AGENDA FOR THE 231st MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY CIVIL SERVICE MERIT BOARD

Locations

The University Civil Service Merit Board (Merit Board) will convene for its 231st meeting at **1:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 19, 2026**, at the following locations:

State Universities Civil Service System
1717 Philo Road, Suite 24
Urbana, IL

Illinois State University
718 W. College Avenue
Room NSB 209
Normal, IL

Northern Illinois University
Altgeld Hall, Room 203
Dekalb, IL

Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville
School of Dental Medicine
2800 College Ave.
Alumni Conference Room, Room B273
Alton, IL

University of Illinois at Chicago
Discovery Partners Institute
200 S Wacker Drive
Conference Room 702
Chicago, IL

Also, via live stream at the following address:

https://multimedia.illinois.gov/sucss/sucss-live.html

Note: If you are requesting the opportunity to make public comments, please contact Jenn Miles at jennm@sucss.illinois.gov by August 18, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. to receive additional information.

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order and Roll Call –John Butler, Chair
   Chair to call the meeting to order and roll call of members pursuant to Section 2.01 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

2. Consideration of participation by other Merit Board Members not physically present at the meeting site – *Action Item*
   The Merit Board will be asked to permit other Merit Board members who are not physically present to participate actively by other means, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act requirements.

3. Welcome new Merit Board member from Western Illinois University, Jose Alba
   The Merit Board will welcome one new board member, Jose Alba, from the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University.

4. Approval of the Agenda for the 231st Meeting of the Merit Board – John Butler, Chair – *Action Item*
   The Merit Board will be asked to approve the agenda for the August 19, 2026, meeting.

5. Consideration of the Minutes of the 230th Meeting of the Merit Board, March 10, 2026 – *Action Item*
   The Merit Board will be asked to review and approve the Minutes of the March 10, 2026, meeting.

6. Consideration of the Closed Minutes of the 230th Meeting of the Merit Board, March 10, 2026 – *Action Item*
   The Merit Board will be asked whether the Closed Minutes of the 230th Meeting still require confidential treatment or no longer require confidentiality and are available for approval and public inspection

7. Consideration of the Executive Committee Minutes of January 30, 2026, meeting – *Action Item*
   The Merit Board will be asked to review and approve the Executive Committee Minutes from the January 30, 2026, meeting.

8. Report of the Designated Employer Representative Group – Jami Painter, DER representative for the University of Illinois System
   Jami Painter, DER representative for the University of Illinois System, will update the Merit Board on recent activities of the DER group.

9. Report of the State Universities Employee Advisory Committee – Jill Odom, Chair
   Chair Jill Odom will update the Merit Board on recent committee activities.

10. Public Comments – *Action Item*
    As of the publication of this Agenda, there has been one request to present public comments.

11. <u>Consideration of Discharge Matters – *Action Item*</u>
    The Merit Board will be asked to consider and act on the following matters:
    a. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign v. Thaddeus Brown, UIUC-26-1
    b. University of Illinois Chicago Hospitals and Clinics v. Alecha Beemon, UICHC-26-5
    c. Northeastern Illinois University v. Derek Ansong, NEIU-26-1

12. <u>Consideration of the FY 2028 Budget Recommendation for the State Universities Civil Service System – *Action Item*</u>
    The Merit Board will be asked to approve the FY 2028 agency lump sum budget proposal, which will be presented to the Illinois Board of Higher Education for consideration in the yearly University System budget and approval process.

13. <u>Consideration to increase the fee for a Hearing Officer for the service of Discharge/Demotion Hearings – *Action Item*</u>
    The Merit Board will be asked to approve the rate of pay for Hearing Officers for service on the discharge/demotion hearings.

14. <u>Review of Recent Activities of the Compliance Services Division – Brett Wawrzynek</u>
    The Merit Board will be updated on current activities.

15. <u>Review of Recent Activities of the Classification, Examination, and Compensation Division – Liz Borman</u>
    The Merit Board will be updated on current activities.

16. <u>Report of the Executive Director – Gail Schiesser</u>
    The Executive Director's Report will include a recap of each of the following items:
    a. Staff Updates
    b. Budget Updates – FY 26 and FY 27
    c. Police Examination Update

17. <u>Report of Legal Counsel – Maggie Miller</u>
    The Merit Board will be updated on recent legal activities, including discharge and demotion cases and pending Administrative Review Cases.

18. <u>Other Items as Presented</u>
    The next meeting of the Merit Board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2026.