

# Education System

The **Illinois State Board of Education** sets educational policies and guidelines for public and private schools, preschool through grade 12 and vocational education for the benefit of more than 2 million children in Illinois. Other responsibilities include providing educational leadership to local school districts; ensuring that schools meet minimum standards for educational programs, personnel and business management practices; disbursing billions of dollars in state and federal funds annually; and administering a policy of equal educational opportunities for all.

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

<b>Public school enrollment — 2013-14</b> .....	2,073,480
Elementary (Pre-K–8).....	1,439,612
Secondary (9–12).....	617,135
Number of certified staff (public schools).....	174,794
Elementary teachers.....	69,224
Secondary teachers.....	32,421
Special education teachers.....	20,283
Number of public school districts.....	863
<b>Nonpublic school enrollment — 2013-14</b> .....	216,239
Elementary.....	164,551
Secondary.....	51,688
Percent of students in nonpublic schools.....	9.5%
<b>Postsecondary education enrollment — 2012-13</b> .....	864,076
Public universities.....	194,913
Community colleges.....	351,570
Private institutions.....	317,593

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