

# #FUNDTHEFORMULA CAMPAIGN

Urge the Illinois General Assembly to invest an additional \$550M for EBF in FY24

MARCH-APRIL

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

Raise your voice on behalf of Illinois' students. They're counting on you.

*Call for \$550 Million for the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) Formula in FY24.*





## URGE THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO INVEST AT LEAST \$550M FOR EBF IN FY24

At this year's budget address, Governor Pritzker proposed increased investments in the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) formula. It is crucial for the Illinois General Assembly to invest at least \$550 million dollars into the Evidence-Based Funding formula, to accelerate our pathway to adequate and equitable funding in Illinois for our K-12 students. Especially, considering that, after five years of EBF, over half of Illinois' students (more than one million kids) are still in districts funded below 75% of full funding.

After 5 years, we know the formula is working! New funds are going to districts and students that need it most. We need to ensure that our state leaders honor their commitment to Illinois students and ensure that we continue on a speedy path to a fully funded education system.

**Join us in urging the General Assembly to prioritize at least a \$550M increase for EBF in the FY24 state budget.**

From March 14 – April 20, we will be sharing social media messages and a draft letter for you to address your legislators directly. We encourage you to customize the messages, sharing why funding our schools is important and how 5 years of EBF has impacted you and your community.

### How to Interact with the Toolkit



#### **SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH LEGISLATORS**

Schedule a meeting with your legislators to share why they should prioritize EBF.



#### **SEND A LETTER TO YOUR LEGISLATORS**

Elevate the need to invest at least \$550M into EBF for the upcoming school year. We encourage you to modify the letter to highlight your experience and let the governor know why this is crucial for Illinois' children.



#### **JOIN US IN SOCIAL MEDIA ADVOCACY**

Tweet at the governor weekly. Reference the bank of tweets on the following pages for suggestions.



#### **SPREAD THE MESSAGE WIDELY**

Share your EBF stories of impact and share this toolkit and messages with members of your community. We need people power behind our campaign!

# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

## Supplemental materials to use in your advocacy

**[EBF FACT SHEET](#)** and **[TALKING POINTS](#)** Use these informational sheets in your engagement to help communicate about EBF funding.

**[EBF COMMUNITY ONE-PAGER](#)** Use this informational sheet in your engagement with your network and community members to help communicate the need for additional EBF funding and share opportunities to join our work.

**[LEGISLATOR FUNDING ADEQUACY SHEETS](#)** Find your state legislators and view data showing the remaining gaps to full, adequate funding for school districts in your state representative or senator's legislative district to use as a tool for targeted outreach.

## Ongoing Actions

Please tweet using **#FundtheFormula** to help keep the momentum going. Make sure to target key legislators in your efforts. Spread the word and share your stories of impact.

Your efforts should be focused on the State Representative and State Senator for your district and school community. If your legislator does not have a Twitter account, tag their appropriate party account listed below.

### KEY LEGISLATOR TWITTER HANDLES

Tag your State Senator and State Representative or tag:

[@HouseDemsIL](#) / [@ILSenDems](#) / [@ILSenateGOP](#) / [@ILHouseGOP](#)

**[Find your legislators.](#)** In addition, find ALL legislator contact information and Twitter handles [here](#).

### SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS

Schedule a meeting with your legislators to share why they should prioritize an investment of \$550M for EBF in the FY24 budget.

**[Here is the fact sheet](#)** and **[talking points](#)** that you can reference during your conversations.

### SEND A LETTER TO YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS

Take 3-4 minutes to send a letter to your legislators to urge them to prioritize students by investing at least \$550M into EBF in the FY24 state budget. All you need to do is enter your information and hit send! We encourage you to customize your letter and share why funding our schools is important to you and how 5 years of EBF has impacted you and your community.

**[Click to send a letter to your legislators](#)**

### SHARE YOUR EBF STORY!

Please take some time to share your brief EBF story of impact. We intend to make your voice heard by sharing your story with decision makers and our community of advocates throughout Illinois.

**[Click to share your story](#)**

### SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Join us for a series of daily social media actions to show your support and share your stories of the need to prioritize investing in EBF with legislators.

## Tuesday, March 14

.@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENIOR, invest at least \$550M in EBF in FY24 to help close equity gaps in funding & ensure every school district has the resources they need to help every student thrive. #FundtheFormula

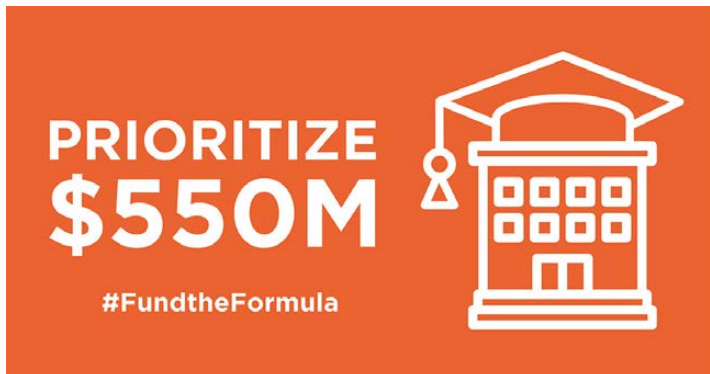
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OR

 [Click to Tweet](#)



## Thursday, March 16

Students from urban & rural communities are disproportionately in districts funded below 75% of full funding. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENIOR, show support for equitable funding by investing at least \$550M in EBF in FY24. #FundtheFormula

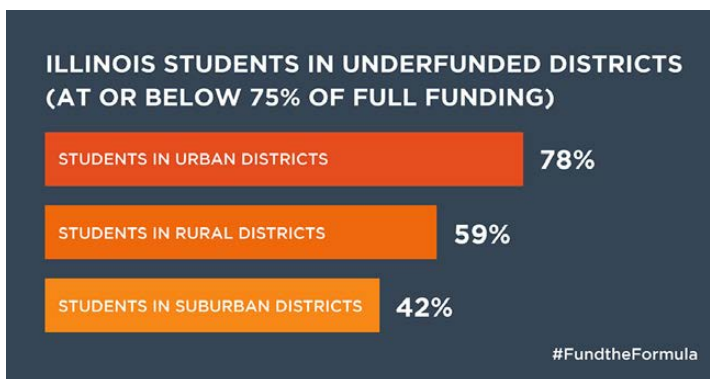
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## Tuesday, March 21

Supporting the academic, social, emotional, mental, & physical needs of students, families & staff is vital to our state's recovery from COVID-19. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENIOR, invest at least \$550M in EBF in FY24. #FundtheFormula

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## Thursday, March 23

Invest at least \$550M in EBF in FY24, **@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR**. It is vital for schools to have the resources to care for the whole child, especially as we recover from the pandemic. #FundtheFormula

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## Tuesday, March 28

Black & Latinx students are disproportionately concentrated in school districts below 75% of full funding. **@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR**, invest at least \$550M in EBF in FY24 to address systemic inequities in IL education. #FundtheFormula

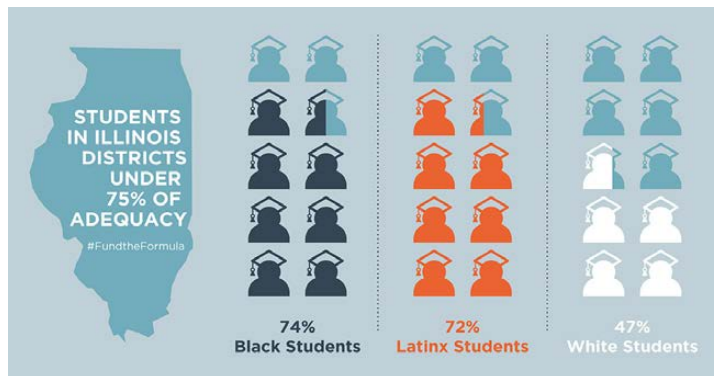
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## Thursday, March 30

**@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR** invest at least \$550M in EBF in FY24. While short-term federal relief funds have supported IL students whose learning has been impacted by the pandemic, they are not enough to meet IL's long-term needs. #FundtheFormula

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## Tuesday, April 4

The EBF formula targets new funds to the state's most underfunded districts. **@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR**, invest at least \$550M in EBF for FY24 to address long-standing statewide funding inequities. #FundtheFormula

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## Thursday, April 6

IL has invested nearly \$1.6B in new tier funding & reduced the # of underfunded schools. Still, over half of IL students are in districts funded below 75% of full funding. **@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR**, invest at least \$550M in EBF in FY24 #FundtheFormula

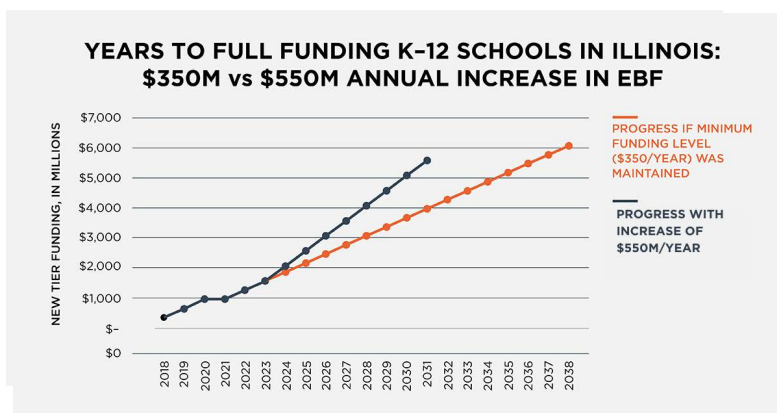
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## Tuesday, April 11

**@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR**, let's continue to deliver on Illinois' commitment to students by investing at least \$550 million in EBF in FY24. Students in ALL communities deserve an equitable, high-quality education. #FundtheFormula

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## Thursday, April 13

.@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR, we must choose to prioritize students. Please support an additional \$550M for EBF. The formula is critical to closing socioeconomic equity gaps and providing the quality education that all students deserve #FundtheFormula

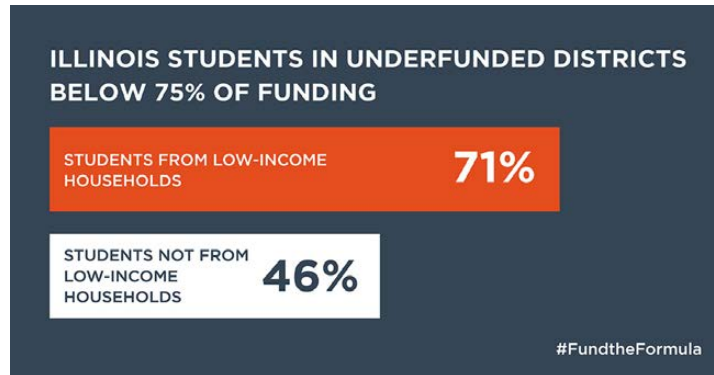
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## Tuesday, April 18

.@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR, please invest \$550M more in EBF in FY24. It's vital for schools to have adequate resources to care for the whole child. Research shows that high-quality educational experiences make a difference. #FundtheFormula

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## Thursday, April 20

Investing \$550M will be transformational for current students and future generations. Let's make sure students have the resources to thrive. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR #FundtheFormula

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