



Illinois
Credit Union Foundation

Giving Back

Official Newsletter of the Illinois Credit Union Foundation

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Financial Education in Other Languages & CU Compliance

ICUL's Director of Compliance, Shannon Basile, recently shared a blog about what credit unions need to consider when offering financial education information (presentations or materials) in other languages. You'll need to login to the ICUL website to access the [compliance blog post](#).

ICUF Golf Outing Set for August 27 at Bliss Creek – Registration Open

The ICU Foundation will hold its annual golf outing on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at Bliss Creek Golf Course in Sugar Grove. We hope you will join us for a day of fun on the golf course. We are looking for golfers to participate in the scramble as well as sponsors for the event. [Register Today!](#)

CU Imagine Contest Returns – Win \$5,000!

The ICU Foundation is offering a \$5,000 prize to the credit union who presents a unique idea for making a meaningful impact on credit unions, credit union members, credit union employees, and/or their communities incorporating findings from the 2024 Multicultural Opportunity Report or using United Way ALICE data. Contest finalists will present their ideas at ICUL Annual Convention on October 23. Think of CU Imagine as our version of Shark Tank. **Applications accepted June 2 – September 5, 2025.** [Contest information, official rules, and entry form are available online.](#)

ICUF Partners with Cornerstone CU Foundation for CU Principles & Philosophy Workshop in St. Louis July 29-31 – Sign Up Today

The ICU Foundation is partnering with the Cornerstone CU Foundation on their annual [Principles & Philosophy Conference](#) which is set for July 29-31 in St. Louis, MO. This workshop is a deeper dive than the current 1-Day Exploring Why program the ICU Foundation has scheduled for November. ICUL-affiliated CUs who will be able to register at the discounted member rate \$749 (vs \$1,149 for non-members) by using the code ICUL25.

ICUF Multicultural Opportunity Report Insight

The 2024 Multicultural Opportunity Report examines demographic trends in the state which credit unions can use for strategic planning. In addition, recordings of the 2-part webinar series to share the findings (Part 1) and review opportunities to put into action (Part 2) are also available in the secured area in our website. [Click here](#) to sign in to the secured area in our website, then use this link to access the [report and support materials](#).

Understanding Terminology

- **Asylum seeker:** Someone who has left their home country, is seeking protection from persecution and serious human rights violations in another country, but has not yet been legally recognized as a refugee.
- **Immigrant:** Someone who moves from one country to another, often for economic opportunities, family, jobs, etc.
- **Internally displaced person (IDP):** Someone who has been forced to flee their home but remains within their country's borders, often due to armed conflict, violence, human rights violations, or natural/human-made disasters.
- **Migrant:** Someone who moves within their own country, typically for economic reasons such as seasonal work or other factors such as better job opportunities or social networks. They can be documented (Green Card, Visa, etc.) or undocumented (ITIN, no ID, etc.).
- **Refugee:** Someone who has fled their home country due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group, or political opinion. They are unable or unwilling to return due to this fear.

Foundation Questions?

Contact Melanie Murphy at 224-407-0440 or melanie.murphy@icul.com.

REMINDERS

ICUF Scholarships & Grants

The ICU Foundation offers Grants of up to \$10,000 to cover a wide variety of projects to help credit unions grow and expand their services. ICU Foundation Scholarships can be used for a wide variety of education programs. All ICUL-affiliated CUs are eligible, and applications are accepted year-round. We encourage you to apply early in the year since funds are available and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. [Check out the scholarship & grant details online.](#)

Reality Fair Programs

Teen Reality Fairs teach students how to manage money and the importance of a budget or spending plan. The Bite of Reality program and resources, offered by the ICU Foundation at no cost to credit unions, is available in a variety of formats (app-based, computer-accessible, and paper packets). **Retirement Reality Fairs** are similar to Teen Fairs except the participants can use their real-life situations instead of pretend scenarios when planning for the future. The Retire on Track program and resources are provided by the ICU Foundation at no cost to credit unions. [Learn about Reality Fairs & Access FREE Resources](#)

2025 Events & Important Dates

August 27	Golf Outing – Bliss Creek Golf Course (Sugar Grove) <i>Get together with us for a fun-filled golf scramble!</i>
October 24	Annual Raffle Drawing – Hilton Chicago & Towers <i>Live drawing is held in the Exhibit Hall</i>
November 19	ICUF Exploring Why Workshop (Springfield) <i>Calling all Credit Union Enthusiasts – join us for a fantastic 1-Day Workshop to dig into principles and philosophy!</i>
January 1 to December 31	Foundation’s Annual Support Campaign <i>Our most important fundraiser which provides unrestricted support to the Foundation – donations accepted year-round</i>

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