



INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT NORTH COOK ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

February 6, 2026

Dear North Cook Superintendents,

Thank you for another year of service to elevate and support students! Your partnership with the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) includes many services, but our shared effort to support the youth and families of your school districts is our central focus. As you know, we believe we are better together.

Over the past several years, we have built a continuum of services in our quest to be the epicenter for educational services, support, and influence in the region. This year, we served more than 1,800 students with North Cook programs due to 1) integrated staff in over 38 district school-buildings and 2) students attending our North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA).

Our current continuum of services directed toward students includes:

- **North Cook Regional Safe School Program (RSSP)** (onsite at NCYAA) – Serves students in grades 6-12 who are suspended, exclusion eligible/and or expelled in need of an intensive academic program with mental health support services. This program is housed at the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) office in the alternative school program known as the North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA). The intergovernmental agreement for our Regional Safe Schools Program is found on pages 3-5
- **North Cook High-Needs Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP)** (onsite at NCYAA) – Serves students in grades 6-12 who are in need of a social-emotional, academic focused program with mental health support as needed. The onsite program is housed at the NCYAA, the North Cook alternative school program. The intergovernmental agreement for our High-Needs Alternative Learning Opportunities Program is found on pages 6-9.
- **West40 High-Needs Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) Virtual Academy** (virtual)– Serves students in grades 6-12 who are in need of a social-emotional, academic focused program with mental health support services as needed that are medically or emotionally fragile and need to learn from home. The intergovernmental agreement for our Virtual High-Needs Alternative Learning Opportunities Program in partnership with West40 is found on pages 10-14.
- **North Cook Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP)** (within district schools)– Serves students in grades 4-12 that benefit from support for academic and social emotional skill-set development. These programs and staff are on-site within our district schools and are embedded in the culture of existing school communities. The intergovernmental agreement for our site-based Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program is by invitation only, and is found on pages 15-22.

Enclosed you will find the Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) for the 2026-2027 school year between the North Cook Intermediate Service Center #1 and the District for the purpose of participating in one or all of the aforementioned programs. If you have any questions about any of these programs, please contact Dr. Allison Slade at aslade@ncisc.org or 847.803.5606.

Please ensure a representative from or designee of your School Board signs the last page of this document to indicate the program, or programs your district may be or will be participating in for the 2026-2027 school year. Please indicate your program choice(s) by checking the box next to each

program name. This agreement does not obligate use of these programs by your district. Instead, the agreement will allow your district to request access to the programs if the need arises during the 2026-2027 school year. Please note that you are unable to add students to any of our ALOP programs without signing this agreement by March 30, 2026.

We thank you for your continued partnership to serve all young people and families. We believe each person is unique and can learn, grow, improve and succeed with support. We are proud to be your partner.

Sincerely,
April



Dr. April D. Jordan
(847) 803-5604

www.ncisc.org

1001 E. Touhy Ave. Suite 200
Des Plaines, IL 60018

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
REGIONAL SAFE SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

This Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) is between the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) and the Board of Education of a participating school district in North Cook County, Illinois (named on the signature page of this document). The School District/District agrees to contract with NCISC to provide optional alternative education services for the School District in accordance with Public Act 89-383, Illinois School Code 5/13-A (Regional Safe Schools Act). NCISC will provide these services to eligible students through the North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA).

RECITALS

- A. In 1995, the Legislature adopted Article 13A of the Illinois School Code, the "Safe Schools Law" (SSL).
- B. Pursuant to Section 10 of SSL, NCISC is responsible for operating SSL programs within the Intermediate Service Center #1 Region.
- C. NCISC has submitted a "Regional Safe Schools Program Proposal for the North Cook Intermediate Service Center Region #1 ("the proposal")." The Program is described herein.
- D. The School District and NCISC are authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to Article VII, Section 10(a) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.), and does so pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/13B-35.5 and 23 Ill. Admin. Code 240.10.
- E. The School District participating in the "Regional Safe Schools Program" in North Cook shall pay tuition to NCISC as described herein and made a part hereof.
- F. North Cook Regional Safe Schools Program (located in NCYAA) operates as established by 105 ILCS 5/13A of the Illinois School Code. Program capacity is determined by evaluating safety and instructional needs. If enrollment exceeds the acceptable instructor/student ratio or creates a safety concern, then a waiting list may be created. To expedite and ensure enrollment is timely, referrals to the program should be done well in advance of the end of the suspension period.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE NORTH COOK INTERMEDIATE SERVICE CENTER (NCISC) AND THE DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Incorporation of Recitals:

The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein.

Section 2: Agreement to Administrative Transfer of Students: Students enrolled in North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA) are required to participate in a minimum of 300 minutes of instruction per day. According to Illinois State Board of Education requirements, the School District will not claim ADA for students administratively transferred to NCYAA. The District agrees to the administrative transfer of students to the NCISC Regional Safe Schools Program (i.e. NCYAA) for the duration of the students enrollment in the Alternative Program. The School District agrees to cooperate with NCISC in making its claim for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) so that funds will be properly appropriated to NCISC for the services provided in this Agreement.

Section 3: Term: The terms of this agreement are in effect for the 2026-2027 school year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027. The Regional Safe Schools program creates its own calendar.

Section 4: Program Administration: North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA) is supervised in accordance with rules and regulations of the Regional Safe Schools Programs (RSSP) for the State of Illinois, the School Code of Illinois, and the policies and procedures of NCISC and NCYAA. Upon termination of services, NCYAA staff will complete and submit a final student grade/credit report to the District. Student(s) will be administratively transferred back to the home school for graduation, return to the regular school program, and/or other disposition.

Section 5: Referral Process: Students may be found eligible for enrollment in the North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA) program upon completion of the following steps:

1. A pre-screening is conducted at the district level through the District Resource Team or another designated screening committee. Students found to meet eligibility criteria may be referred to the NCYAA Regional Safe School Program. To expedite enrollment, referrals to the program should be done well in advance of the end of the suspension period. If the student has been held out of school on suspension or expulsion for more than 10 days without access to educational services, NCYAA reserves the right to reject the student's admission. The home school is responsible for all educational services prior to enrollment in NCYAA.
2. District staff shall complete and submit the appropriate referral form located at ncisc.org/NCYAA. A student will be scheduled for intake only after the home school submits a complete referral form, including copies of all required student records (including but not limited to: health records, transcripts and up to date grades, courses needed for graduation, etc.). If enrollment exceeds the acceptable instructor/teacher ratio or creates a safety concern, then a waiting list may be created. NCYAA, in its sole discretion, shall make the final determination for enrollment.
3. The NCYAA staff schedules and conducts the student's intake, followed by an Alternative Education Plan (AEP) meeting. Home schools are required to participate in the student intake and AEP meeting.
4. Following a determination of eligibility and acceptance of the student, the district administratively transfers the student to the NCYAA Regional Safe School Program. Expelled students must be re-enrolled in their home school district in order to attend NCYAA.
5. The student is then enrolled in the NCYAA, which provides academic instruction, academic and personal counseling, service-learning, social-emotional support, physical education, and college and career directed instruction by members of the NCISC team.

Section 6: Additional School District Responsibilities:

- **Executive Committee:** The School District is required to have an administrative representative on the North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA) Executive Committee. Executive Committee meetings are typically held twice a year, usually October and April, at the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) and/or conducted virtually.
- **Records:** The School District will maintain the permanent records of its students who attend NCYAA, and as such will retain responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Illinois School Student Records Act, and other applicable federal and state laws pertaining to student records. NCYAA will maintain the temporary records of such students during the period of their attendance at NCYAA as the agent for the home school district and acting in cooperation with the home school district as needed to effect compliance with confidentiality protections and other requirements of those statutes affecting temporary records. Students' temporary records will be returned to the School District following the conclusion of their participation in the NCYAA program.

- **Transportation:** Transportation to and from the NCYAA program is the responsibility of the School District. If the District provided transportation impedes learning for the students (does not arrive, continues to be late or negligent), NCISC reserves the right to provide transportation and pass the cost on to the District.
- **Special Services:** When a student is administratively transferred to NCYAA as its serving school, the School District is still responsible for any related services for which the student qualifies. This includes IEP and 504 eligible students, as well as EL eligible students. The School District must work collaboratively with NCYAA and are the sole responsible party for meeting legal requirements of students with related service needs. Historically, this has been a challenge for districts due to the distance and needs of students. If EL and/or Special Education services are provided by NCISC rather than the home school, an additional \$30 surcharge will be added to the daily tuition for each service provided.

Section 7: District Fees for Services: For the 2026-2027 school year, the School District agrees to pay North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) \$105.58 for each day of enrollment. The School District will be billed on a monthly basis. Payment is due in 30 days. There is no financial obligation unless the School District utilizes this service for a student.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
HIGH-NEEDS ALTERNATIVE LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (NCYAA)**

This Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) is between the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) and the Board of Education of a participating school district in North Cook County, Illinois (named on the signature page of this document). The School District agrees to contract with NCISC to provide optional alternative education services for the District in accordance with Public Act 89-383, Illinois School Code 5/13-B (Alternative Learning Opportunities Program Law). NCISC will provide these services to eligible students through the High-Needs Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP). The School District and NCISC enter into this cooperative agreement in order to provide the ALOP designed to meet the needs of students identified as eligible for such services based on the School District's eligibility criteria and space at NCYAA where the program is housed.

RECITALS

- A. The Illinois School Code at 105 ILCS 5/13B et. seq. (Alternative Learning Opportunities Law) provides for the operation of Alternative Learning Opportunities Programs (ALOP), which are intended to provide youth, who are at-risk of academic failure, with education and social services needed to meet Illinois Learning Standards to complete their education in a safe and secure learning environment.
- B. Pursuant to Section 13B-20.10, North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) may, in conjunction with a school district(s), establish a continuum of ALOP services within the Intermediate Service Center #1 Region.
- C. NCISC has submitted an ALOP proposal for NCISC and the district, as a part of a consortium of school districts. A description of the program is set forth herein.
- D. The School District and NCISC are authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to Article VII, Section 10(a) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.), and does so pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/13B-35.5 and 23 Ill. Admin. Code 240.10.
- E. The School District participating in the "High-Needs in Person ALOP" at NCYAA shall pay tuition to NCISC as described herein and made a part hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE NORTH COOK INTERMEDIATE SERVICE CENTER (NCISC) AND THE DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Incorporation of Recitals

The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein.

Section 2: Scope of Services Provided: Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) approved sites are supervised in accordance with rules and regulations of the State of Illinois, the School Code of Illinois, and the policies and procedures of North Cook Intermediate Service center (NCISC). NCISC provides enrolled students in grades 6-12 an ALOP designed to provide support services through a flexible standards-based learning environment, innovative and varied instructional strategies, a student-centered curriculum, supplemental social-emotional, health, and support services and social programs to improve the educational achievement of students who are at-risk of academic failure.

Referral Process: Students may be found eligible for enrollment in the ALOP program upon completion of the following steps:

- a. A pre-screening is conducted at the School District level through the District Resource Team or another designated screening committee. Students found to meet eligibility criteria may be referred to the ALOP.
- b. The School District staff shall complete and submit the appropriate referral form located at ncisc.org/NCYAA, including copies of all required student records. A student will be scheduled for an ALOP parent meeting only after the home school submits a referral form and acquires parent release for permission to participate in the program.
- c. The ALOP staff schedules and conducts the student's intake meeting followed by an Alternative Education Plan (AEP) meeting with parent/guardian and sender school participation.
- d. The School District administratively transfers the student to the ALOP.
- e. The student is then enrolled in the ALOP.

Section 3: Placement of Students: Working with the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC), the School District will follow the aforementioned referral process pursuant to state legal requirements. After the School District receives parental consent to share student information with NCISC about potential placement and if there are current openings for the student in the Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP), NCISC will convene a student intake meeting and collaboratively create a Student Success Plan (SSP). Students enrolled in North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA) are required to participate in a minimum of 300 minutes of instruction per day. The School District agrees to the administrative transfer of students to the NCISC High-Needs ALOP for the duration of the student's enrollment in the program.

Section 4: Student Success Plan: A Student Success Plan (SSP) shall be developed for each student based on an assessment of the student's educational and social functioning and attendance, leading to established goals and objectives for satisfactory performance in the North Cook Student Advocacy ALOP. The Student Success Plan shall include the following: 1) (i) specify the curriculum and instructional methods to be used in improving the student's educational performance, (ii) outline the support services needed to remove barriers to learning, (iii) specify, when appropriate, the career development experiences the student will receive to enhance their career awareness, (iv) set objectives to ensure a successful transition back to the regular school program or to post-secondary educational options, and (v) outline the student's responsibilities under the Plan; 2) the reason the School District referred the student to the program, which shall be consistent with the School District's admission criteria developed pursuant to 23 Ill. Admin. Code 242.20(d); 3) a determination of the strengths exhibited by and opportunities for improvement for the student; 4) the expected academic, social and behavioral outcomes to be achieved as a result of the student's participating in the program; 5) the assessment procedures to be used to determine the degree to which the student has achieved their learning objectives and other specified outcomes; 6) an estimate of the length of time the student is expected to be enrolled in the program; 7) a description of the commitments that the student's parent or guardian will make to support the student in successfully completing the program; and 8) for any student who is initially to receive less than five clock-hours of school work per day, both: i) identification of objectives that must be achieved so that the student can resume receiving five hours of school work daily, and ii) a description of the instructional support that the student will receive to assist him or her in making sufficient academic progress to permit a successful transition back into the regular school program as applicable.

Section 5: Student Progress Reporting: Each student's progress is evaluated daily using a variety of qualitative and quantitative measures that will be reflected on goal reports and report cards generated by semester through Powerschool. Instructional strategies, resources, and academic and social skill intervention will be adjusted as needed to ensure students meet all requirements set at enrollment. North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) will provide quarterly and semesterly reports to families and to home schools simultaneously.

Section 6: Student Discipline: Students enrolled in North Cook Intermediate Service Center's (NCISC) high-needs, in-person, ALOP shall be subject to all NCISC and North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA) behavioral expectations. Consequences or engaging in misconduct will be enforced as per the policies of NCISC.

Section 7: Evaluation: North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) and the School District shall participate fully in the data collection necessary for measuring the effectiveness of the Program. Data so collected and developed shall be forwarded to NCISC.

Section 8: Student Record Confidentiality: The School District agrees to provide students information for participants enrolled in the North Cook Intermediate Service Center's (NCISC) High-Needs ALOP related to the development of Student Success Plans (SSP) and the implementation of those plans with said students and their parents. NCISC agrees at all times to comply with applicable federal and state privacy and records laws, including but not limited to: 1. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy and Act, 20U.S.C. 1232 g; 2. The Illinois School Student Records Act, 105 ILCS 10/1 et seq.; and 3. The Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act, 740 ILCS 110/1 et seq.

Section 9: Cooperation regarding Evidence-Based Funding: The School District agrees to cooperate with North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) in making its claim for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) so that funds will be properly appropriated to NCISC for the services provided in this Agreement. According to Illinois State Board of Education requirements, the School District will not claim ADA for students administratively transferred to the ALOP.

Section 10: Funding: For the 2026-2027 school year, the School District agrees to pay NCISC \$105.58 for each day of enrollment. The School District will be billed on a monthly basis. Payment is due in 30 days. There is no financial obligation unless the School District utilizes this service for a student.

Section 11: Additional School District Responsibilities:

- **Executive Committee:** The School District is required to have an administrative representative on the North Cook Young Adult Academy (NCYAA) Executive Committee. Executive Committee meetings are typically held twice a year, usually October and April, at the North Cook Regional Office of Education/Intermediate Service Center and/or virtually.
- **Records:** The School District will maintain the permanent records of its students who attend NCYAA, and well as such retain responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Illinois School Student Records Act, and other applicable federal and state laws pertaining to student records. NCYAA will maintain the temporary records of such students during the period of their attendance at NCYAA, as the agent for the home school district and acting in cooperation with the home school district, as needed to effect compliance with confidentiality protections and other requirements of those statutes affecting temporary records. Students' temporary records will be returned to the District following the conclusion of their participation in the NCYAA program.
- **Transportation:** Transportation to and from the High-Needs ALOP Program is the responsibility of the School District. If the District provided transportation impedes learning for the students (does not arrive, continues to be late or negligent), NCISC reserves the right to provide transportation and pass the cost on to the District.
- **Special Services:** When a student is administratively transferred to NCYAA as its serving school, the School District is still responsible for any related services for which the student qualifies. This includes IEP and 504 eligible students, as well as EL eligible students. The School District must work collaboratively with NCYAA and are the sole responsible party for meeting legal requirements of

students with related service needs. Historically, this has been a challenge for districts due to the distance and needs of students. If EL and/or Special Education services are provided by NCISC rather than the home school, an additional \$30 surcharge will be added to the daily tuition for each service provided.

Section 12: Terms: The terms of this agreement are in effect for the 2026-2027 school year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027.

**NORTH COOK INTERMEDIATE SERVICE CENTER
& WEST40 INTERMEDIATE SERVICE CENTER HIGH NEEDS
VIRTUAL ALOP INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT 2026-2027**

This Agreement is dated this first day of February 2026, by and between the North Cook Intermediate Service Center ("North Cook") & West40 Intermediate Service Center ("West40") and the Board of Education of a participating school district in Cook County, Illinois (named on the signature page of this document and hereafter referred to as "District.").

RECITALS

A. The Illinois School Code at 105 ILCS 5/13B et seq. (Alternative Learning Opportunities Law) provides for the operation of alternative learning opportunities programs (ALOP), which are intended to provide youth, who are at risk of academic failure, with the education and support services needed to meet Illinois Learning Standards to complete their education in a safe and secure learning environment.

B. Pursuant to Section 13B-20.10, North Cook ISC & West40 may, in conjunction with a school district(s), establish a continuum of ALOP services within the North Cook ISC & West40 Intermediate Service Center Regions.

C. West40 has submitted an ALOP proposal for North Cook & West40 and the District, as part of a consortium of Intermediate Service Centers and school districts. A description of the program, West40 High-Needs Alternative Learning Program (HNA) is set forth herein.

D. The District and North Cook & West40 are authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to Article VII, Section 10(a) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.), and do so pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/13B-35.5 and 23 Ill. Admin. Code 240.10.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED BY AND BETWEEN NORTH COOK & WEST40 AND THE DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 Incorporation of Recitals.

The Recitals set forth herein above are incorporated herein.

Section 2 Scope of Services Provided.

West40, in collaboration with North Cook, provides students enrolled in the District with an alternative learning opportunities program through the virtual HNA program. The virtual HNA program provided by West40 for North Cook is designed to provide support services through a synchronous, flexible, standards-based learning environment, innovative and varied instructional strategies, a student-centered yet technologically-driven curriculum, supplemental social, health and support services, and social programs to improve the educational achievement of students who are at risk of academic failure. The HNA virtual program is designed to serve students in **grades 6-12** that have been identified by the referring district as medically or emotionally fragile, therefore not able to attend in-person learning at the home school, with challenges to learning which include but are not limited to: poor attendance, behavioral referrals, credit deficiencies, poor academic performance, and/or social/emotional well-being. Staff members of the program include certified teachers, advocates, and administrators.

West40 Staff along with students, parents/guardians and home schools' staff design Student Success Plans. The success plans' goals are based on assessments of students' educational and social needs. Students receive progress monitoring, daily feedback and reflection on these established goals.

Section 3 Placement of Students.

Working with North Cook & West40, the District will identify students that may be eligible for and would benefit from placement at the West40 HNA virtual program pursuant to state legal requirements. After the District receives parental consent to share student information with North Cook & West40 about a potential placement and if there are current openings for the student in the program, a referral form will be completed and submitted to West40. West40 staff will then convene a student intake meeting, at which time HNA placement will be discussed with the student, family and sending district. If all parties are in agreement that HNA referral placement is appropriate, then a Student Success plan will be created collaboratively using the student, parent, and sending district input. Administrative transfer papers will be signed by the parent, student, and sending district prior to admission into the West40 HNA.

The initial meeting and intake will establish:

1. The reason the school district referred the student to the program, which shall be consistent with the district's admission criteria developed pursuant to 23 Ill. Admin. Code 242.20(d);
2. A determination of the needs and strengths exhibited by the student;
3. The expected academic, social and behavioral outcomes to be achieved as a result of the student's participating in the program;
4. The assessment procedures to be used to determine the degree to which the student has achieved his or her goals;
5. An estimate of the length of time the student is expected to be enrolled in the program;
6. A description of the commitments that the student's parent or guardian will make to support the student in successfully completing the program;
7. A description of the commitments that the home school will make to support the student in successfully completing the program;
8. A description of the commitments that West40 will make to support the student in successfully completing the program.

Section 4 Student Success Plan.

A Student Success Plan shall be developed for each student based on an assessment of the student's educational and social needs.

The Student Success Plan shall include the following:

1. specify the curriculum and instructional methods to be used in improving the student's educational performance;
2. outline the support services needed to remove barriers to learning;
3. specify, when appropriate, the career development experiences the student will receive to enhance his or her career awareness;
4. set goals to ensure a successful transition back to the regular school program or to post-secondary educational options, as appropriate;

5. outline the student's responsibilities under the Plan.

Section 5 Student Progress Reporting.

Each student's progress is evaluated daily using a variety of qualitative and quantitative measures that will be reflected on goal reports. Instructional strategies, resources, and academic and social skill intervention will be adjusted as needed to ensure each student meets all requirements of enrollment. West40 will provide the sending school with goal/grade/attendance reports at the end of each quarter.

Section 6 Student Discipline.

Students enrolled in the West40 HNA program shall be subject to all North Cook & West40 HNA and home-school behavioral expectations. Consequences for engaging in misconduct will be enforced as per the policies of North Cook & West40 HNA and the home school while participating in the West40 HNA.

Section 7 Evaluation.

North Cook & West40 HNA and the home school shall participate fully in the data collection necessary for measuring the effectiveness of the Program. Data so collected and developed shall be forwarded to West40. West40 will meet with and assist home school representatives in this data collection and share the analysis and evaluation.

Section 8 Student Record Confidentiality.

The District agrees to provide student information for participants enrolled in the West40 HNA related to the development of Student Success Plans and the implementation of those plans with said students and their parents. North Cook & West40 agree at all times to comply with applicable federal and state privacy and records laws, including but not limited to: 1. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; 2. The Illinois School Student Records Act, 105 ILCS 10/1 et seq.; and 3. The Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act, 740 ILCS 110/1 et seq.

Section 9 Cooperation regarding Evidence-Based Funding.

The District agrees to cooperate with West40 in making its claim for evidence-based so that funds will be properly appropriated to West40 for services provided in this Agreement (See Appendix 1).

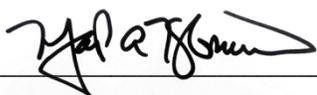
Section 10 Funding.

Tuition for the West40 HNA virtual program will be paid by the District based on a rate of \$75.00 per day, per student enrolled after initial enrollment, not to exceed 180 days per academic year. Additionally, the West40 HNA virtual program will invoice the District a one-time material and technology fee of \$750.00 for new students, or \$400.00 for returning students, billed and payable after the first month of enrollment. Tuition will be calculated based on student enrollment dates, and invoices will be sent to the District on a monthly basis.

Section 11 Term.

This Agreement shall run for the school term as determined by the West40 HNA calendar.

West40 Intermediate Service Center #2

By:  _____

02/01/2026

Executive Director, West40 ISC

Date

North Cook Intermediate Service Center #1

By: 
Executive Director, North Cook ISC

2/9/2026

Date

District Name and Number

Superintendent/Board Designee Printed Name

Superintendent/Board Designee Signature

Date

Appendix 1

If, during the March 1 enrollment period, the net total of students recorded with ISBE for this program is less than the actual amount served by West40 on March 1, then by the end of the fiscal year of this agreement, if West40 provides an invoice to the District, the District will reimburse West40 for services rendered on a cost-per-pupil basis for students not realized in the March 1 enrollment count.

For FY26, the cost-per-pupil is \$7,102 as calculated below:

Per-Pupil-Cost Calculation:

Total FY25 EBF / Total FY25 Program Capacity

$\$23,473,146 / 3,305 = \$7,102$

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
STUDENT ADVOCACY ALTERNATIVE LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (ALOP)**

This Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) is between the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC), 1001 E. Touhy Avenue, Suite 200, Des Plaines IL 60018, and the Board of Education of the School District in North Cook County, Illinois listed on the signature page.

RECITALS

- A. The Illinois School Code at 105 ILCS 5/13B et seq. (Alternative Learning Opportunities Law) provides for the operation of Alternative Learning Opportunities Programs (ALOPs), which are intended to provide youth, who are at-risk of academic failure, with the education and support services needed to meet Illinois Learning Standards to complete their education in a safe and secure learning environment.
- B. Pursuant to Section 13B-20.10, NCISC may, in conjunction with a school district(s), establish an ALOP within the Intermediate Service Center #1 Region.
- C. NCISC will submit an ALOP proposal for North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) and the District, as part of a consortium of school districts. A description of the program (NCISC Student Advocacy ALOP) is set forth herein.
- D. The District and NCISC are authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to Article VII, Section 10(a) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.), and does so pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/13B-35.5 and 23 Ill. Admin. Code 240.10.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED BY AND BETWEEN NORTH COOK INTERMEDIATE SERVICE CENTER (NCISC) AND THE DISTRICT IN NORTH COOK COUNTY LISTED ON THE SIGNATURE PAGE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Incorporation of Recitals

The Recitals set forth above are incorporated herein.

Section 2: Scope of Services Provided

The North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) provides enrolled students an Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) designed to provide support services through a flexible standards-based learning environment, innovative and varied instructional strategies, a student-centered curriculum, supplemental social, health and support services and social programs to improve the educational achievement of students who are at-risk of academic failure. The NCISC Advocacy ALOP is designed to serve students in grades 4-12 with poor attendance, behavioral referrals, credit deficiencies, and/or poor academic performance, and shall be provided onsite. Members of the program include student advocate/(s), a student advocate manager, a student advocate support specialist and the Assistant Executive Director working in concert with teachers, administrators and support staff from the District. NCISC staff, along with students, parents/guardians, and the School District staff members, design the Student Success Plan (SSP). The SSPs are based on assessments of students' educational and social functioning, attendance, and established goals and objectives for satisfactory performance in an ALOP and ultimately their home school.

2A: Staffing

The North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) will collaborate with the primary contact of the School District to select and employ student advocate(s) and student manager(s). All NCISC personnel will undergo a criminal background check, as well as checks of the state sex offender registry and the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database, in accordance with the requirements outlined in the School Code. Additionally, NCISC will fulfill all employment requirements under Faith's Law. The District will communicate all additional employment requirements by listing them below.

NCISC will provide comprehensive training and guidance to student advocate(s) to support the objectives of the Student Advocacy program. The student advocate manager(s) will oversee performance, addressing any concerns promptly and effectively. The School District will communicate all expectations, policies, and procedures to both student advocate(s) and student manager(s) at the beginning of the assignment, and both parties will be required to acknowledge and adhere to these guidelines.

The School District reserves the right to request the removal of a student advocate or student advocate manager from the School District or school for cause. This includes, but is not limited to, serious misconduct, significant or repeated violations of district/school policies including but not limited to attendance expectations, or failure to meet performance standards after attempts to remediate deficiencies have been made. These remediation efforts will be communicated to and coordinated with NCISC as they occur.

The District acknowledges that the removal of a student advocate or student manager does not absolve the School District of its financial commitment unless a mutual written agreement is reached to amend the financial terms. NCISC retains the sole right and responsibility to make all employment decisions related to student advocate(s) and student advocate managers), including, but not limited to disciplinary actions, assignments, and termination.

In addition to the requirements stipulated above, the School District requires the following to be completed prior to assigning a student advocate or a student advocate manager. If no additional requirements are needed, list "none" below.

Section 3: Placement of Students

Working with North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC), the School District will identify students that may be eligible for and would benefit from placement in the NCISC Student Advocacy Alternative

Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) pursuant to state legal requirements. The parties will work together to ensure that advocates have full caseloads (28-32 students) with signed consent on March 1st. Through a variety of mechanisms (including but not limited to: student services team referrals, problem-solving team referrals, universal screeners, articulation meetings and teacher team meetings), students are identified by the School District as needing support with academics, attendance, behavior or social emotional well being in order to stay on track toward meeting graduation requirements. To increase the likelihood of success, students should be referred as soon as possible. NCISC and the School District will work together to obtain parent consent for placement in ALOP, which is required. Once consent is obtained, a Student Success Plan (SSP) will be developed by NCISC, in collaboration with the student, the parent and the School District.

Section 4: Student Success Plan

A Student Success Plan (SSP) shall be developed for each student based on an assessment of the student's educational and social functioning and attendance and that establishes goals and objectives for satisfactory performance in the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP). The SSP shall include the following: 1) (i) specify the curriculum and instructional methods to be used in improving the student's educational performance, (ii) outline the support services needed to remove barriers to learning, (iii) specify, when appropriate, the career development experiences the student will receive to enhance their career awareness, (iv) set objectives to ensure a successful transition back to the regular school program or to post-secondary educational options, and (v) outline the student's responsibilities under the Plan; 2) the reason the School District referred the student to the program, which shall be consistent with the School District's admission criteria developed pursuant to 23 Ill. Admin. Code 242.20(d); 3) a determination of the strengths exhibited by and opportunities for improvement for the student; 4) the expected academic, social and behavioral outcomes to be achieved as a result of the student's participating in the program; 5) the assessment procedures to be used to determine the degree to which the student has achieved their learning objectives and other specified outcomes; 6) an estimate of the length of time the student is expected to be enrolled in the program; 7) a description of the commitments that the student's parent or guardian will make to support the student in successfully completing the program; and 8) for any student who is initially to receive less than five clock-hours of school work per day, both: i) identification of objectives that must be achieved so that the student can resume receiving five hours of school work daily, and ii) a description of the instructional support that the student will receive to assist him or her in making sufficient academic progress to permit a successful transition back into the regular school program as applicable.

Section 5: Student Progress Reporting

Each student's progress is evaluated daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly by the Student Advocate using a variety of qualitative and quantitative strategies in accordance with each Student Success Plan (SSP). If a student is not making expected progress by the end of a trimester or semester as determined by the District's calendar, the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) will notify the School District through the support of the Student Advocate Manager. Instructional strategies, resources, and academic and social skill intervention will be adjusted as needed to ensure each student meets all requirements of enrollment. Advocate case notes are owned and maintained by NCISC. Coursework completion and credits earned are documented and provided to appropriate school staff. NCISC will provide the School District regular reports, including, but not limited to documentation of progress towards the SSP goals, as well as the type and number of parent contacts.

Section 6: Student Discipline

Students enrolled in the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) shall be subject to all School District behavioral expectations and consequences for engaging in misconduct as per the policies of the School District while participating in the NCISC Student Advocacy ALOP.

Section 7: Evaluation

The School District shall participate fully in the evaluation plan for measuring the effectiveness of the Program. Data so collected and developed shall be forwarded to the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC). NCISC will meet with and assist the School District representatives in this data collection, analysis and evaluation.

Section 8: Student Record Confidentiality

The School District agrees to provide access to student records for students enrolled in the Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) to North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) Student Advocates and their immediate supervisors related to the development of Student Success Plans (SSPs) and the implementation of those plans with said students and their parents. NCISC agrees at all times to comply with applicable federal and state privacy and records laws, including but not limited to: 1. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; 2. The Illinois School Student Records Act, 105 ILCS 10/1 et seq.; and 3. The Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act, 740 ILCS 110/1 et seq. Advocate case notes are owned and maintained by North Cook.

Section 9: Funding

North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) is committed to partner with Districts to provide Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Programs (ALOP) within the funding parameters described below. The School District agrees to cooperate with NCISC in making its claim for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) so that funds will properly be appropriated to NCISC to defray the costs of services provided in this agreement.

Section 9a: Co-Funded Year 1 Program

For FY27, the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) will select new partner sites and is committed to partner with school districts to co-fund these new programs. This section (9a) applies solely to those districts participating in the Co-Funded Year 1 Program.

The School District agrees to equally fund the Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) with the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) for FY27 in an amount not to exceed those specified in Addendum A. Bills will be sent in January (for expenses from July 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026) and June (for expenses from January 1, 2027 through June 30, 2027). Payments are due 30-days from the bill date. The District agrees to pay 50% of the total amount noted in the contingency budget for workman's compensation and/or unemployment compensation (also included in Addendum A), if needed.

Section 9b: Additional Student Advocacy ALOP Self-Funded by District

If the number of schools and sites exceeds North Cook Intermediate Service Center's (NCISC) predetermined co-funding capacity, and NCISC and the School District agree to proceed with additional program sites, the School District agrees to self-fund the Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) in its entirety in an amount not to exceed those specified in Addendum A. Bills

will be sent in January (for expenses from July 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026) and June (for expenses from January 1, 2027 through June 30, 2027). Payments are due 30-days from the bill date. The School District agrees to pay 100% of the total amount noted in the contingency budget for workman's compensation and/or unemployment compensation (also included in Addendum A), if needed.

Section 9c: Subsequent Continuous Participation for FY23-FY26 ALOP Participants

If this agreement is a renewal of the FY23-FY26 agreement for the co-funded pilot program, the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) will apply the amount of Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) for the participating schools to defray costs (up to the total cost of the program) for any district that co-funded a Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) in partnership with NCISC for FY23-FY26. The School District agrees to fund the remainder of the cost of the program up to 50% of the total cost. Districts will be notified by February 1st, 2027 if their program is in jeopardy of needing additional, unanticipated funding that will be billed to the School District for lack of full program enrollment (28-32 students per advocate).

Section 10: Cooperation Regarding Evidence-Based Funding (EBF)

The School District agrees to the enrollment and administrative transfer of eligible and accepted students to the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) Student Advocate Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) pursuant to 23 Ill. Admin. Code 240-20. The School District agrees to cooperate with NCISC in making its claim for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) so that future funds may be properly appropriated to NCISC. If the School District neglects to transfer students, or inaccurately reports student transfers, resulting in NCISC not being appropriated EBF funds for students served in the Student Advocacy ALOP, NCISC reserves the right to bill the School District for services rendered and immediately remove services or transfer advocates to a new site.

If during the March 1 enrollment period, the net total of students recorded with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for this program is less than the actual or required amount served by the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) on March 1, then by the end of the fiscal year of this agreement, if NCISC provides an invoice to the School District, the School District will reimburse NCISC for services rendered on a cost-per-pupil basis for students not realized in the March 1 enrollment count.

For FY26, the charge-per-pupil for Student Advocacy ALOP students not included in the March 1 enrollment is \$6,079 as calculated below:

Per-Pupil-Cost Calculation:

Total FY25 EBF / Total FY25 Program Capacity

$\$8,553,002 / 1407 = \$6,079$

Section 11: Term

This Agreement shall run for the school term as determined by the School District calendar in conjunction with the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) calendar. The School District understands and agrees that NCISC Student Advocacy Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) staff may not be able to provide services on certain days throughout the school year due to their professional development obligations with NCISC.

Addendum A

Budget projections calculated with placement of two on-site North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC) Student Advocates.

For co-funded programs, NCISC and the District agree to equally fund these costs as included in Section 9a Co-Funded Year 1 Program.

For Self-Funded Programs, the District agrees to fund these costs as included in section 9b Additional Student Advocacy ALOP Self-Funded by District.

For Subsequent Continuous Participation Programs, NCISC will apply the amount of EBF funding for the participating schools in FY27 to defray costs (up to the total cost of the program) for any district that co-funded an ALOP in partnership with NCISC for FY23, FY24, FY25 or FY26. The District agrees to fund the remainder of the cost of the program up to 50% of the total cost.

<u>Budget</u>	
<u>Item</u>	<u>SA, ALOP Cost Not to Exceed</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$148,000
General Supplies, Incentives and Family Outreach	\$6,500
Staff Travel	\$2,000
Professional Learning	\$3,000
Admin Fee	\$3,500
Total	\$163,000
District Contribution for 2 advocates	\$81,500
<u>Contingency Budget: only due as incurred</u>	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost: Not to Exceed</u>
Unemployment	\$10,000
Worker's Comp	\$5,000
Total	\$15,000
Contingency District Contribution	\$7,500

Note: If a single advocate is requested, the co-funded pricing is below:

<u>Budget</u>	
<u>Item</u>	<u>SA, ALOP Cost Not to Exceed</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$74,000
General Supplies, Incentives and Family Outreach	\$5,000

Staff Travel	\$1,000
Professional Learning	\$1,500
Admin Fee	\$2,500
Total	\$84,000
District Contribution for 1 Advocate	\$42,000
<u>Contingency Budget as incurred</u>	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost: Not to Exceed</u>
Unemployment	\$5,000
Worker's Comp	\$2,500
Total	\$7,500
Contingency District Contribution	\$3,750

Signature Page

Acceptance by Parties: Choosing YES on this page next to each program allows participation in the program, please make a selection in each row of YES or NO; there is no financial obligation unless the district utilizes the noted service. You must be an authorized designee of the Board of Education in order to sign this form.

Program	Participation		Superintendent Signature	Printed Name
Regional Safe School Program (NCYAA) -page 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO		
High-Needs in Person ALOP (NCYAA) -page 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO		
High-Needs Virtual ALOP (West 40) - page 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO		
Student Advocacy ALOP (in your District) -page 15	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO		

District Name & Number: _____

Date: _____

NCISC Executive Director's Signature:  _____

NCISC Executive Director's Name: April D. Jordan, Ed.D.

Date: March 1, 2026

Superintendent/Board Designee Signature: _____

Superintendent/Board Designee's Name: _____

Date: _____