

*Funding a Civil Right:*

# Quality Education for All

FY 2020 Recommended Budget for Illinois Public Schools



**“The State has the primary responsibility for financing the system of public education.”**

–Article X of the Illinois Constitution

ISBE’s total FY 2020 budget recommendation of \$19,314,873,800 represents 425 requests from communities around the state. Each line item reflects the State Board’s equity values and beliefs, supporting each child’s right and ability to learn and our own ethical, moral, and legal responsibilities to set high expectations and ensure every student achieves success.

**GENERAL FUNDS TOTAL / \$15,616,486,800   OTHER STATE FUNDS TOTAL / \$79,533,700   FEDERAL FUNDS TOTAL / \$3,618,853,300**

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Full Evidence-Based Funding

**\$11.765 billion for Evidence-Based Funding to close the state funding gap in FY 2020.**

Every child deserves an equitably funded and high-quality public education system – within the current generation. One hundred counties in Illinois have at least one school district funded below 90 percent of adequacy. Fulfilling the State’s commitment to full funding by June 2027 requires an annual increase of approximately \$660 million for the next eight fiscal years based on fiscal year 2019 EBF calculations.

### Universal Access to High-Quality Preschool

**\$2.4 billion for the Early Childhood Block Grant to ensure all students are put on the path to success.**

Illinois has an urgent opportunity and responsibility to align State policy and investment with what children need for long-term academic and social success. ISBE estimates 315,409 children ages 3 to 5 statewide are not served by an early childhood education program funded by the agency in FY 2019, which research shows significantly impacts students’ social and economic outcomes. The recommendation provides all students access to high-quality pre-kindergarten programs and funding for the Prevention Initiative Program to serve children birth to three.

### Educator Recruitment and Recognition

**\$20.3 million for equitable access to teachers and leaders in every school and classroom through diverse educator recruitment, teacher and principal mentoring, the Educators Rising teacher pipeline program, and teacher leadership.**

Teachers are essential to eliminating opportunity and achievement gaps in all public schools across Illinois. Ninety percent of the 2017 teaching vacancies were in districts funded below adequacy. ISBE’s *Teach Illinois: Strong Teachers, Strong Classrooms* report proposed a suite of research-backed solutions to the statewide teacher workforce crisis that school districts urgently need funding to implement.

### Career-Connected Learning for the 21st Century

**\$12.6 million increase, for a total appropriation of \$50.67 million, to support rural and other high-need districts in updating their Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities.**

The 2017 update to the federal CTE law ushered in a new era for career-connected learning. Through CTE’s pathways and partnership, students develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence to succeed in 21st century careers. Thriving CTE is critical to meeting the State’s goal of 60 percent of all Illinoisans obtaining a high-quality degree or credential by 2025.



**Illinois**  
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Education

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