



# ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

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## MICHAEL W. FRERICHS

### WHAT'S NEW

## TREASURER'S NOTE



### Helping You at the State Fair

The Illinois State Fair is officially underway. For nearly one million of our residents, the state fair is as much a summer staple as corn on the cob or watermelon.

This year's state fair is Aug. 13 – Aug. 23 in Springfield. Although the first fair, in 1853, was in the Capital City, the Illinois State Agricultural Society moved subsequent festivities throughout the state. During the next 40 years, fairgoers trekked to Alton, Centralia, Decatur, DuQuoin, Freeport, Jacksonville, Olney, Ottawa, Peoria, and Quincy. Chicago hosted the fair eight times.

The traveling proved to be too much. In the late 1890s, the decision was made to choose a permanent home. Aurora, Bloomington, Chicago, Decatur, Peoria, and Springfield sought to be the host. Eight ballots later, by a vote of 11-21, Springfield finally was chosen.

Like previous years, the Treasurer's Office will have a tent. This year, I decided we would feature some of the tools that my office uses to help people help themselves. I also want to share with you that I will continue to work diligently to protect taxpayer dollars, advocate on behalf of consumers, and ensure Illinois residents get every dollar owed to them.

**Consumer Protections:** The office safeguards unclaimed property until their rightful owners can be found. So far this year, we have returned \$1 million to schools and non-profits. We also make sure companies fulfil their promise and do the right thing.

**College Savings:** A child who knows that they have a college savings account is seven times more likely to attend college. Through the Treasurer's Office, anyone can start an account for as little as \$25. And you do not have to be related to the child to start their path to success.

**Financial Education:** People who understand the value of hard work make better financial decisions. Learning these lessons at an early age builds the foundation for more informed decision-making when money matters become complex.

As Treasurer, I am the state's Chief Investment Officer. However, I also believe the office must invest in people. These are just some of the tools that are available in my office to help people invest in themselves.

Sincerely,  
**Michael W. Frerichs**

LEARN MORE AT: [WWW.ILLINOISTREASURER.GOV](http://WWW.ILLINOISTREASURER.GOV)



## STOP BY THE TREASURER'S TENT AT THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR FOR PROGRAM UPDATES, GAMES, AND GIVEAWAYS

The Illinois State Fair in Springfield is underway and we hope you can stop by the Treasurer's Office tent to see all the great things the office has to offer.

At the tent, you will have the opportunity to meet our staff, learn more about our programs, discover money that may belong to you, get a virtual glimpse "Inside the Treasurer's Vault," and receive a chance to win a prize to help save for college.

On August 18 (Ag Day) at the Illinois State Fair, Treasurer Michael Frerichs will congratulate the 2015 Cream of the Crop Winners at a special event to acknowledge their great photography work showcasing Illinois agriculture.

The Treasurer's Office tent is located at Brian Raney Avenue near Lincoln Stage at the Illinois State Fairgrounds.

The Illinois State Fair in Springfield begins on August 13 and runs through August 23rd. The DuQuoin State Fair in DuQuoin begins on August 25th and ends on September 7th. For more information about the Illinois State Fair, visit [www.illinois.gov/statefair/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.illinois.gov/statefair/Pages/default.aspx) or [www.agr.state.il.us/dq/](http://www.agr.state.il.us/dq/).

We hope to see you there!



## TREASURER FRERICHS HOSTS STATE TREASURERS TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF ABLE ACT

Earlier this month, Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs welcomed state treasurers from across the nation and discussed working together to implement a program that helps families save money to cover expenses for people with disabilities.

Senate Bill 1383 was signed into law in Illinois on July 27. Treasurer Frerichs applauded Senator Scott Bennett of Champaign and Representative Kelly Burke of Oak Lawn are applauded for their leadership and guidance to get the proposal passed by the Illinois General Assembly.

The Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE Act) increases the amount of money that can be saved and spent each year without jeopardizing federal assistance or incurring certain taxes. The ABLE Act assists families facing challenges such as Autism, Down Syndrome, Blindness, or someone who has suffered a debilitating injury before the age of 26.

"The ABLE Act will make a tremendous difference for individuals with disabilities, giving them the financial stability, independence, and peace of mind to live their lives with dignity," Frerichs said.

The Treasurer's office will be responsible for the administration and implementation of ABLE accounts in accordance with federal rules and regulations. Program administrators expect the ABLE Act to take at least one year for implementation after the federal rulemaking process is completed. The accounts can be used to pay for qualifying expenses such as education, health, housing and transportation costs. ABLE accounts are similar to 529 college saving plans with earnings that are tax-advantaged federally.



*Note: Not all items shown are available for auction.*

## ONLINE LIVE AUCTION FOR UNCLAIMED PROPERTY SET TO BEGIN AUGUST 17; PREVIEW SALE UNDERWAY

Commemorative coins, stamps, and jewelry are among the more than 12,000 items worth \$45,000 to be auctioned online August 17-21.

Auction items include a 1934 U.S. one thousand dollar bill, Colorado Rockies All-Star Game Collectors set, gold and silver jewelry, and a 1882 U.S. Liberty ten dollar gold coin.

Auction items have been appraised by an outside vendor. Auction participants can register at [www.illinoistreasurer.gov](http://www.illinoistreasurer.gov) and click on the Unclaimed Property Auction link. For questions, call (217) 557-8567.

Interested bidders can also stop by the Treasurer's Office tent at the Illinois State Fair to learn more about the online auction or the Treasurer's Unclaimed Property Vault.

The Illinois Treasurer's Office is the custodian of unclaimed property including lost bank accounts, insurance policy proceeds, and forgotten safe deposit boxes. Items are auctioned after private and public entities tried for at least 10 years to locate the owners. The office secures more than \$2 billion in unclaimed property. Individuals can search by name at [www.illinoistreasurer.gov](http://www.illinoistreasurer.gov). Thousands of items are surrendered each year, so residents should check every six months.

The Treasurer's Office never charges money to search or return unclaimed property. Auction proceeds will be held for its rightful owners until they are identified.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2015 CREAM OF THE CROP 1ST PLACE WINNERS

Chase Heyen, Ben Nolan, and Kyle Jones



LEARN MORE AT: [WWW.ILLINOISTREASURER.GOV](http://WWW.ILLINOISTREASURER.GOV)



# QUARTERLY EARNINGS REPORT – FOURTH QUARTER, FY 2015

August 13, 2015

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office is dedicated to protecting all funds under its control, ensuring the liquidity of all investments, and consistently producing earnings at or above industry standards.

The issuance of Quarterly Earnings Reports is integral in meeting the Treasurer's underlying objectives to maintain transparency, efficiency, and preservation of public trust.

The following summarizes investment earnings activities for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2015 (April 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015):

- **State Portfolio** – Quarterly investment earnings totaled \$13.4 million. Assets at the end of the quarter were \$11,511,220,926. That is down approximately \$1.087 billion compared to the end of the previous quarter. The State Portfolio still exceeds established benchmarks.
- **The Illinois Funds** – Quarterly investment earnings totaled \$354,783. Market value at the end of the quarter was \$5,200,880,474. That is down approximately \$320.1 million compared to the end of the prior quarter. The Illinois Funds continues to exceed established benchmarks.
- **College Savings Program** – Total assets at the end of the quarter were \$7,604,641,290. That is up approximately \$159.0 million compared to the end of the prior quarter.

## Asset Total

Program Area	Asset Total (as of March 31, 2015)	Asset Total (as of June 30, 2015)
State Portfolio	\$12.6 billion	\$11.5 billion
The Illinois Funds	\$5.5 billion	\$5.2 billion
College Savings Program	\$7.4 billion	\$7.6 billion
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25.5 billion</b>	<b>\$24.3 billion</b>

## Investment Earnings Total

Program Area	Investment Earnings Total (Q4 FY 2015)
State Portfolio	\$13.4 million
The Illinois Funds	\$354,783
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13.8 million</b>

**Additional Revenue Earnings** – Earnings through additional channels (i.e. Estate Tax, Circuit Court, Unclaimed Property, fees, etc.) totaled \$223,578,108 for the quarter.

**Participation of Minority, Women, Veteran, and Disabled-Owned Firms** – The Treasurer's Office continues to focus on building the participation of minority, women, veteran, and disabled (MWVD) investment firms in the Office's investment activities. During this reporting period, \$295 million in assets was brokered through MWVD firms. For the State Portfolio alone, MWVD purchases represented 54.9% of the total. The Office currently has 8 MWVD firms included on its list of Approved Broker/Dealers, which represents 19.5% of the total.