

## ***Educational and Supportive Services*** *...responding to needs*

**Scholarships** funded by the IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity enable eligible youth and adults to obtain occupational skills and attend Illinois colleges.

**Migrant Education Family Literacy** services are offered to migrant parents with children from birth to age eight. Included are early childhood education, adult literacy, parenting skills and interactive parent/child literacy activities.

**Bilingual Health Prevention and Education** addresses heat stress, pesticide safety, breast and cervical cancer, flu/H1N1, and other health issues affecting rural Latino communities.

IMC's **Technology Learning Center**, Cobden, funded by IL *Eliminate the Digital Divide*, provides bilingual technology instruction, and online access to IL workNet



Center resources for employment and career exploration. Its after school program is combined with technology. [tlc@illinoismigrant.org](mailto:tlc@illinoismigrant.org)

**Farmworker Housing** provides outreach and referrals for the IL Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), educational information about housing, and facilitates housing development.

**Emergency Services** assist eligible farmworker families in crisis with referrals to local faith and community based organizations for emergency food, shelter, counseling, translation and social services.

## **IMC** *... serving farmworkers in IL counties*

### **Northern Region**

Boone, DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, Lake,  
Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Winnebago

### **Northwest Region**

Henry, Knox, LaSalle, McDonough, Mercer,  
Rock Island, Whiteside

### **North Central Region**

Bureau, Fulton, Livingston, Logan, Marshall,  
Mason, McLean, Peoria, Putnam,  
Sangamon, Stark, Tazewell, Woodford

### **Central Region**

Champaign, Clark, Coles, Crawford, Dewitt, Douglas, Ford,  
Grundy, Iroquois, Kankakee, Macon, Piatt, Vermilion, Will

### **Southern/Southwest Region**

Southern: Alexander, Gallatin, Jackson, Jefferson,  
Johnson, Perry, Pulaski, Saline, Union, Williamson  
Southwest: Calhoun, Clinton, Madison, Saint Clair, Washington



---

**Illinois Migrant Council**  
**28 East Jackson Blvd., #1600**  
**Chicago, IL 60604**  
**Phone: 312-663-1522 Fax: 312-663-1994**  
**[info@illinoismigrant.org](mailto:info@illinoismigrant.org)**

---

Funded in part by U.S. Department of Labor and  
Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

# **Illinois Migrant Council**



[www.illinoismigrant.org](http://www.illinoismigrant.org)

## Council Mission

... since 1966

The **Illinois Migrant Council** or **IMC** is a statewide community-based, non-profit organization with the *primary mission* of promoting employment, educational, health, housing and other opportunities for *migrant and seasonal farmworkers* and their families to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

## Farmworkers in Illinois

Illinois farmworkers labor on fruit and vegetable farms, dairy and sod farms and in nurseries. They plant, harvest, hoe, detassel, weed, cultivate, bunch, pick, prune, pack and load. Many have incomes that are below poverty for their families, inadequate housing, minimal education, insecure jobs and limited English language skills. At work, farmworkers may encounter occupational hazards, discrimination and health risks and disparities.

## IMC's Vision

*"IMC is committed to creating a course of life where migrant and seasonal farmworkers and other economically disadvantaged families will ...*

- *live and work in a healthy and safe environment;*
- *earn a living wage that results in economic security;*
- *be treated equally as other workers under the law;*
- *have increased access to educational opportunities;*
- *be recognized, valued and respected politically, socially, culturally and economically for their contribution to their local communities, society and nation."*

*Eloy Salazar, Executive Director*

Equal Employment Opportunity/Program  
Auxiliary Aids/Services Available Upon Request

## Farmworker Jobs Program

...training for jobs

Farmworkers encounter chronic unemployment and underemployment due to reduced and changing agricultural labor needs, adverse weather, and increased urbanization in rural areas.

IMC administers **Illinois' National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP)** for migrant and seasonal farmworkers under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of the U.S. Department of Labor.



IMC's current activities prepare participants for occupational skills training that lead to jobs in Illinois' high growth industries, e.g. health, manufacturing, transportation. The State's Critical Skills Shortage Initiatives identify labor demand such as green jobs. Farmworkers are helped to access [IllinoisworkNet.com](http://IllinoisworkNet.com) for training and jobs.

## Case Management Services

...leading to self-sufficiency

IMC partners with local Illinois **workNet Centers** (One Stops) through *case management, information sharing and referrals for training*. Eligible farmworkers seeking employment may obtain these services at IMC:

- ❖ **Employability Assessment**
- ❖ **Job Counseling**
- ❖ **English as a Second Language**
- ❖ **Job Readiness**
- ❖ **Occupational Skills Training**
- ❖ **On-the-Job Training**
- ❖ **Job Search and Placement**
- ❖ **Assistance with Co-enrollment in workNet Center Training Programs**
- ❖ **Follow Up to Assist Job Retention**
- ❖ **Help with work clothing/tools, child care, transportation, resettlement**

IMC collaborates with the IL Department of Employment Security Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program ([www.ides.state.il.us/employment/migrant-workers.asp](http://www.ides.state.il.us/employment/migrant-workers.asp)) for outreach. IMC also coordinates with Illinois Community Colleges and local apprenticeship programs about opportunities for training and bridge/transitional instruction for participants.