

To: Members of the Illinois Finance Authority
From: Chris Meister, Executive Director
Date: September 9, 2025
Subject: Message from the Executive Director

This Month's Agenda

Welcome to the regularly scheduled September 9, 2025, meeting of the Illinois Finance Authority (the "Authority"). We hope you enjoyed your summer with your family and friends. We are excited to see you all in person this morning.

Fiscal Year 2025 was one of the Authority's most successful years to date. Our mission to attract private capital to the state was reflected through the conduit issuance of over \$2.4 billion in bonds throughout the fiscal year. With your support, we hope to continue with that momentum this fiscal year.

New Business Items for consideration and approval this month from public finance include bond resolutions on behalf of *Cantigny Foundation, Music and Dance Theater Chicago, Inc.*, and *F Street Normal, LLC and Jomela Valley Hill LLC*. Also on the agenda today is an extension of the pooled tax-exempt commercial paper program created by one of the Authority's predecessor entities, the *Illinois Educational Facilities Authority*.

New Staff

We welcome our new Grants Manager, Phelan Simkus, who joined us on September 2. Phelan is originally from Illinois but comes to us from Wisconsin, where she was a Grants Specialist at the Wisconsin Department of Administration managing American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") grants. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of International Public Affairs. We are excited about bringing jobs and people into the State and the experience she brings from her previous position.

Upcoming

The Authority is hosting a Community Solar Developer Investment Tax Credit ("ITC") & Tariff Roundtable in collaboration with the Center for Public Enterprise on September 11th at 1:00 p.m. CT. This roundtable will bring together community solar developers to share input on how ITC changes are affecting their project pipelines, explore solutions including potential public financing and investment strategies, and discuss possible pathways to support financially vulnerable projects. Register here: <https://events.zoom.us/j/910123456789>