

IHSA Advisor
April, 2019

ISBE releases RFPs for ECBG: The Illinois State Board of Education released its RFPS for FY 20 Preschool For All, Preschool For All Expansion, and Prevention Initiative grants. The grants are due June 10, 2019, before 4:00 PM. The grants may be submitted electronically or by paper and a flash drive.

Here is a one page flyer describing the “improvements” ISBE made to the ECBG grant process this year: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-ECBG-Flyer.pdf>

I encourage all HS and EHS programs to apply if you have a waiting list and can show the need in your area for additional slots.

I also STRONGLY encourage you to pull together your local EC entities or your local EC collaboration group to discuss the needs in your local area for any of the grants. This year the ECBG grants are supposed to clearly show that there is a need for expansion or initiation of these programs.

Here is a link to the RFPs: <https://www.isbe.net/ECBG>

Look for information from IHSA for webinars about writing the grants.

Risk and Reach Report: The Illinois Risk and Reach Report is a set of data tools that includes a comprehensive early childhood focused report and interactive website compiling an analysis of child well-being indicators in relation to state investments in three domains:

- Family Stability
- Health
- Early Care and Education

The Report will inform governmental and nongovernmental early childhood stakeholders who make policy and funding decisions. Data are visualized through tables and maps in three categories:

RISK — An analysis of 15 indicators representing risk factors that affect child well-being and development;

REACH — An assessment of the availability and distribution of 17 publicly funded programs and services by geography;

FISCAL SCAN — An analysis of public investments for families with young children comparing the most recent fiscal years.

Erikson Institute, IECAM/University of Illinois, and Voices for Illinois Children partnered in this collaborative effort. Look here for the report and to watch webinars explaining more about the Risk and Reach project and the report. <https://www.erikson.edu/policy-initiatives/risk-reach/>

Leading by Exemplar: Case Studies of Head Start Programs: This detailed analysis from Bellweather Education Partners explores five high-performing Head Start programs from across the country. This work strives to understand the practices that led to the effectiveness of the programs in

the study and also to understand how policymakers and the early childhood field can leverage the successes of those programs and replicate it. https://bellwethereducation.org/publication/leading-exemplar-case-studies-head-start-programs?utm_source=BUILD+Initiative+-+General+List&utm_campaign=dcf7e24acc-EMAIL%20CAMPAIGN%202017%2005%2024%20COPY%2001&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_48a0135618-dcf7e24acc-109590641

Resilience Training for Staff: Resilience training might be something your program wants to try for staff. <https://hechingerreport.org/fighting-teacher-stress/>

Should Children Be Ready for Kindergarten—Or Should Kindergarten Be Ready for Children?

Very interesting article about kindergarten readiness. Why have we become so preoccupied with kindergarten readiness? Maybe as much attention should be given to schools' readiness for children as to children's readiness for school. Read the article here:

<https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2019/03/26/should-children-be-ready-for-kindergarten--or-should.html>

IEL Has Many Resources for Kindergarten Transition

IEL has several resources to assist with kindergarten transition. The podcast [Diverse Families and the Transition to Kindergarten](#) may be of interest this month as early childhood program staff assist families with their child's transition to kindergarten. We offer a Q&A with specific information about [Starting Kindergarten in Illinois](#). Two tip sheets for families specifically focus on the transition to kindergarten: [Going to Kindergarten?](#) and [Starting Kindergarten? Help Make It a Good Experience!](#)



Measles Outbreaks!!! The CDC is asking for your help to ensure that all children and families are up to date on the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. When it comes to vaccinations, parents trust the expertise of their doctor more than anyone else. As families work with their doctors, it's important that Head Start, Early Head Start, and child care staff help parents understand that the MMR vaccine is the best protection against measles infection.

Here are actions programs can take at this website:

<http://hsicc.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/i/9EFFFA04991FA0E02540EF23F30FEDED/B849704881BB7B532A1BF84ACBDD178B>

Partner Plan Act Conference: Equity from the Start

Registration for the 2019 Partner Plan Act Conference is now open! The free conference will take place in Bloomington, Illinois on June 11, 2019 from 9:00am-4:00pm. This annual conference brings early childhood system stakeholders together to learn, network, and deepen their community systems knowledge and skills.

This year, the theme is Equity from the Start: Community Systems Development through a Racial Equity Lens. Dr. Aisha Ray, Professor Emerita of Child Development at Erikson Institute and Distinguished Fellow at BUILD Initiative, is presenting the afternoon plenary and will focus on how participants can embed racial equity theories in their everyday practice.

In addition, the conference will feature breakout sessions presented by organizations like Erikson Institute, Education Systems Center at Northern Illinois University, the Ounce of Prevention, Greater Chicago Food Depository, and more. Register now!

<https://www.regonline.com/registration/login.aspx?eventID=2558649&MethodId=0&EventsessionId>

Upcoming Conferences

Building Systems That Work for Families, May 7 in Urbana or May 16 in Naperville

https://www.theounce.org/what-we-do/policy-and-advocacy/illinois-policy-action-center/training-for-community-systems-leaders/?utm_source=MarketingCloud&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=illinois_policy&utm_term=action_alert&utm_content=201905training

Leadership Connections National Conference, May 9–11, Wheeling, IL,

<http://www.cvent.com/events/2019-leadership-connections-national-conference/event-summary-0d055fbf2ca7481faacc361c2713edc7.aspx>

14th Annual Bilingual Parents Summit, May 11, Oak Brook, IL,

<http://irc2.thecenterweb.org/site/summit>

Region V Office of HS Opioid Misuse Conference, May 29-30, Chicago, IL (Look for an email about this upcoming conference.)

Region V OHS Cost Allocation/Blended Funding training, June 3-5, 2019, IL Beach Resort, Zion, IL

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ij4cltcab&oeidk=a07eg91xei888034f9b>

IHSA Directors' Institute, June 5 – 7, 2019, IL Beach Resort, Zion, IL

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ij4cltcab&oeidk=a07efpkc1x11b826620>

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Becoming Young Thinkers Institute, June 11–13, Peoria, IL, <https://illinoisearlylearning.org/pa/young-thinkers/>

5th Annual Birth-to-Third Grade (B3) Continuity Conference, June 12–13, Bloomington, IL,

<https://education.illinoisstate.edu/csep/b3/conference2019.php>

Vanessa Rich Leadership Summer Leadership Retreat, July 10-11, IL Beach Resort, Zion, IL,

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ij4cltcab&oeidk=a07eg925ohx67c2969e>

Summer Institute on the Project Approach, July 15–19, Davenport, IA,

<https://illinoisearlylearning.org/pa/institute/>