

Illinois Public Health Association Student Advocacy Day 2026



Protecting, Connecting, and Thriving: We are all Public Health

April 17, 2026 | University of Illinois Springfield - Student Union Ballroom

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Registration opens
10:00 AM – 10:15 AM	<i>Welcome & Introductions</i>
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM	<i>Keynote Address: (TBD)</i>
10:45 AM – 11:45 AM	<i>Reading and Understanding Public Health Law</i> Sabrina Adler , Vice President of Law Katie Hannon Michel , Senior Attorney ChangeLabs Solutions
11:45 AM – 12:15 PM	<i>How a Bill Becomes a Law</i> Racheal Adebiyi , Temisaren (Tay me) Onwuaje , Douglas Manganda Master of Public Health Students, Western Illinois University
12:15 PM – 2:00 PM	<i>Case Study – Group Exercise</i> (working lunch)
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	<i>Case Study – Presentations</i>
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	<i>Fireside Chat: Advocacy in Action</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Norchelle Brown, US Policy & Government Relations, Pfizer, Inc. (Invited)• Cole Easton, Advocacy, Michael J. Fox Foundation (confirmed)• Melanie Fernando, President & CEO, Aetna Better Health of Illinois• Erin Fogarty, Administrator, Livingston County Health Department (confirmed)• Ollie Idowu, JD, MPH, President & CEO, Illinois Primary Health Care Association (invited)• Ben Lazare, Lobbyist (confirmed)
3:30 PM – 3:45 PM	<i>Group Photograph</i>
3:45 PM – 4:00 PM	<i>Wrap Up and Evaluation</i>

This event is co-hosted by University of Illinois Springfield Public Health Student Association

Thank you to our sponsors who make this event possible.