

10 Steps to Testifying about New Teacher Induction at an ISBE Budget Hearing

from the New Teacher Center

1. Read more about the ISBE budget hearings and confirm date/time/location at:
http://www.isbe.net/calendar/pdf/budget_hearings13.pdf
2. Type your statement. Be brief. Try to keep your comments limited to 3 minutes, or 450-500 words.
3. In your testimony, try to incorporate the following key messages:
 - a. To realize the potential of laws like Senate Bill 7 and the Performance Evaluation Reform Act that toughen tenure and strengthen teacher evaluation, Illinois can't ignore the need for high-quality induction and mentoring programs that accelerate the effectiveness of new teachers.
 - b. Through a successful 5-year, state-funded pilot program from 2006-11, Illinois learned that high-quality, standards-based new teacher induction and mentoring is one of the most cost-effective ways to improve teaching effectiveness.
 - c. Illinois should restore funding for districts that commit to implementing a high-quality, standards-based new teacher induction and mentoring program.

Feel free to borrow language from the [Support New Teacher Induction one pager](http://intc.education.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/NewTeacherInduction_IL.pdf) – (http://intc.education.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/NewTeacherInduction_IL.pdf) and prior testimony examples found in the [Advocacy Toolkit](http://intc.education.illinois.edu/category/tag/advocacy-toolkit) – (<http://intc.education.illinois.edu/category/tag/advocacy-toolkit>)

As part of supporting our partners at the Illinois Principal's Association (IPA), please include a mention of the importance of new *principal* induction and mentoring. For example: *As the leader of the building, principals are key to the success of new teachers and ultimately their students. New principals, like new teachers, benefit from induction and mentoring that accelerates their effectiveness too.*

4. In your testimony, try to illustrate the key messages noted above with your own story. For example:
 - a. Describe how you've seen new teachers become more effective because of induction. What changed?
 - b. Co-present with a person in different role (e.g. beginning teacher, mentor, or building administrator)—to have them illustrate the key messages with their own story or example.
5. In your testimony, be sure to thank ISBE board members for their past support of new teacher induction, and urge them to renew their support this important work.
6. Practice your testimony. Read it out loud, see how long it takes and adjust, if needed. (Less is more.)
7. Bring 15 copies of your testimony to the hearing.
8. Bring 15 copies of the [Support New Teacher Induction one pager](http://intc.education.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/NewTeacherInduction_IL.pdf) to the hearing. Contact Tracy, Lara, or Mary Elin for professional printed copies.
9. Arrive about an hour early to sign in at the door. You will be called to speak in the order you sign in.
10. Contact any of us with questions or for additional assistance.
 - a. Tracy Kremer, New Teacher Center (773.553.6652 or tkremer@newteachercenter.org)
 - b. Lara Hebert, INTC (lhebert2@illinois.edu)
 - c. Mary Elin Barnish, INTC (mbarnish@illinois.edu)

NOTE: If you are willing to add your written testimony to the examples available in the Advocacy Toolkit, please send an electronic version to Lara Hebert (lhebert2@illinois.edu).

FY 2013 Public Budget Hearing Schedule

Remember: *Confirm date/time/location before you go at:*

http://www.isbe.net/calendar/pdf/budget_hearings13.pdf

Wednesday, October 19, 2011 — 4pm to 6pm — **Springfield**
ISBE Office, 4th Floor Board Room, 100 N. First Street, Springfield

Monday, October 24, 2011 — 3pm to 5pm — **Edwardsville**
Jon Davis Wrestling Center, 6168 Center Grove Road, Edwardsville (across street from high school)

Thursday, October 27, 2011 — 3pm to 5pm — **Champaign**
Champaign Public Library, Robeson Pavilion, Room A & B, 200 W. Green Street, Champaign

Tuesday, November 1, 2011 — 3pm to 5pm — **Wheeling**
Wheeling School District 21, Administration Office, 999 W. Dundee Road, Wheeling

Tuesday, November 29, 2011 — 3pm to 6pm — **Chicago**
James R. Thompson Center, Room 16-503, 100 W. Randolph, Chicago