



# IOWA ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

May 2023

*Strengthening, Growing, and Advocating for Christian Schools in Iowa!*

## Students First Act Application Opens



The ESA Application is open as of 8:00 a.m. May 31, 2023 and will remain open until 11:59 p.m. on June 30, 2023.

The [link](#) to the application can be found on the [Department of Education's ESA website](#).

### ESA Application Webinar

Before applying for an ESA, parents and guardians may want to watch a recording of an ESA application training webinar found [here](#).

A version in Spanish can be found [here](#).

## Students First Summit

Iowa Christian school leaders together with private and Catholic school leaders attended the Students First Summit in Des Moines in April. The atmosphere was one of both excitement and apprehension at how the implementation of this new law would roll out. School leaders were able to hear directly from Iowa Department of Education Director Chad Aldis and Education Policy Advisor Jane Dufoe. Odyssey, the third party vendor hired by the Governor's office to manage the application process and funding, was on-hand with a demonstration of the application. Leaders left feeling more at ease with the process and questions answered. This is an exciting time for Christian education in Iowa!



## National Partner Spotlight



[EDChoice](#) is one of our national partners. They have been invested in seeing universal educational choice become a reality in the state of Iowa for over twenty years. CEO Robert Enlow and the EDChoice staff have walked along side IACS and our coalition partners as we have navigated the ever-changing political landscape and overcome obstacles to bring educational choice to all Iowa families. A huge thank you to EDChoice for their continued support!

### Bill Tracker

Interested in what bills were introduced and passed in the legislature this past session? You can find our bill tracker at [this link](#). Our lobbyist stays on top of every bill that is introduced that could affect our schools. Bills are shared with the IACS board, and we work together to decide whether we should declare for, against, or undecided in response to legislation. For over 45 years, IACS has been tracking bills and working behind the scenes for the benefit of Christian education in Iowa.

### Legislator Scorecard

Wondering how your legislator(s) voted on Christian school legislation this past session? You can find out [HERE](#). Click on the bill number to learn more about legislation that IACS declared for or against and why, and find out how your legislator voted. Please reach out with any questions you might have!

## IACS Board Of Directors

**Dr. Josh Bowar - President**  
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**Don Mitchell - Vice-President**  
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**Bill Meyer - Secretary**  
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## Sponsors and Partners

Thank you to the following organizations who support IACS. We are grateful for meaningful partnerships as we continue our mission to strengthen, grow, and advocate for Christian schools in Iowa.

[EdChoice](#)

[Iowa ACE](#)

[CACE](#)

[ACSI](#)

[CSI](#)

[American Church Group](#)

[PEI](#)

## IACS Team

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