



Illinois Heartland Library System

TO: IHLS Board of Directors
FROM: Leslie Bednar
DATE: October 24, 2025
RE: Advocacy and Education Committee

Background

In September, the Executive Committee and Board reviewed and approved changes to the charge for the Advocacy and Education Committee. IHLS staff have since created an evaluation rubric and updated rollout schedule for your consideration.

Committee Application and Rubric

IHLS creates and posts a rubric for all competitive member opportunities. Evaluators assess proposals with identifying information stripped out. For this committee selection, we will include library type (academic, public, school, or special library), the individual delivery service hub (Carbondale, Champaign, or Edwardsville), and a number tied to the original application. Executive Committee members will receive the evaluation packet minus identifying information and a spreadsheet to record the scores.

The rubric is based on the Committee Responsibilities from the charge document and is designed to appeal to all IHLS members regardless of advocacy experience. On the application form, participants will reply to a series of questions related to the work the committee will engage in.

Updated Timeline

The challenge we face is giving adequate time for member staff to consider and apply for the committee, as well as for executive committee members to evaluate the responses. Once we add the rubric and application form to the website [here](#), we are looking at a slight delay in the timeline:

- All committee information updated and shared with our members around October 27
- November 24 is the last date to apply
- Executive Committee members receive applications and the evaluation spreadsheet on December 1 or slightly after. They have until mid-January to complete the task in time for the January 21 meeting date. Finalists are included in the January 27 board packet and approved at that meeting.
- New committee meets in February.

Thank you for your review and feedback!

IMAGINING TOMORROW ~ DELIVERING POSSIBILITIES TODAY!
