

Vision for School Improvement

ISBE's school improvement initiative, II-Empower, has a guiding philosophy of whole child, whole school, whole community. Underlying school reform efforts is equity—those in greatest need receive the greatest support.

Key Strategies

PROGRESS UPDATES: ISBE school support managers are providing TA to identified schools. ISBE has also developed one consolidated grant application and is providing leadership for a 31-district pilot of the IL-Empower SI system.

CHALLENGES: ISBE must support an abundance of schools with limited staff and acknowledges that some schools in need of support might not get it if the audit uncovers few findings.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & COMPLIANCE

- Templates and rubrics for improvement plans: Developed (a) needs assessment rubrics and (b) CSI examples for LEA consideration
- **Professional development:** Held convenings to cover changes to the SI application
- Guidance: Developed materials to explain the process to educators, families and community members and provided guidance to LEAs on (a) ESSA regulations to which schools and LEAs must conform, (b) the actions ISBE will take to identify, support and intervene in CSI and TSI schools, (c) the process designed for TSI schools and (d) evidence-based strategies aligned to ESSA requirements
- Structures and processes: Developed or updated processes to (a) recruit, screen, select and evaluate external partners/providers, (b) provide feedback to LEAs on SI efforts, (c) work with ESAs to provide TA to LEAs and schools and (d) monitor progress

Key Updates

NEW POLICY/REGULATIONS: IL updated state laws to conform to its ESSA plan.

NEW SEA PRACTICE: ISBE will (a) revise the LEA application to reinforce state goals for SI and (b) consolidate the LEA school improvement application.

Funding: Formula

Differentiated formula calculated using student enrollment and the level of LEA need

State and School Needs SEA

A long term, sustainable funding stream to elevate LEAs to and maintain adequacy

SCHOOLS

A long term, viable, sustainable funding source

Implementation Timeline

Summer '18	LEA SI grant application opens; TSI & CSI schools identified; final designation for CSI schools
Fall '18	Planning year begins for those requesting a planning year; state report card released
2018-19 SY	Full implementation of SI system
2021-22 SY	LEA resource allocation audit

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