



**GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY**  
Illinois Professional Development System

December 28, 2011

Dear Preschool for All (PFA) Program Administrator:

Operating a Preschool for All (PFA) Program leaves an administrator with a pretty big “to do” list. Multi-tasking is a must to keep everything running. Teachers are your greatest assets, and helping them develop professionally can benefit the children you serve and the overall program operation.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requirement that teachers hold a Bilingual/ESL Endorsement/Approval by July 1, 2014 is based on the number of English Language Learners in your program. As an administrator, this is just one more item to add to your to do list.

Gateways to Opportunity can help you start checking off your “to do” list. The Gateways Scholarship program can offer your PFA teaching staff assistance with college education. Up to 90% of tuition and fees can be paid for eligible participants. Gateways Scholarship collaborates with Illinois Community Colleges and four-year institutions. It will help pay for methods classes, requirements for a Bilingual/ESL Approval/Endorsement, or a Type 04 Early Childhood Certificate. With the help of Gateways, teaching staff at your program can achieve higher education goals.

Please take the time to share the enclosed poster with your teaching staff. If you have any questions please visit [www.ilgateways.com](http://www.ilgateways.com) or call (866) 697-8278 and ask for a Gateways Scholarship counselor.

Sincerely,

Joni Scritchlow  
Director Professional Development  
Gateways Scholarship Program

***Note: If you would like to request additional posters for other program locations, please contact Nicole Hudson at [nhudson@incerra.org](mailto:nhudson@incerra.org).***



Illinois State Board of Education  
Gery J. Chico, Chairman  
Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent



## To do list:

★ Download Gateways Scholarship Supplement application at [www.ilgateways.com](http://www.ilgateways.com)

Sign up for Bilingual/ESL Approval/Endorsement classes

Have up to 90% of tuition and fees paid for

Start classes next semester

★ If you teach in an ISBE Preschool for All program, the Gateways to Opportunity Scholarship Program may help pay for you to go to college: take methods classes, work towards a Bilingual/ESL Approval/Endorsement, or a Type 04 Early Childhood Certificate

Start checking off your to do list.

Call (866) 697-8278 or visit [www.ilgateways.com](http://www.ilgateways.com) today.