

# Foundations for Equitable Systems

## Policy Updates

Presented by:

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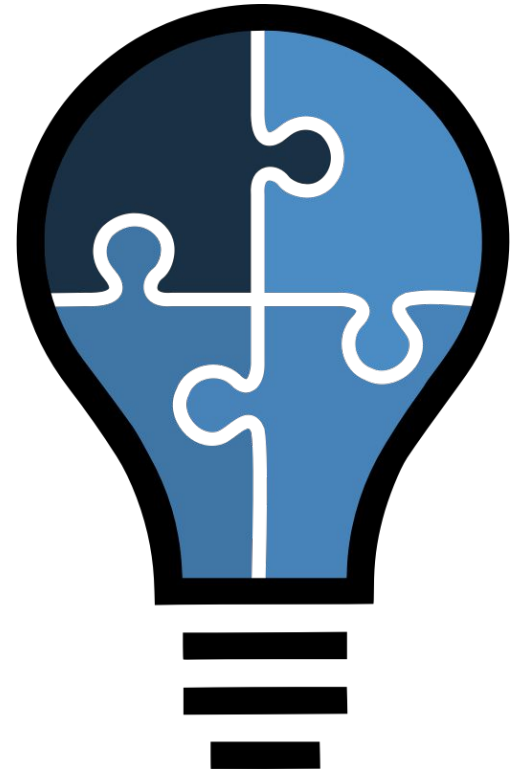
Policy Team

Education Systems Center at NIU



# Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Policy Committee Overview
- State & Federal Policy Updates
- 104th General Assembly & Budget Updates
- Planning Activity
- Upcoming Opportunities



# Success Network Policy Committee Staff



**Madeleine Greene**  
Policy Manager, EdSystems



**Emily Rusca**  
Policy Director, EdSystems

# The Success Network Policy Committee

## Why?

- Provide space for local practitioners and policy leaders to collaborate and learn from one another
- Elevate local practice to inform State policy
- Support local practitioners to take advantage of policy windows

## What?

- Learn about new and emerging education and career policy efforts
- Learn about promising local practices from Leadership Communities around Illinois
- Engage with data
- Identify and advance emerging policy priorities
- Identify opportunities to scale innovative policy in the field

# Policy Updates



# EdSystems Policy Agenda



# Illinois Model Programs of Study Guides – Updates



<https://edsystemsniu.org/guides>

**Why Guides:** Provide guidance and exemplars for local programs to adopt or customize as they develop pathways.

**Updates Published September 2024 Include:**

- Recalibrating the labor market information and approach to living wage benchmarks used to define high-priority occupations and promising credentials
- Re-imagining the tables and diagrams that exemplify the selected occupations and postsecondary programs

# Illinois Department of Early Childhood

- Brings early childhood programs under one roof:
  - Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
  - Migrant & Seasonal Head Start
  - Early Intervention
  - Head Start State Collaboration Office
  - Home Visiting
  - Early Childhood Block Grant (including Preschool for All)
  - Child Care (Day Care) Licensing
- Transition taking place through FY25
- [FAQs about IDEC](#)





# Federal Policy In Flux

- Potential cuts to US Department of Education
- Proposed/Active Budget Cuts
  - \$900 million from Institute of Education Sciences (IES) contracts (NAEP, College Scorecard, etc), \$600 million from Teacher Quality Partnership grant, likely more coming
  - Potential to impact grants as they are reviewed under Executive Orders pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion
  - Threats of cuts directly to districts/institutions [Dear Colleague letter](#) ([Chalkbeat overview](#))
    - [ISBE Guidance](#)
- Secretary Nominee Linda McMahon
  - Strong support for charter/private vouchers and programs
  - Expressed support for dual credit in committee hearing
- Reversed Biden administration rules around [Perkins reporting](#)

***What will this mean? It (somewhat) depends!***

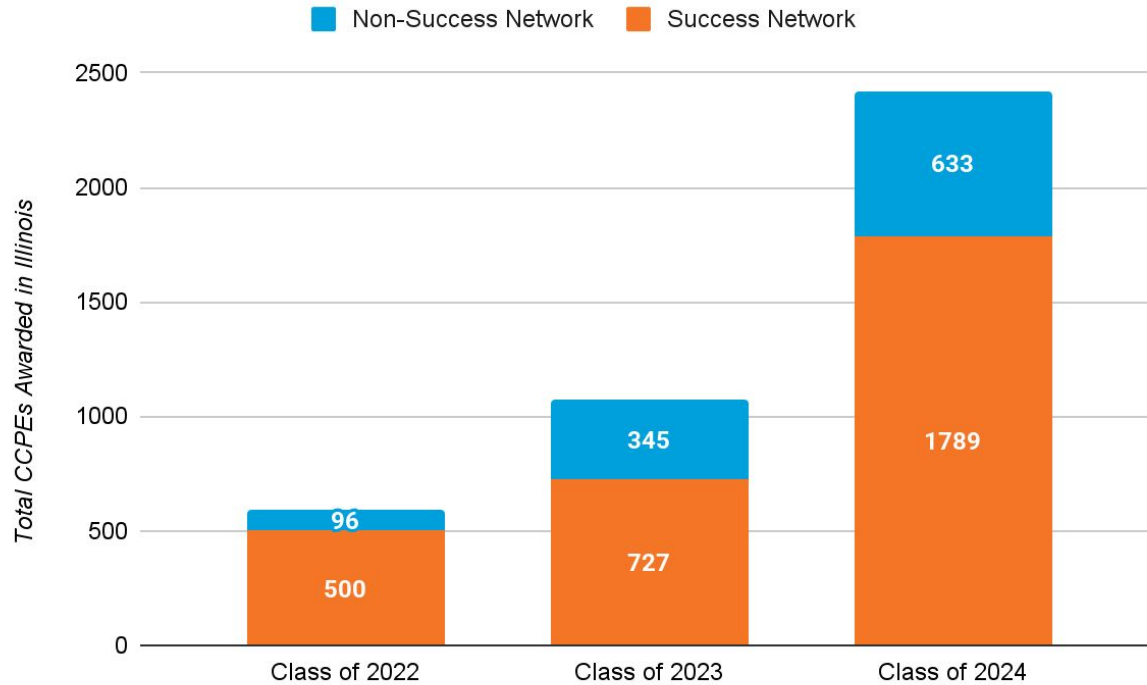
# Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness (PWR) Act Amendment (Public Act 102-0917 deadlines)

- Districts serving grades 6–12 must elect into or opt out of implementing a local form of PaCE by July 2025
- Districts serving grades 9–12 must elect into or opt out of offering College & Career Pathway Endorsements (CCPE) by July 2025
  - 1 endorsement for Class of '27
  - 2 endorsements for Class of '29
  - 3 endorsements for Class of '31 (if school has >350 students in 9-12)



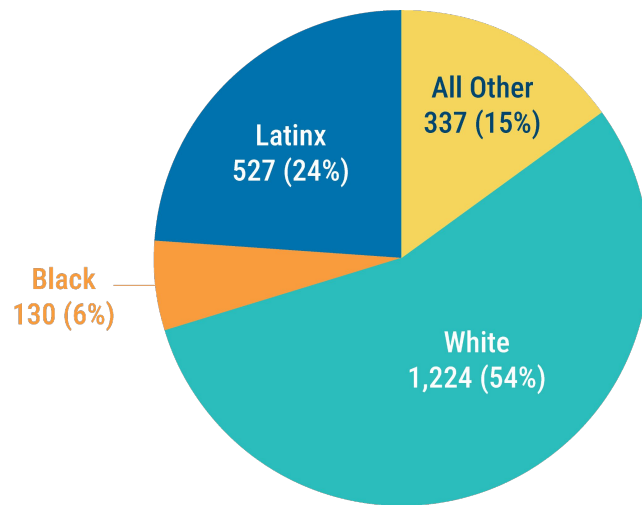
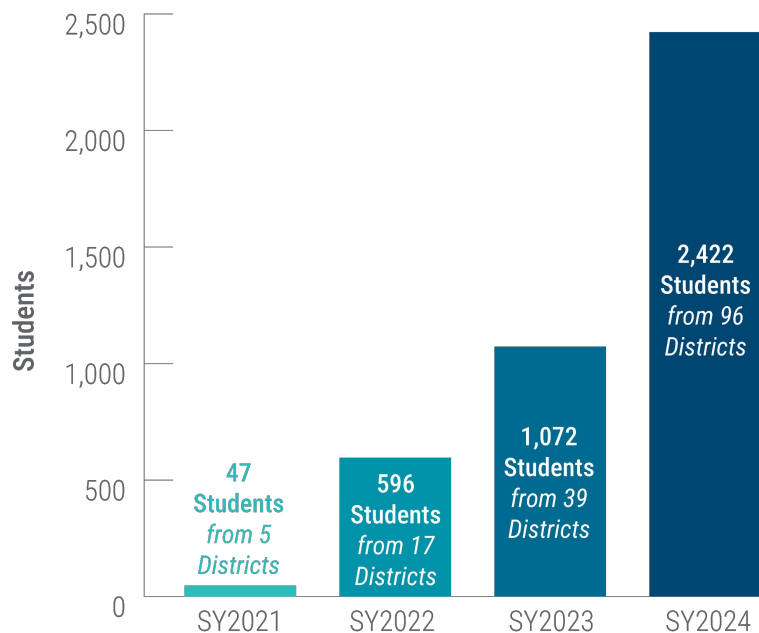
[HB3296/Public Act 102-0917 Overview](#)

# Success Network Leadership Communities Continue to Lead CCPE Implementation



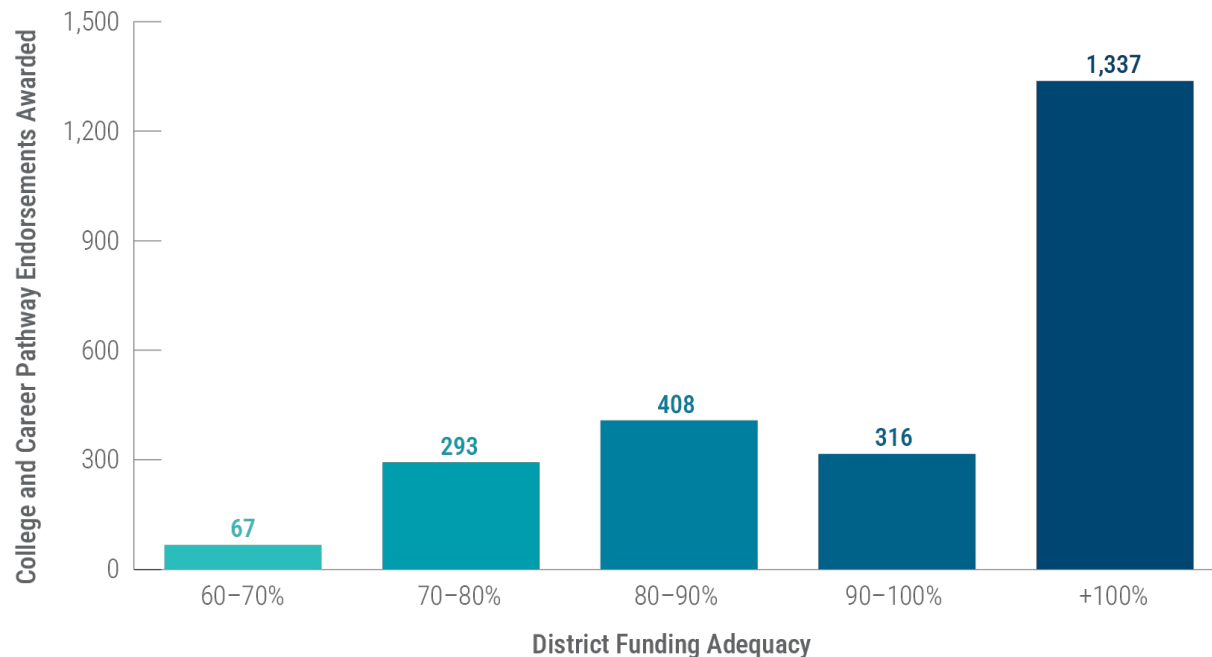
# CCPEs Increasing, But Not Equitably

College and Career Pathway Endorsements Awarded



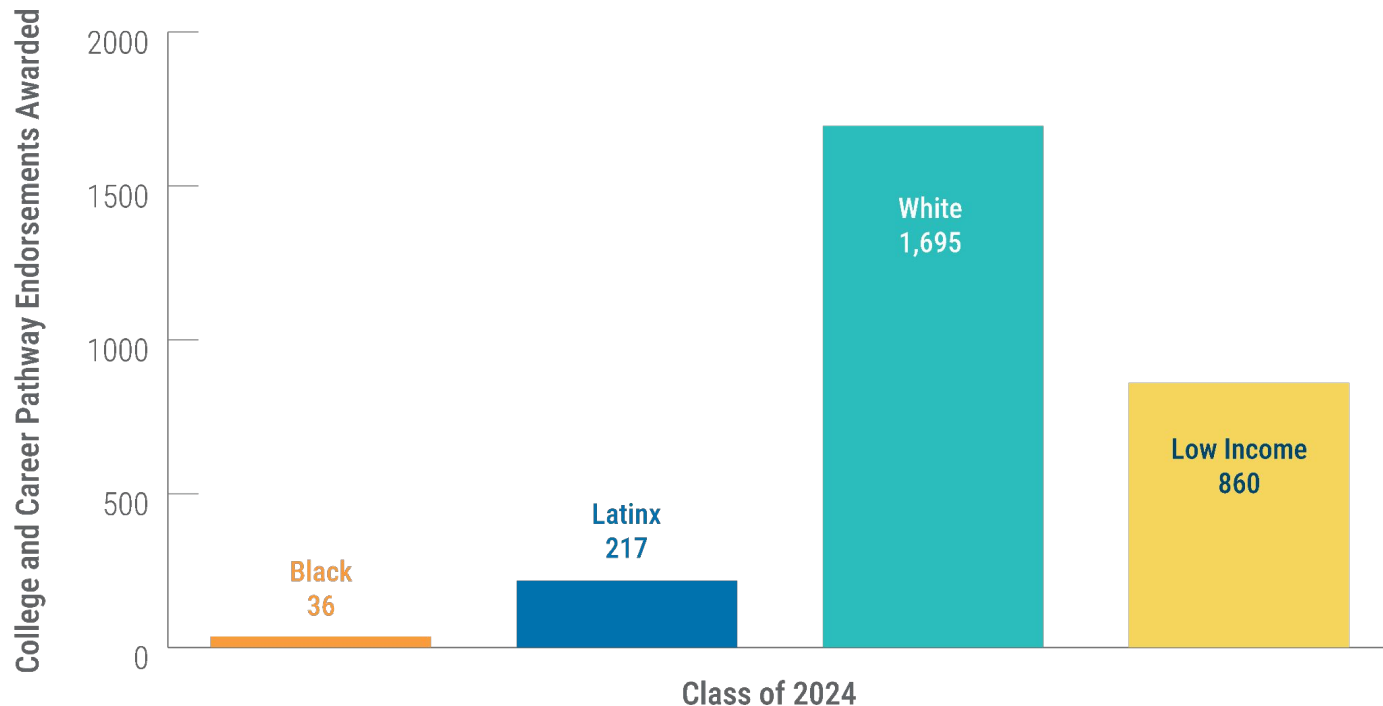
*\*These demographics are based on an undercount of CCPE earners (2,218 of the 2,422 total) due to timing of data submissions*

# Less Adequate Funding, Fewer CCPE Earners



*The number of endorsements awarded based on districts' funding adequacy levels under Illinois' evidence-based funding system.*

# CCPE Earners Do Not Reflect State Demography



*The number of endorsements awarded in SY2024 for districts with >40% student enrollment in respective demographic groups*

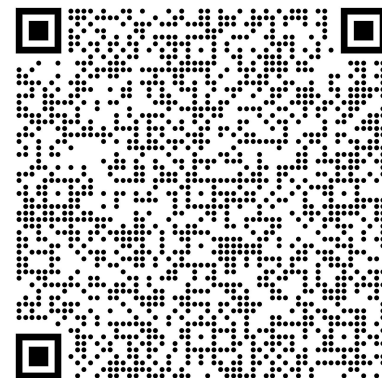
# Discussion

- What are some of the primary barriers/obstacles to implementing CCPE in your district?
- As the deadline approaches this July, what is still unclear about the implementation process? What additional supports or guidance would be helpful?
  - ISBE Office Hours

## Join our CCPE Policy Committee Work Group!

First meeting March 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Registration: <https://shorturl.at/H3Fcl>



Feedback: <https://shorturl.at/256c9>

# 104th General Assembly Updates





# Proposed Budget Highlights



## Increased Funding

- \$350 Million Increase for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF)
- \$1.3 Million Increase in Funding for Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- \$10 Million Increase for Monetary Award Program (MAP)
- \$3 million (total) for Common App implementation (includes One Click Admit, CC pilot, etc)

## Continued Funding

- \$3.175 Million for Dual Credit Funding to ICCB
- \$15.75 million for Golden Apple
- \$8 million for the Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship
- \$45 million for ISBE's teacher recruitment pilot
- \$50 million for AIM HIGH Scholarship

Bill #	Brief Summary
<a href="#">HB 2451</a>	College & Career Pathway Endorsement as alternative to foreign language graduation requirement & eliminate as admissions requirement for IL publics (unless CCPE is an alternative as well)
<a href="#">HB 2503</a>	Requires ISBE to create State Instructional Technology Advisory Board
<a href="#">SB 1375</a>	GROW IL Program – scholarships for CC students in programs leading to high-demand fields (beginning 2026-2027 academic year)
<a href="#">SB 1960</a>	Dual Credit Quality Act amendment – addresses partnership and teacher credentialing questions
<a href="#">SB 58</a>	DCEO to create technical assistance program for regional manufacturing partnerships bridging education & workforce
<a href="#">HB 2466</a>	Allows state aid for incarcerated students (MAP & AIM HIGH)
<a href="#">SB 13</a>	Adequate and Equitable Public University Funding Act
<a href="#">SB 1331</a>	Scholarship Accessibility Act – creates Illinois Scholarship Database & outlines how to inform students of opportunities
<a href="#">SB 293</a>	MAP extension for students pursuing teaching program
<a href="#">SB 2039</a>	Creation of a higher education dashboard (including public & private institutions) for accountability purposes
<a href="#">SB 2482</a> <a href="#">HB 3717</a>	Community College Baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields

# Planning Activity



# Thinking together!

Using the flip charts and post-it notes around the room, let's spend time considering the following:

1. Now that it's 2025, what type of goal should Illinois set for our education and workforce systems?
2. What policy issues/topics are most pressing?
3. What topics would you want to hear from fellow communities/practitioners or state agencies/policymakers about?



# Upcoming Opportunities

# Join us!

## Full Committee:

- *Q1 Meeting:* Monday, March 3 (9:30–11 a.m.):  
[Register here](#)

## College & Career Pathway Endorsement (CCPE) Workgroup:

- *Kickoff:* Wednesday March 26 (10:30–11:30 a.m.): [Register here](#)

Check [our website](#) for the latest!

