

Education System

The **Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)** provides leadership and resources to achieve excellence across all Illinois public school districts. ISBE engages legislators, school administrators, teachers, students, parents, families and other stakeholders in formulating and advocating for policies that enhance education, empower districts and ensure equitable outcomes for all students. ISBE disburses billions of dollars in state and federal funds annually and collects diverse educational data for the benefit of more than 2 million students in Illinois.

The **Board of Higher Education** is a coordinating and planning agency for all sectors of Illinois higher education. As part of its planning activity, the board is responsible for implementing the Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success, the state’s higher education blueprint for the next decade. Other responsibilities include consolidated budget recommendations for all of higher education; program review and approval for public colleges and universities; operating and degree-granting approval for independent and out-of-state institutions; administration of state and federal grant programs; and development and maintenance of an information system for colleges and universities.

The state’s public universities and community colleges are administered by 10 boards: the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois that oversees three campuses at Chicago, Springfield and Urbana-Champaign; the Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees that oversees campuses at Carbondale and Edwardsville; the Boards of Trustees of Chicago State University, Eastern Illinois University, Governors State University, Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University and Western Illinois University; and the Illinois Community College Board, which plans and coordinates the programs and activities of the 48 public community colleges.

Illinois Education Enrollment

Public School Enrollment — 2016-17	2,028,162
Elementary (Pre-K–8).....	1,410,674
Secondary (9–12).....	617,485
Number of licensed teachers (public schools)	133,531
Elementary teachers	74,876
Secondary teachers	34,169
Special education teachers.....	23,780
Number of public school districts.....	852
Nonpublic School Enrollment — 2016-17	205,263
Elementary	152,886
Secondary.....	52,377
Percent of students in nonpublic schools	9.2%
Postsecondary Education Enrollment — 2016-17	751,942
Public universities.....	188,405
Community colleges.....	277,038
Private institutions.....	286,499

Source: Illinois State Board of Education; Illinois Board of Higher Education