



**To:** Harlem School District Board of Education  
Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent  
Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations  
**From:** Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Ana Luisa Dominguez, Director of Multicultural Education  
**RE:** Illinois Resource Center (IRC): Making Content Comprehensible for MLs  
**Date:** April 28, 2026

### **Illinois Resource Center**

I am requesting approval to contract with the Illinois Resource Center (IRC) to provide a professional development workshop for our teaching staff who work with our Multilingual Learners (MLs). The Illinois Resource Center offers a comprehensive range of professional development and support services for educators and administrators who serve linguistically and culturally diverse students. As a long-standing partner of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), the IRC delivers high-quality training programs, tailored support for schools and districts, and a range of resources covering all aspects of English language development.

This professional development is essential for empowering our educators with the knowledge and tools to support our growing Multilingual Learner (ML) population, reinforcing the district's leadership in equitable education across all grade levels, K–12.

The anticipated benefits include:

- Improved access to grade-level content for MLs through intentional scaffolding and instructional supports
- Increased teacher confidence and capacity to differentiate instruction for students at varying levels of English proficiency
- Consistent implementation of research-based strategies across grade levels and content areas
- Enhanced student engagement, language development, and academic achievement
- Alignment with state expectations and best practices for supporting MLs

By investing in this professional development, the district strengthens its commitment to equity. It ensures that all students have access to high-quality instruction that meets their linguistic and academic needs.

**Funding Source:** FY 26 Title III \$2,653