Executive Branch employees is

onsite work.

Remote work may only be authorized when it meets a clear operational need.

Remote Work Agreements for hybrid work schedules have been rescinded effective July 1, 2025.

Employees should refer to the [June 26, 2025, all-employee email](#) for additional resources related to parking availability, carpooling options, and onsite workspace logistics.

Where to Find More Information

All updated policies can be accessed on the [INSPD: Laws, Rules, and Standardized Policies page](#). If you have questions, please contact your embedded INSPD HR representative or reach out to the [INSPD Employee Relations division](#).

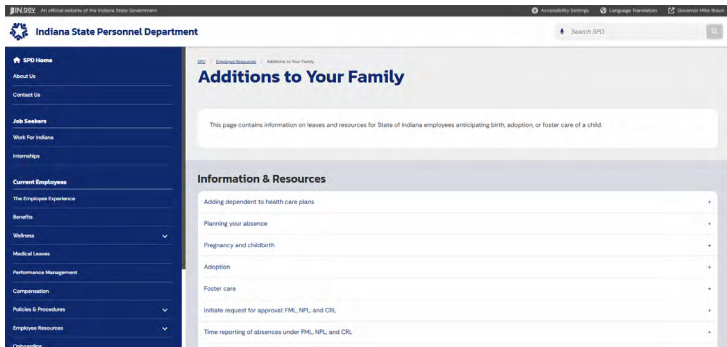
Staying informed is a key part of building a workplace that works better—for everyone. Thank you for your continued commitment to public service and for your attentiveness to these important updates.

Article by Indiana State Personnel Department

**View all policies on the
INSPD: Laws, Rules, and
Standardized Policies
page >**

New employee resource for pregnancy/childbirth, adoption, and foster care

A new web page has been added to INSPD's website to pull together information on leaves and time reporting related to absences when employees add new members to their family.



[Additions to Your Family](#) is available on INSPD's website as an Employee Resource providing information on these topics:

- Adding Dependent to Health Care Plans
- Planning Your Absence
- Pregnancy & Childbirth
- Adoption
- Foster Care
- Initiate Request for Approval of Appropriate Leaves
 - Family-Medical, New Parent, and Childbirth Recovery Leaves
- Time Reporting of Approved Leaves
- Returning to Work
- Additional Resources
- Printable Expectant Parents Packet (download available)

Initiating a request for Childbirth Recovery Leave (CRL) is now handled through PeopleSoft/Employee Self Service (PS/ESS) > Time > Extended Absence Request. Requests for Family-Medical Leave (FML) and New Parent Leave (NPL) are also processed through this path.

Take a look at the new [Additions to Your Family](#) website and prepare for the next addition to your family.

Please direct follow-up questions to these resources:

- For Health Care Benefits information
 - 1-855-773-4647, Option 1
 - SPDBenefits@spd.IN.gov
- For information on available leaves
 - 1-855-773-4647, Option 4
 - EmployeeRelations@spd.IN.gov
- Call 1-888-818-7795 for information about your S/LTD claim.

Registration is open for the GovProc 2025 Conference

Tuesday, August 26 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Indiana Government Center South



This is a full-day, in-person event designed for all State employees involved in purchasing. If you buy goods or services, manage programs that do, or supervise staff who do, this conference is for you.

Featuring 14+ sessions to support complaint, effective procurement, this conference will focus on strengthening partnerships and enhancing public procurement through updates on current policies, new procedures, and recent legislative changes impacting the procurement landscape.

Attendees will hear directly from State leaders and gain insight into SEA 5 implementation, RFP reforms, policy manual overhauls, and much more.

Registration and breakout session sign-up is officially open. Due to anticipated high interest, early registration is strongly encouraged. There is also an opportunity to submit award nominations for the State Government Procurement Conference.

Find GovProc registration and award nomination details >

Article by Indiana Department of Administration

Governor Braun attends high school semi-state baseball game in Jasper



Governor Braun stopped by the Indiana high school semi-state baseball game in Jasper and took a picture with the umpires prior to the game starting, one of which was Indiana Department of Health employee, Steve Corya (back row, just to the left of the Governor).

Make a difference — and tell us about it!

Did you know our Community Service Leave policy offers all State employees paid time off to support causes that matter to them? Full-time employees can use up to 15 hours of Community Service Leave each calendar year, and part-time employees can use up to 7.5 hours each calendar year. Whether you've volunteered at a local nonprofit, participated in a cleanup, or mentored students, we'd love to hear about it!

Please take a moment to fill out this quick survey and share your experiences. Your feedback helps us celebrate your contributions and improve the program for everyone, and may even be used in future issues of the Torch for Community Service Spotlights.

Thanks for making an impact—inside and outside the workplace!

[Take the Community Service Leave survey >](#)

[View the Community Service Leave Policy >](#)

Mine rescue team places first in safety competition

On June 17, The Indiana Mine Rescue Team put their skills to the test and placed first in the state at the Mine Rescue Association of Indiana's mine rescue competition. The ten-member team competed against 9 other teams from 3 states at Vincennes University's Gibson Center.

This challenge highlights all aspects of mine rescue including rigorous testing of physical endurance, mental acuity, practical knowledge of mining practices and ventilation, firefighting, first aid, and CPR. Mine rescue team members are required to compete in at least two mine rescue competitions a year and complete 96 hours of training annually. The team members are from Indiana underground coal mines as well as employees of the Bureau of Mines, a division of the Indiana Department of Labor.



Back row, left to right: Michael Hersel, Zach Cowling, Zach Winebarger, Derek Smith, Joby Johnson, Keith Wampler

Front row, left to right: Caleb Duncan, Cory Garrett

Team members not pictured: Dee Whitehead, Kris Walters

"I'm proud of the Rescue Team's efforts and determination. Their pursuit of excellence can be seen not just on the competition stage, but in every aspect of mine safety, ensuring the legacy of coal mining continues in the Hoosier state," shared Secretary of Business Affairs Mike Speedy.

The Bureau of Mines, headquartered in Vincennes, is tasked with inspecting each of the four Indiana underground coal mining operations and certifying specific mining occupations. [Learn more about the Bureau of Mines.](#)

Article by the Indiana Department of Labor

Employee education spotlights

Are you furthering your education or is one of your coworkers? We'd like to celebrate State of Indiana employees that are taking advantage of tuition reimbursement/assistance to further their education. Fill out the spotlight form below and your submission may be included in The Torch, on the State of Indiana website, or on the State of Indiana social media pages.

Submit an employee education spotlight >

Governor's Summer Interns met with Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Chief Justice

The Governor's Summer Intern (GSI) program is flying by! Interns across agencies like the Indiana Department of Environmental Health (IDEM), Indiana Department of Revenue (DOR), Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), and more have been learning everything they can about State government and the important work their agencies do.

Throughout June, interns had formal visits with Lieutenant Governor Micah Beckwith, Chief Justice Loretta Rush, and Governor Mike Braun to ask questions about their specific roles and the way they impact the State of Indiana. In July, interns will have the opportunity to attend an agency leadership panel, with over nine different agencies represented. They will also spend an afternoon volunteering at Gleaners Food Bank, serving others and giving back to the community.

Taking full advantage of the State of Indiana employment, interns have been attending events such as Data Day, sitting in on Supreme Court sessions at the Statehouse, and stopping by the Statehouse Market. In their roles, IDEM interns have been sampling data for teams like the Air Toxics Laboratory and Office of Water Quality, Indiana Office of Technology interns have been revamping SharePoint sites, and Indiana State Personnel Department interns have been creatively impacting the future of the GSI program. With a cohort stretching over 25 agencies and 197 total interns, each individual intern has a role that is uniquely tailored to their interests and skills. In just a few weeks they'll be wrapping up their summer with the State.



GSI Capstone Poster Presentation

You're invited to attend the GSI Capstone Poster Presentation

July 31 | 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Indiana Government Center South Conference Rooms A, B, and C

At the end of July, interns will have the opportunity to participate in a GSI Capstone Poster Presentation event! They will be showcasing the work they have done this summer in an open-house style. Peers, supervisors, and State employees can stop by the event happening in Indiana Government Center South Conference Rooms A, B, and C on July 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Come and see the amazing projects the Governor's Summer Interns have been working on this summer!

Performance management myth: “There’s no time to manage performance.”

Everyone is busy but we can’t miss the chance to ensure the team is on track. High performers want their efforts acknowledged and employees struggling to be successful need your support and feedback. Having a team meeting and one-on-one discussions once a month gives you a pulse on operations and a view into your team’s needs. Incorporate managing performance into your schedule with these tips:



Document during your meetings

- Your notes can be bullet points and help you remember what to follow up on.
- Use Continuous Performance Management (CPM) in SuccessFactors to track employee one-on-one discussions and achievements that can be accessed during the Performance Appraisal.

Empower your employees to take ownership of their performance

- They can track their progress, achievements, and challenges for you to review before 1:1 discussions. Reading their notes before the meeting saves time and focuses the discussion on what’s needed or the next steps.

Stop writing novels to document performance

- Remember, you experienced the review period with your employee. When you regularly document efforts and feedback, there’s no need to give an exhaustive recap in evaluations. Keep observations, feedback, and evaluations clear, concise, and quick to the point.
- The value of appraisals comes from using them as a tool to plan for the next review period. Some efforts need to continue, improve, or stop – use the 1:1 to keep employees on track, celebrate their successes, develop their talent, and plan for a productive new year.

Upcoming updates to the CDL Medical Examiner Certification process

To obtain or retain a Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) or Commercial Learner’s Permit (CLP) in Indiana, drivers must have a valid Medical Examiner’s Certificate (MEC) on file with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).

As of June 23, 2025, in accordance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s (FMCSA) final rule under the National Registry II (NRII) (49 CFR § 383.71), all states must accept MECs in an **electronic format**.

The certified physician will send the MEC to the National Registry who will then electronically submit the information to the state of record to be applied to the driving record. As a result, BMV’s branches and CDL Department will not be allowed to accept physical copies of MECs.



Article by Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Health and Wellness Week is July 14-18

Start off the week by signing up for the [July Team Challenge](#)

Team up with coworkers and get moving July 14 through July 28, 2025. Help your team beat the competition by working toward daily goals of 10,000 steps AND 15 active minutes. The team with the highest percent completion to the goal wins! Registration is open for all full-time State employees! To participate, log in to [ActiveHealth](#) (or create an account), and select “Challenges” from the navigation. Then join or create a team using the steps below:

- Join an existing team. Use the search bar to look up a team name or person on the team. After finding a team, click the “Join” button.

Statewide Team Challenge July 14 - 28



- Create your own team by clicking “Create a Team.” Invite others to join your team by sending the link to your team to coworkers.

It's recommended that teams consist of at least 10 members, and can have up to 100 members.

Make sure you are registered through [ActiveHealth](#) and your device is connected before the Team Challenge begins on July 14!

Stay tuned for other ways to get involved in Health and Wellness Week and find more health resources on [Invest In Your Health](#).

State of Indiana Wellness Champions

The Invest In Your Health program utilizes wellness champions to help raise awareness and increase engagement in healthy practices at State of Indiana worksites. These wellness champions organize weekly walking groups, healthy pitch-ins, host lunch & learns, and more! Check in with your [wellness champion](#) to see what activities are planned for your locations during Health & Wellness Week!

Become a Wellness Champion

If you'd like to become a Wellness Champion for your agency, contact Ashley Martin for more information or to apply.

Become a Wellness
Champion >



Tips for prioritizing your health at work

- **Incorporate walking meetings:** Walking meetings can be especially good for brainstorming sessions. Get your creativity flowing by walking while you work through a problem or listen in on a project update.
- **Set yourself an activity reminder:** Some jobs require thousands of steps a day but for those who aren't building roads or treating patients, it can be harder to get moving. Try to get in at least five minutes of movement every hour. Take a trip to the copier, visit a restroom on a different floor, join a walking group for motivation ([like the Team Challenge coming up from July 14-28](#)), take the stairs when you can, or take a longer walk on your lunch break.
- **Take lunch away from your desk:** Not only can you take some extra steps by having lunch elsewhere, but eating with a friend can help you to eat more slowly and give your brain a break from work.
- **Give your eyes a break:** Looking at a screen for too long can cause eyestrain and result in symptoms like headaches. Try the 20-20-20 rule to help your eyes rest: every 20 minutes look at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds or more. You can also adjust your brightness to help your eyes avoid strain.
- **Improve your ergonomics:** If you work at a desk, sit upright and adjust your screen so you're looking straight ahead. Take regular breaks to look up and stretch your neck and keep your wrists flat like you're playing piano to avoid straining them. Your feet should be flat on the floor with both your hips and knees at 90-degree angles and you may also benefit from adding lumbar support to your work chair.

Find more resources to Invest In Your Health >



Stay hydrated in hot weather

Drinking plenty of water is great for your health and can help your body stay cool, even on hot summer days. Staying hydrated helps keep your body functioning at its best and can help you avoid health conditions like kidney stones.



Wellness Webinar | Healthy hydration: Choose your drink wisely

Tuesday, July 22, 2025
10 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 6:30 p.m.

Think about what you drink in a day. Are you getting enough water? We'll talk about easy ways to get more water. And how to make sure you're not getting more than you bargained for from your drinks.

Register for the Wellness Webinar >

Three State employees who are making health a priority

For Department of Homeland Security employee Melissa Amerman, managing her health has become more challenging as the years go on. “It has become obvious at this age how important it is to eat right and to exercise...I hit a hurdle with my health [in the] last several years and decided it’s time to make a conscious effort before my struggles become irreversible,” she said.

But as luck would have it, she received an email about the Bob Ross 5k the same day she decided to make a healthier change. “I signed up for that 5k, bought a kayak, and finished the course.”

Soon after, she saw the [Run the State 5k series](#) had races coming up and decided to challenge herself. While she loves hiking, a previous knee injury can make it difficult, and she wasn’t sure if she’d be able to finish this pre-set course on land instead of in a kayak. “I signed up and went to Harmonie State Park and finished the race. I was the last one in, but I finished which was my goal. I was so proud of myself,” said Amerman. While she realized future 5ks might not be best for her knee, she joined a gym and has taken up swimming. At first, she could only do 10 laps but has worked her way up to 30 and said “I am feeling better and better about myself. I’m glad I decided to start.”

Great job, Melissa!

Bureau of Motor Vehicles employee Cayla Sica was also motivated to make a change after several health scares and Department of Child Services employee Ashley Starling is continuing to foster a love of exercise.

[Read all three health spotlights >](#)

Share your health journey!

Health and Wellness month is next month and it’s a great time to spotlight State employees and their health journeys. Tell us your story or nominate someone else that works for the State of Indiana.

These stories can be about sports leagues you’ve joined, races you’ve run your journey fighting an illness, and more. Your submission may be featured in a future Torch or on the State of Indiana social media accounts/website.

[Share your health journey >](#)



Top: Cayla Sica with her family before starting her health journey (left) and after (right).

Middle: Melissa Amerman at her self-guided kayaking 5K on Raccoon Lake.

Bottom: Ashley Starling at a YMCA group fitness class.

Annual Indiana Health Fair to offer more than \$4,000 in free health screenings



The Indiana Health Fair returns to the Indiana Convention Center Halls D and E in downtown Indianapolis this July! Visit IndianaHealthFair.com for a complete list of vendors and schedule of events.

The Indiana Health Fair provides access to free health screenings, education, and resources to help individuals and families lead healthier lives. The event is open to everyone and focuses on increasing awareness and prevention of chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke, hypertension, and cancer. Here is this year's schedule:

- 4-8 p.m. Thursday, July 17
- 1-7 p.m. Friday, July 18
- 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, July 19
- Noon-6 p.m. Sunday, July 20

Attendees can connect with healthcare professionals, community organizations, and wellness programs offering valuable services and support. In all, more than \$4,000 in free health screenings are available. By promoting education and early detection, the Health Fair helps individuals take proactive steps toward better health.

This will be a busy weekend in Indianapolis, and IDOH is partnering with the WNBA for a ladies' night on July 18 to coincide with the WNBA All-Star events happening the same weekend.

Take advantage of this opportunity to check on your health sponsored by the Indiana Department of Health.

Article by the Indiana Department of Health

Pre-Retirement Seminar recordings

If you are considering retiring from State government but could not attend the recent Pre-Retirement Seminar on Thursday, June 5, sponsored by the Indiana State Personnel Department (INSPD), please find the recordings below.

This day-long workshop was designed to assist State employees with advance retirement planning by providing information useful in making informed decisions. If you plan to retire in the next year, it's recommended to watch the recording of this seminar to help plan ahead for various aspects of your retirement. Additionally, the next Pre-Retirement Seminar on Tuesday, September 23 and registration for that event will open later this summer. If you are interested in being put on a waitlist, please email SPDTraining@spd.IN.gov.

The recording of this seminar must not be watched on State time.

Watch the Pre-Retirement Seminar recording >

View the presentation from the most recent Pre-Retirement Seminar >

Hoosier Lottery celebrates Lottery Week

The Hoosier Lottery will join jurisdictions across North America in celebrating Lottery Week, beginning July 14. Lottery Week evolved from an idea for a National Lottery Day implemented by the Massachusetts Lottery in 2018, celebrating the provision of billions of dollars in local aid provided by the Lottery.

The Hoosier Lottery, which is in the midst of celebrating its 35th anniversary, has given back more than \$7.7 billion to good causes across the state of Indiana including monies to the Teachers' Retirement Fund, local police and firefighters' pensions, and helps offset the motor vehicle excise tax on vehicles registered in Indiana.

The Hoosier Lottery has earned World Lottery Association Level 4 Certification for achieving the highest level of responsible gaming. To learn more about the Hoosier Lottery, visit HoosierLottery.com/GivingBack.

Article by the Hoosier Lottery



Ohio Street traffic restrictions continue

Utility construction continues to require phased traffic restrictions along Ohio

Street between West Street and Senate Avenue. The work is expected to last approximately four months and will affect both traffic flow and parking in the area.



Traffic Impact Timeline

- **July 7 – September 8:** Ohio Street will be limited to westbound traffic only (from Senate Avenue).

Access to the IGC loading dock will remain available throughout all phases of construction.

Parking Impact

In addition, Senate Avenue south of Ohio Street, located in front of the State Library, will be closed to all parking through September 8.

Employees and visitors are encouraged to plan alternate routes and allow extra time for travel during this period. Thank you for your patience as this critical infrastructure work is completed.

Article by Indiana Department of Administration



Artwork by Amelia, submitted by Ernâni Magalhães (Office of Administrative Law Proceedings)

Say hello to ServiceNow, your new IT Help Portal

What's Changing

A new chapter in IT support is on the way for State employees. Beginning this month, the Indiana Office of Technology (IOT) will begin a phased roll-out of a new platform called ServiceNow to handle IOT-managed support, with agency onboarding continuing through early fall. The new platform will modernize how employees request help with technology.

Whether it's a frozen laptop, a software access request, or a question about your agency's tech setup, ServiceNow will make it easier to get the support you need—and stay informed throughout the process.

"Our goal is to provide faster, clearer, more consistent support across the state," said Tamara DeGraff, Deputy Director for Internal Application Support. "ServiceNow is going to help us do that. It gives employees one simple place to go for help, and helps our teams respond more efficiently."

Meet the Employee Center Portal

ServiceNow is already widely used by governments and major organizations around the world. IOT's implementation includes a redesigned Employee Center Portal, where employees can:

- Submit and track IT help tickets
- Search a growing knowledge base of how-to guides
- View updates and notifications about their requests

The new system is part of IOT's ongoing efforts to improve service delivery for agencies and make technology feel less like a hurdle, and more like an enabler, for everyday work.

Ensuring a Smooth Transition

"This is a major shift behind the scenes, but the goal is for employees to feel confident and supported throughout. We know that a smooth transition is just as important as the system itself" said Karen Ridenour, Sention Project Manager at IOT.

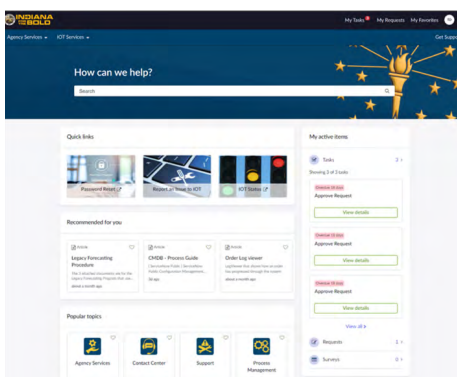
IOT's Commitment to the State Employee Experience

ServiceNow will become the new home for IOT-managed technology support – things like device issues, software access, and general IT assistance provided by IOT. Many agencies will continue using ASM for internal processes or agency-specific tickets that don't involve IOT. If you're ever unsure which system to use, the Employee Center Portal will guide you to the right place.

"This is about more than new software. It's about building a more responsive, unified experience for State employees across Indiana" said DeGraff.

As your agency transitions to ServiceNow – beginning in this month and continuing through early fall – you'll use the new Employee Center Portal to submit tickets, track progress, and find helpful resources – all in one place. It's support made simpler.

Article by Indiana Office of Technology



To that end, a suite of learning materials will be available in SuccessFactors, including short videos and job aids that walk you through the Employee Center Portal and its key features. Additional training and support will also be provided to impacted agency users as part of the onboarding rollout.

WHAT'S IN

MORE THAN BASKETBALL IN INDIANA

Hoosier Hysteria is a culture, a passion, and an emotion for sport you can't find anywhere else. Find trip ideas at Basketball Experience IN INDIANA.

[THE BASKETBALL EXPERIENCE IN INDIANA](#)

Your Summertime Escape

ABE MARTIN LODGE

BROWN COUNTY STATE PARK






SAVE 25%*

Our Rustic Lodge and Cabins offer the perfect retreat for fun, comfort, and adventure. Nestled in the heart of Brown County State Park, it's the ideal escape for families, couples, or solo travelers.

HOTEL ROOMS • AQUATIC CENTER • EVENT SPACES • CABINS

Summer Special May 27, 2025 - Aug. 28, 2025

*Stay two or more consecutive nights, Sunday through Thursday, and get 25% off the Best Available Rate. Not valid with any other offer or with group bookings. Blackout dates and restrictions may apply.

Book now at 877.LODGES 1 or [Indianalodges.com](https://www.indianalodges.com)




The Soundtrack of Summer is Playing at the Indiana State Fair

Hello Team Indiana!

Get ready to turn up the volume on summer fun, because the Indiana State Fair is back, and this year's theme is "The Soundtrack of Summer"! From nostalgic sounds to live performances that will have you dancing in the aisles, we're celebrating the sounds that makes summer memories unforgettable.

Guess who's back? The Big Top Circus returns with jaw-dropping acts and family-friendly thrills that will leave you cheering for more. It's all included with your Fair admission!

We're also proud to partner with Get Prepared Indiana to bring you the best value of summer fun.

Where: Indiana State Fairgrounds

When: August 1-17 (closed Mondays)

Why: Because your summer soundtrack starts at the Fair!

Let's make this summer sing!

Your Friends at the Indiana State Fairgrounds



SOUNDTRACK OF SUMMER

AUG 1-17, 2025 | CLOSED MONDAYS

PRESENTED BY **Get Prepared Indiana**



July 11, 2025

Full Moon Paddle | Patoka Lake

Explore the lake and discover the wildlife of Patoka.

[More Information >](#)

July 12, 2025

Annual Sand Sculpture Contest | Indiana Dunes State Park

Watch the sand come alive at this year's 28th anniversary event! The theme is "Happy Birthday Indiana Dunes State Park." Indiana Dunes is celebrating 100 years in 2025!

[More Information >](#)

Snakefest 2025 | Brown County State Park

Come join for an exciting Saturday with passive displays of reptiles, opportunities for learning, petting, and pictures, and special presentations.

[More Information >](#)

Smokey's Birthday Bash! | Mounds State Recreation Area

Help wish Smokey a happy 81st birthday! Take a photo with this famous bear, learn about wildfire prevention, and enjoy a birthday treat.

[More Information >](#)

Summer Concert Series | Fort Harrison State Park

Join on the Sledding Hill for an evening of listening to local musicians.

[More Information >](#)

July 13, 2025

2025 Nature Journaling Summer Series | Prophetstown State Park

This series is for beginners and taught by beginners. Each class will offer a lesson on a natural topic or artistic skill followed by time to journal.

[More Information >](#)

July 19 & 20, 2025

Virgil I "Gus" Grisson Days | Spring Mill State Park

Join for two days full of space activities, guided tours, and cosmic cuisine.

[More Information >](#)

July 19, 2025

Wild About Wildlife | McCormick's Creek State Park

Details coming soon.

[More Information >](#)

July 26, 2025

Centennial Celebration | Pokagon State Park

The Spring Shelter, build by the Civilian Conservations Corps in 1938, is being rededicated in celebration of Pokagon State Park's hundred-year anniversary following building preservation rehabilitation work.

[More Information >](#)

Rumble for the Raptors Car Show | Hardy Lake

Join for the Cruise in Car Show and enjoy live birds of prey, a variety of door prizes, and a fundraiser breakfast to support the Dwight Chamberlain Raptor Center.

[More Information >](#)

Back to School Bash | Harmonie State Park

Everyone dreads back to school time after a fun, hot summer so come have one more party before hitting the books! There will be water slides, a foam machine, tons of games, hotdogs, chips, drinks and prizes. Some school supplies will also be available donated by local organizations.

[More Information >](#)

August 1 & 2, 2025

Sand Sculpture Demonstrations | Pokagon State Park

The Theta Tau Sand Sculptors have been gracing the park with their unique creations since 1977. Come view their latest designs and meet some of the artists.

[More Information >](#)

August 2, 2025

Heritage Day | Spring Mill State Park

Join for a fun, history related event featuring village tours, demonstrations, pioneer activities, and more!

[More Information >](#)

August 3, 2025

Quilt Show | Spring Mill State Park
Join for a quilt show between the Village Residents.

[More Information >](#)

**View all DNR special
events >**