



PARENTAL RIGHTS ARE FUNDAMENTAL

No questionnaire should target a child's mind without a parent's signature. The school is a temporary custodian — not a clinic and not a second parent.



WHAT THE LAW ACTUALLY REQUIRES

Illinois requires an annual offer of screening in grades 3–12 beginning 2027–28, only in years the State has supplied a free qualifying self-report tool.

It does not require opt-out, diagnosis, therapy, MTSS from a score, or data pipelines. Illinois State Board of Education August 2026 guidance is non-regulatory. It allows opt-in or opt-out. It tells districts to separate participation from use of results. BEACON, ICARRS, CCBHCHs, and school-site treatment are follow-up—not the mandate. Those follow-up services require additional consent. ISBE has not named a State screener as of this publication.



WHY ADOPT OPT-IN

The U.S. Department of Education (Aug. 26, 2026) treats school-administered mental-health screens as requiring written consent under PPRA — even if labeled optional. An opt-out is not written consent. Default-on local practice is a PPRA problem. Adopting this model complies with Illinois' offer and federal consent rules. ISBE's own guidance report suggests limited benefit from student-reported screening results.



WHAT THE BOARD ADOPTS *(full packet: awakeIL.com/forms)*

ADOPT	FUNCTION
Resolution	Opt-in only + public annual superintendent report
Exhibit A	Policy §§1–14: no consent / no screen; 14-day notice; two-step consent; destruction; no score-as-care
Exhibit B	Written consent form (questionnaire vs. optional second steps)
Exhibit C	Public counts only—opt-in, refusals, portals, parent themes, cost; No names or scores reported



THREE THINGS THAT GET BLURRED

- Mandate = offer the State-paid tool.
- Tool = student-reported screening; Not a diagnosis.
- Follow-up = BEACON portal, clinic, or therapy. Each needs its own parent signature and informed consent.



ADOPT NOW

- Put the resolution on the agenda.
- Require the full review of screening and consent form before any window.
- Your board can vote to adopt this model policy ahead of the 2027 school year.



OPT-IN FOR ALL OTHER SCREENINGS/SURVEYS

- Make any and all SEL, surveys, and/or screenings opt-in to protect PPRA and FERPA.

ASK US. TELL US.

We can assist with policy review.

If a board calendars or passes this—send us district, date, and policy.

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