

Policy in Action Calendar Events Glossary

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Section1: Illinois state addresses

State addresses by the Governor occur annually to address the General Assembly on state issues. The speeches are given to satisfy a constitutional stipulation that a governor must report annually on the state and the budget.

1.1 State of the State address

The purpose of the state of the state address is for Governor Rauner to deliver a speech to the General Assembly on the condition and outlook of a state.

Read full text of the 2017 State of the State address [here](#)

1.2 State of the Budget address

The purpose of the budget address is for Governor Rauner to present a state budget to the General Assembly for the upcoming fiscal year. The address will reflect the governor's program and spending priorities.

Read full text of the 2017 State of the State address [here](#)

Section 2: Children's Cabinet

Purpose: To lead a state wide strategic plan to improve the outcomes of children and youth in Illinois. Cabinet members include: Cabinet members who are from executive leadership positions in 15 statewide agencies, 4 members of the Governors senior team and the Department of Innovation and Technology

Format: An agenda is posted prior to the meetings. Meetings are structured around proposed goals for the fiscal year.

Frequency: Quarterly

Attendees: Anyone interested in the work of the cabinet is invited to attend either in person and there are live streams for each meeting.

Link: [here](#)

Section 3: Councils:

Councils are made up of individuals that are appointed by the Governor to convene to act in an advisory or consultative capacity. Council meetings are open to the public to attend, but do not require that citizens to be allowed to participate or speak at the council meeting. It is up to each council to determine in their rules of procedure if and for how long citizens will be allowed to speak at council meetings.

To learn more about other councils outside of early childhood visit [here](#) .

3.1 Early Learning Council (ELC)

Purpose: *This council is created to coordinate existing programs and services for children from birth to 5 years of age in order to better meet the early learning needs of children and their families.*

Format: An agenda is posted prior to the meetings.

Frequency: Quarterly

Attendees: All meeting are open to the public. In attendance are appointed council member as well as anyone interested in Early Learning.

Link: [here](#)

A majority of the Illinois Early Learning Council's work is accomplished through its committees and work groups. Click [here](#) for information on the current committees and subgroups and how you can be involved.

3.2 Illinois Children and Family Services Advisory Council

Purpose: *The Council advises the Department on services and programs affecting children and adults under the Departments care.*

Format: An agenda is posted prior to the meetings.

Frequency: quarterly

Attendees: All meeting are open to the public. In attendance are appointed council member as well as anyone interested in council's mission.

Link: [here](#)

3.3 Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership

Purpose: *To develop and monitor a Children's Mental Health Plan containing short-term and long-term recommendations to provide comprehensive, coordinated mental health prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for children from birth through age 18.*

Format: An Executive Committee meets quarterly and there are subsets of Committee meetings on an ongoing basis.

Frequency: Go to link to see the various committees and meeting: <http://icmhp.org/icmhp-in-action/>

Attendees: Varies depending on committee.

Link: [here](#)

3.4 Illinois Interagency Council on Early Intervention (IICEI)

Purpose: *The IICEI council advises and assists in development, implementation, and evaluation of early intervention programs for children with disabilities and their families.*

Format: An agenda is posted prior to the meetings.

Frequency: quarterly

Attendees: All meeting are open to the public. In attendance are appointed council members as well as anyone interested in Early Intervention.

Link: [here](#)

3.5 P-20

Purpose: *The purpose of this council is to study and make recommendations concerning education at all levels in order to avoid fragmentation of policies, promote improved teaching and learning, and continue to cultivate and demonstrate strong accountability and efficiency.*

Format: An agenda is posted prior to the meetings.

Frequency: Every other month

Attendees: All meeting are open to the public. In attendance are appointed council members as well as anyone interested in council's mission.

Link: [here](#)

3.6 Professional Development Advisory Council

Purpose: *To develop, support, and promote a professional development system for all early care and education, school-age, youth development, and family support practitioners.*

Frequency: Five statewide meetings a year, including an annual stakeholders meeting

Attendees: All meeting are open to the public. In attendance are council member as well as anyone interested in professional development.

Link: [here](#)

Section 4: Other Committees, Associations or partnership meetings

4.1 DCFS Child Care Licensing Advisory Council

Purpose: *The Child Day Care Licensing Advisory Council provides input and suggestions on day care licensing rules and procedures, areas of focus and future planning, issues, concerns and trends.*

Format: An agenda is posted prior to the meetings

Frequency: Every other month

Attendees: All meeting are open to the public. In attendance are appointed council member as well as anyone interested in council's mission.

Link: [here](#)

4.2 Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children

Purpose: The Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children is a membership organization whose mission is to facilitate the optimal development of young children by advocating for the rights, needs, and well-being of young children and educating, supporting, and collaborating with individuals and organizations working in direct or indirect service to young children.

Format: Meeting are based on committee and chapter schedules.

Attendees: Members

Link: [here](#)

4.3 Illinois Developmental Therapy Association

Purpose: The Illinois Developmental Therapy Association strives to unite developmental therapists together to define and clarify our scope of practice, legitimize our practice, and provide a standard of excellence for our practice.

This is a membership group and enrollment is required to engaging in some activities, some activities and events are public.

Link: [here](#)

4.4 Illinois Infant Mental Health Association

Purpose: ILAIMH is a dynamic organization that works to support the healthy social and emotional development of infants, toddlers and their families. Through training, advocacy, research committees and more we are committed to making an impact.

Format: There are Executive Committee meetings as well as local chapter meetings and committees meetings.

Frequency: see website for more information

Attendees: Anyone interested in the Associations mission.

Link: [here](#)

4.5 Illinois Trauma Collation

Purpose: The Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition is composed of over 80 public and private organizations dedicated to promoting the prevention and treatment of childhood trauma.

Format: see website [here](#)

Frequency: Quarterly

Attendees: [link](#)

Link: [here](#)

4.6 National Association of Social Workers Illinois Chapter

Purpose: *The NASW Illinois Chapter keeps their members on top of up-to-the-minute news and information regarding their professional development, whether it's changes in government regulations, breakthrough treatments, and innovative resources.*

Format: Meetings are based on committee schedules. *The committees focus on the long-term needs of the association as identified by the NASW Illinois Chapter Board of Directors and the strategic plan. A committee must have a direct charge from the board of directors to accomplish long-term and ongoing needs of the board.*

Attendees: Members

Link: [here](#)

Section 5: Early Childhood/Community Collaborations:

Purpose: Focus on improving outcomes for young children and their families through partnerships with a variety of organization within the community.

Format: varies from community to community

Frequency: varies from community to community

Attendees: Anyone working or living in the community of a collaboration that is interested in early childhood and/or the mission of the collaboration. See the link below for information on the collaboration in your community.

Link: [here](#)

Section 6: Illinois School Board Meetings:

6.1 Local Board Meetings

Purpose: The Illinois Association of School Boards has adopted the following [principles](#)

Format: varies by local board

Frequency: Monthly

Attendees: All meeting are open to the public. In attendance are board members as well as anyone interested in the local school. With few exceptions, Illinois school boards consist of seven members elected to serve terms of four years.

Link: Go to the following site for a list of school districts and each district site will have a link to the school board with information on meetings and agenda [here](#)

6.2 Chicago Board of Education:

The Chicago Board of Education holds its monthly Board meeting on the fourth Wednesday of every month, unless otherwise noted. November and December are held on the third Wednesday respectively. Members of the public are welcome.

Unless otherwise noted, Chicago Board of Education meetings are held in the Board room, 42 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, Garden Level.

Advance registration will be open the Monday preceding the Board meeting at 10:30 a.m. and close Tuesday at 5:00 p.m., or until all slots are filled. Advance registration is available for speakers and observers.

Link: [here](#)

Section 7: Public Hearing:

7.1 State budget hearing

Purpose: At this hearing you will learn more about the state's Budgeting for Results and have the opportunity to provide feedback on ways we can continue to provide the best value to Illinois residents.

Frequency: March/April

Attendees: All meetings are open to the public

Link: [here](#)

7.2 CPS budget hearing

Purpose: These hearings offer you and members of the community an opportunity to share your opinions and priorities as CPS begins the budget development process.

Frequency: February

Attendees: All meetings are open to the public

Link: [here](#)

7.3 ISBE budget hearing

Purpose: These hearings offer you and members of the community an opportunity to share your opinions and priorities as ISBE begins the budget development process.

Frequency: October /November

Attendees: All meetings are open to the public

Link: [here](#)

Section 8: Important Sites to stay connected with

Policy and advocacy work can feel very overwhelming and confusing, but it is really not that complicated. You can be engaged in policy and advocacy on many different levels from keeping updated on issue and staying informed, to reaching out to legislators to voice your opinions on issues that impact the early childhood field. So are you wondering where to start? Below is a listing of programs that you may want to sign up for communications from to stay informed on local and federal policy issues via Action Alerts, Newsletters or list serve communications.

STATE

8.1 Child home and Aid Society

Purpose: *The Center for Policy, Practice and Innovation aims to:*

- Promote effective state and federal public policies and services;*
- Improve the quality of services – inside and outside of Children’s Home + Aid – available to vulnerable children and families;*
- Incubate innovative practices to improve outcomes and inform public policies.*

Link: [here](#)

8.2 Council for a Strong America

Purpose: *A national, bipartisan nonprofit that unites five organizations comprised of law enforcement leaders, retired admirals and generals, business executives, pastors, and prominent coaches and athletes who promote solutions that ensure our next generation of Americans will be citizen-ready.*

Link: [here](#)

8.3 Ever Thrive Illinois

Purpose: *Ever thrive works to improve the health of woman, children and families over the lifespan through community engagement, partnerships, policy analysis, education and advocacy.*

Link: [here](#)

8.4 Illinois Action for Children

Purpose: *Illinois Action for Children works is to ensure that every child in Illinois — particularly those in need — have access to the resources to succeed in school and in life. Since their founding in 1969, Illinois Action for Children has worked to create systems of early care and education that help strengthen families and communities.*

Link: [here](#)

8.5 Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health

Purpose: *The Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health (ILAIMH) is a group of professionals drawn together by a common interest in the social-emotional development of infants and their families.*

Link: [here](#)

8.6 Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership

Purpose: *The Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership (ICMHP) is the only statewide, public/private partnership of policymakers and advocates in Illinois committed to improving the scope, quality, and access of mental health programs, services, and supports for children.*

Link: [here](#)

8.7 Latino Policy Forum

Purpose: *The Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the Chicago area that facilitates the involvement of Latinos at all levels of public decision-making. The Latino Policy Forum strives to improve education outcomes, advocate for affordable housing, promote just immigration policies, and engage diverse sectors of the community. It does this by conducting analysis to inform, influence, and lead, all with an understanding that advancing Latinos advances a shared future.*

Link: [here](#)

8.8 National Association for Social Workers - Illinois

Purpose: *The NASW-Illinois Chapter (NASW-IL) keeps their members on top of up-to-the-minute news and information regarding their professional development, whether it's changes in government regulations, breakthrough treatments, and innovative resources.*

Link: [here](#)

8.9 Partner, Plan, Act

Purpose: *The Partner Plan Act website was developed as part of the Consortium for Community Systems Development project, funded through the Race-to-Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant. This website serves as the go-to-resource for those that are interested in learning more about community systems development initiatives in Illinois and how to start and strengthen current community systems efforts. There are also many valuable resources practitioners can access to increase their knowledge and integrate into their local community efforts.*

Link: [here](#)

8.10 The Ounce of Prevention

Purpose: *The Ounce of Prevention Fund has persistently pursued a single goal: that all American children—particularly those born into poverty—have quality early childhood experiences in the crucial first five years of life.*

Link: [here](#)

8.11 The Shriver Center

Purpose: *The Shriver Center works to make critical supports and early intervention services available to parents with low income so that all infants can thrive.*

Link: [here](#)

8.12 Voices for Illinois Children

Purpose: *Voices for Illinois Children champions the full development of every child in Illinois to assure the future well-being of everyone in the state. We work with families, communities, and policymakers across multiple issue areas to help children grow up healthy, happy, safe, loved, and well-educated.*

Link: [here](#)

FEDERAL

8.13 Child Trends

Purpose: *Child Trends is the nation's leading nonprofit research organization focused exclusively on improving the lives and prospects of children, youth, and their families. For 37 years, decision makers have relied on our rigorous research, unbiased analyses, and clear communications to improve public policies and interventions that serve children and families.*

Link: [here](#)

8.14 Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

Purpose: *The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) is a national, nonpartisan, anti-poverty organization advancing policy solutions that work for low-income people. CLASP advocates for public policies and programs at the federal, state, and local levels that reduce poverty, improve the lives of poor people, and create ladders to economic security for all.*

Link: [here](#)

8.15 Every Child Matters

Purpose: *Every Child Matters is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization whose mission is to make children a national political priority*

Link: [here](#)

8.16 The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

Purpose: *The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is a professional membership organization that works to promote high-quality early learning for all young children, birth through age 8, by connecting early childhood practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.*

Link: [here](#)

8.17 National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

Purpose: *NASW works to enhance the professional growth and development of its members, to create and maintain professional standards, and to advance sound social policies.*

Link: [here](#)

8.18 National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)

Purpose: *The National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) has been at the forefront of engaging leaders, policymakers, professionals, and parents around critical and timely issues that directly impact Black children and their families. We are a trusted partner in delivering culturally relevant resources that respond to the unique strengths and needs of Black children around issues including early childhood education, health, child welfare, literacy, and family engagement. With the support of our Affiliate network in communities across the country, we are committed to our mission “to improve and advance the quality of life for Black children and their families through education and advocacy.”*

Link: [here](#)

8.19 The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Purpose: *The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation seeks to improve the health and health care of all Americans. Our efforts focus on improving both the health of everyone in America and their health care—how it's delivered, how it's paid for, and how well it does for patients and their families*

Link: [here](#)

8.20 The Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Purpose: *The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law brings together lawyers, community leaders and allies from across the country as the nation's leading advocate for people living in poverty. Our goal is to make justice, equality and opportunity work for everyone.*

Link: [here](#)

8.21 ZERO TO THREE

Purpose: *Zero to Three works to ensure that babies and toddlers benefit from the early connections that are critical to their well-being and development.*

Link: [here](#)