

JUNE 2026 UPDATES

# IHEC NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of the Illinois Higher Education Center



## LGBTQ+ PRIDE AND MEN'S HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

In June, LGBTQ+ Pride and Men's Health Awareness take center stage. We know that students impacted by substance abuse are disproportionately those who belong to either or both of these populations.

LGBTQ+ Pride Month and Men's Health Awareness Month offer meaningful moments to reflect on health, identity, and safety. Both observances highlight the importance of acceptance and understanding, especially for people who may not always feel seen.

Substance use and violence often touch these groups in complex ways. LGBTQ+ individuals may face emotional or physical harm because of who they are, while men may feel pressure to hide their pain instead of seeking care. These experiences can make it harder to reach out for support and increase the risk of unhealthy coping.

By acknowledging these challenges, we help create communities that are more supportive and informed. These observances remind us that awareness leads to action, and action leads to better health, stronger relationships, and safer spaces for everyone.

## UPCOMING IHEC EVENTS

### Webinars:

\*\*More summer webinars coming soon!



# JUNE '26 IACSUB UPDATES

The current administration of the Illinois Assessment of College Substance Use Behaviors has now closed and our office is now processing final reports and crosstabs.

Schools who participated will receive their data before the end of FY26 if they have not already. As for the state aggregate, our office has begun processing these documents to be completed in the early months of FY27.

Our official state reports and crosstabs are set to be published at the end of September on the IHEC website for public viewing. Statewide briefs on the aggregate data will be released intermittently throughout FY27, along with educational materials as part of our new in-house developments.

Our future developed materials will highlight key findings, insights and recommendations for future prevention related trainings and resources. Our key focus with the new materials is to provide student affairs and relevant higher education professionals with tools to boost their prevention, assessment methodology, and improve their capacity through self-guided resources.

Examples of promotion materials are below.

**ILLINOIS ASSESSMENT OF COLLEGE SUBSTANCE USE BEHAVIORS (IACSUB)**

The IACSUB survey is essential for colleges and universities, as it provides vital information that aids in enhancing student support services, updating programming, and justifying the need for additional student resources.

**Take the survey & help your campus!**

For more information:

**Survey Topics**

- Substance use behaviors
- Attitudes towards substance use
- Campus climate
- Mental health & suicidality
- Peer support & recovery

217-581-2019 • [www.eiu.edu/ihec/](http://www.eiu.edu/ihec/) • [ihec@eiu.edu](mailto:ihec@eiu.edu)

**Illinois Assessment for College Substance Use Behaviors**

**FY24 IACSUB DATA REPORT**

Published by:  
Illinois Higher Education Center  
November 2025

Illinois Higher Education Center  
[www.eiu.edu/ihec/](http://www.eiu.edu/ihec/)

# RECRUITED:

- **Public 4-year: 4**
- **Public 2-year: 3**
- **Private 4-year: 2**

# GENERAL NOTES:

- 9 different institutions participated, a mix of public/private/community colleges.
- Surveys ran for 3 weeks, start to finish from January until May.
- Survey administration included reminders on every 5<sup>th</sup> day, with a final reminder push upon the closing day.
- Institutions were given the option whether they wanted to incentivize the survey
- Samples were set at 20% or more for a greater return on responses.
- Cross-promotion between IHEC and individual campus contacts helped campuses recruit larger audiences.

## **CONTACT US:**

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W: [EIU.EDU/IHEC](http://EIU.EDU/IHEC)



**ILLINOIS HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER**

for alcohol, other drug & violence prevention



## **APPLICATIONS COMING SOON!**

We will begin taking applications for our FY27 advisory board that will meet once a quarter. We have updated the expectations of the positions and will be releasing more details soon. This position helps provide guidance, feedback, and ideas for IHEC’s professional development. Please contact our office for information!

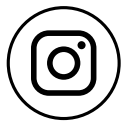
## **HOW TO STAY CONNECTED:**

We utilize our email list to send updates on upcoming events, free resources, consultation visits and more. To join our email list, reach out to [alescamilla@eiu.edu](mailto:alescamilla@eiu.edu) for more information.

## **FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIALS!**



**Illinois Higher Education Center  
for AODV Prevention**



**IHEC\_EIU**

## **SERVICES**

**Professional Development Opportunities**

Webinars, Trainings, and Certificates

**Technical Assistance**

AOD Programming

**Continuing Education Units**

Credit for trainings & webinars

**Collaboration & Networking**

Annual Meetings & Trainings

**Consultation Site Visits**

Assessment, planning, and evaluations  
for universities & colleges

**Core Survey Administration**

State-wide administration of CORE  
every even year, assisted by IHEC

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## **LGBTQ+ PRIDE AND MEN’S HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

June is dedicated to LGBTQ+ Pride and Men’s Health Awareness, emphasizing initiatives aimed at promoting equality and representation and reducing stigma nationwide, including efforts at colleges and universities in Illinois.