

# #FUNDTHEFORMULA CAMPAIGN

Urge the Illinois General Assembly to  
Invest an Additional \$550M for EBF  
in FY25

MARCH - APRIL

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

The Time to Act Is Now on Behalf of Illinois' Students!  
Call for \$550 million for the Evidence-Based  
Funding Formula in FY25.





# Urge the Illinois General Assembly to Invest an additional \$550M for EBF in FY25

At this year's budget address, Governor Pritzker proposed an investment of an additional \$350M for EBF. It is crucial for the Illinois General Assembly to invest at least \$550 million dollars into the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) formula, to accelerate our pathway to adequate and equitable funding in Illinois for our K-12 students.

Through EBF, we have made significant strides to advance funding equity and adequacy over the last seven years. Your advocacy this past legislative session led to the allocation of \$350M in new state funds for EBF in FY24. As a reminder, EBF considers student needs and distributes new state dollars to districts equitably. This means Illinois' children will now receive additional investments to support their needs and schools will be better equipped to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Although EBF has been successfully distributing new state funds to school districts furthest from full funding and closing resource equity gaps, we still have a long way to go to ensure that all students in Illinois have the resources they need to receive an excellent education. Our students can't wait!**

**Now more than ever, an investment of at least \$550M in EBF is needed. With federal dollars running out in the fall, state funding will be vital to sustaining support for more than 1.3 million students who are still in underfunded school districts.**

Let's keep up the progress to ensure all students in Illinois receive the high-quality education they deserve, regardless of their zip code.

We need your help in advocating to ensure that the Illinois General Assembly prioritizes a minimum of \$550M for EBF in the FY 2025 budget.

Between March 21st and April 30th, we will be sharing weekly social media messages, a draft letter, and collecting community stories to address our legislators directly. We encourage you to customize the messages and share why an increased investment in school funding is important to you and your community.

**Take action now, and share this toolkit with your network!**

# ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

## How to Interact with the Toolkit



### SEND A LETTER TO YOUR LEGISLATORS

Elevate the need to invest \$550M into EBF for the upcoming school year. Modify the letter to highlight your experience and let your senator and representative know why this is crucial for Illinois' children.



### JOIN US IN SOCIAL MEDIA ADVOCACY

Share this toolkit and messages with members of your community. We need everyone's voice behind the #FundtheFormula campaign!



### TELL YOUR EBF STORY

Share your EBF stories of impact and tag your legislators in weekly social media posts. Reference the bank of social media posts on the following pages for suggestions.

## Supplemental Materials to Use in Your Advocacy

**EBF FACT SHEET** Use this fact sheet in your engagement with legislators to help communicate the need for additional EBF funding.

**LEGISLATOR FUNDING ADEQUACY SHEETS** Find your state legislators and view data showing the remaining gaps to full, adequate funding for your state representative and senator to use as a tool for targeted outreach.

## Ongoing Actions

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

Please tweet using #FundtheFormula to help keep the momentum going.

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 (Twitter Handles Below):**

@HouseDemsIL / @ILSenDems / @ILSenateGOP / @ILHouseGOP

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

## Ongoing Actions (cont.)

### 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 FY25 budget.

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

### SEND A LETTER TO YOUR LEGISLATORS

Take 3-4 minutes to send a letter to the Governor to urge him to prioritize our students in the FY25 state budget. All you need to do is enter your information and hit send! We encourage you to tailor your message to include why education funding equity is essential to the success of our students and your school community.

[Click to send a letter to your senator and representative.](#)

### 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.

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### Thursday, March 21

Investments in education matter! It's time we invest add'l funds in our school districts to continue to make progress for current & future generations of IL students. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR, prioritize an increase for #EBF in FY25. #FundtheFormula

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## Tuesday, March 26

Every IL student deserves access to high-quality educational opportunities that set them up for success in school and beyond. Illinois can afford to make a meaningful investment above the minimal funding level @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR #FundtheFormula

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## Thursday, March 28

@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR, please invest beyond \$350M. Disparities persist between low-income and affluent school districts, an increase in #EBF is critical to ensure resources are distributed equitably. #FundtheFormula

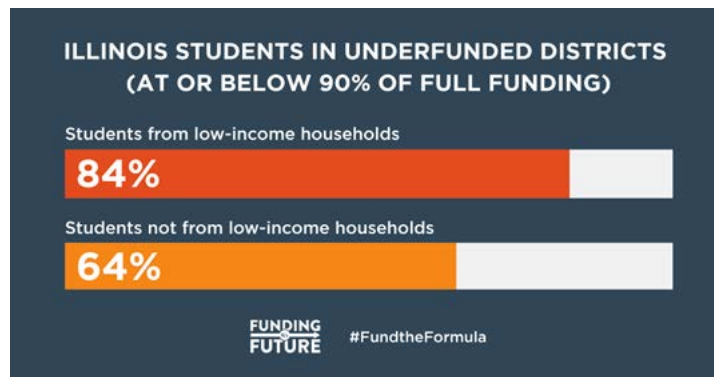
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## Tuesday, April 2

Equity in education begins by ensuring all school districts have adequate resources, support and services for their students to thrive. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR, please prioritize an additional \$550M for #EBF in FY25. #FundtheFormula

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## Thursday, April 4

An annual increase of \$350M was meant as a floor not a ceiling. It's critical to close the gap to adequate funding for K-12 schools, supporting districts and student learning impacted by the pandemic. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR #FundtheFormula

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## Tuesday, April 9

Currently, over 1.3M students are in underfunded school districts. Students who are Black, Latinx, English Learners or from low-income households are most likely to be in these districts. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR please prioritize \$550M for #EBF.

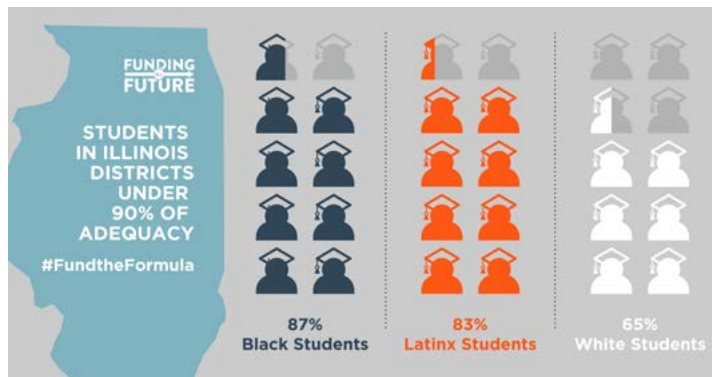
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## Thursday, April 11

We need to accelerate our pathway to adequate & equitable funding in IL. Increasing our appropriation of new funds beyond \$350M in EBF will allow for more students to benefit from attending fully funded schools @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR#FundtheFormula

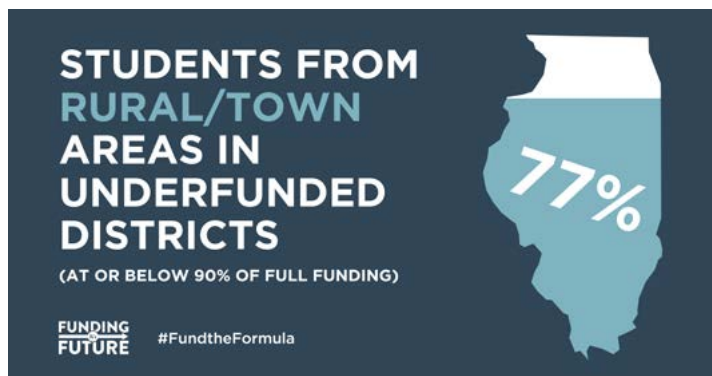
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## Tuesday, April 16

The EBF formula is critical to closing equity gaps and providing the high-quality education all students deserve regardless of their zip code. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR please prioritize an additional \$550M for EBF. #FundtheFormula

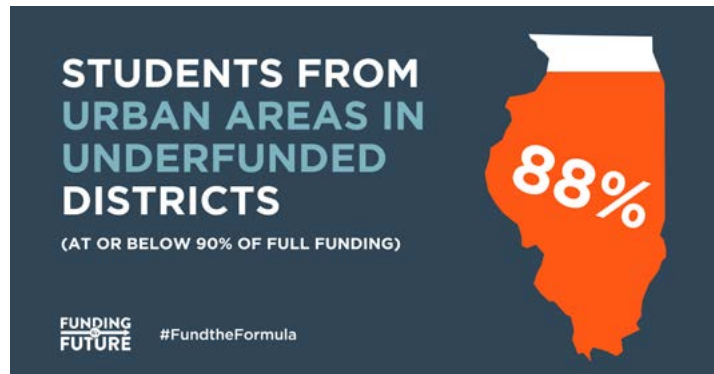
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## Thursday, April 18

.@TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR as short-term federal pandemic funds expire in FY25, a state investment of \$550M in EBF will help districts sustain important investments for their students on the road to recovery. #FundtheFormula

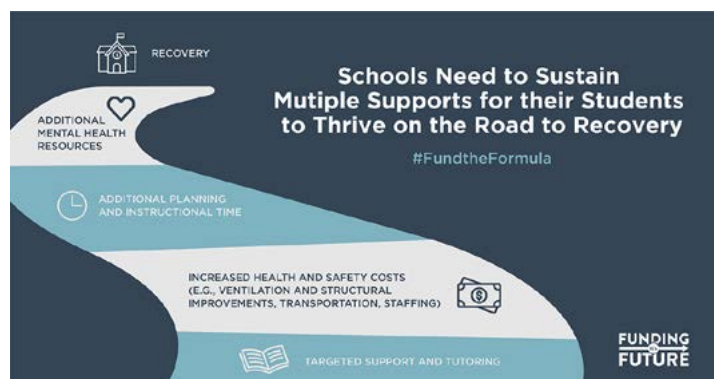
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## Tuesday, April 23

Inflation has increased the costs of funding schools, causing districts to choose between which resources & services they can provide for students. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR please invest more than the min. level of funding for EBF. #FundtheFormula

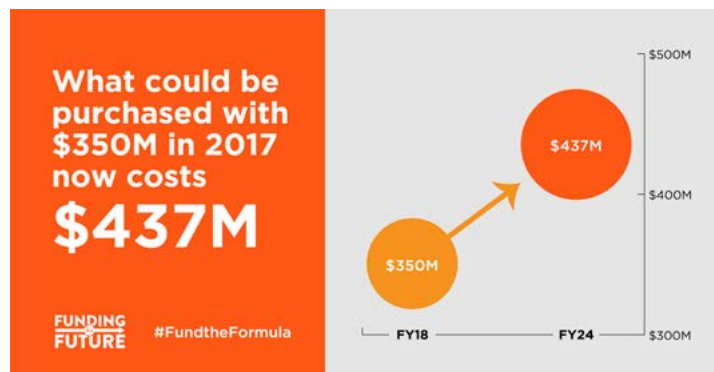
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## Thursday, April 25

Fully funding EBF is the best way for the state to address systemic inequities in K-12 education. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR please make a meaningful investment beyond \$350M in EBF. #FundtheFormula

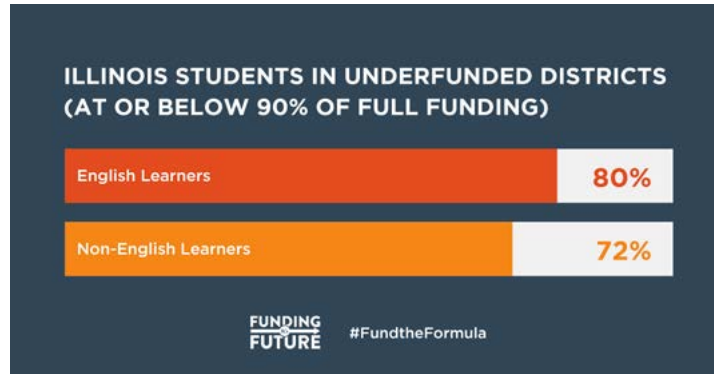
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## Tuesday, April 30

Supporting the academic, social-emotional, mental, and physical needs of students, families and staff is vital for our state's recovery from the pandemic. @TAGYOURREP & @TAGYOURSENATOR a meaningful investment in EBF will help do just that. #FundtheFormula

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