

OCTOBER 5-10, 2025 | APRIL 26 - MAY 1 2026 Focus on Service Excellence Keller Convention Center, Effingham, Illinois

10/05/25 or 04/26/26

SUNDAY

MONDAY 10/06/25 or 04/27/26 TUESDAY 10/07/25 or 04/28/26 WEDNESDAY 10/08/25 or 04/29/26 THURSDAY 10/09/25 or 04/30/26 FRIDAY 10/10/25 or 05/01/26

3:00 – 5:00 PM REGISTRATION

Keller Convention Center

5:00 - 6:00 PM ORIENTATION

Everyone needs to attend this important session that sets the stage for the week and provides an opportunity to get acquainted with the rest of the class.

Don't miss it!

6:00 – 8:00 PM FIRST SESSION:

Service Excellence in Public Works

IPSI Advisory Committee with Lewis Bender, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus SIU, Edwardsville IPSI Facilitator and Instructor

(2 hours of instruction)

DINNER PROVIDED *This session is mandatory.*





7:00 – 7:45 AM FULL BREAKFAST

Convention Center

8:00 AM - Noon ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC WORKS

- Obstacles
- Best Practices

IPSI Advisory Committee with Lewis Bender, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus SIU, Edwardsville IPSI Facilitator and Instructor

(3.75 hours of instruction)

Noon – 1:00 PM LUNCH

1:00 – 4:30 PM LEGAL UPDATE

Drugs and alcohol, FOIA, social media, email precautions.
Kelly Coyle,
Clark Baird Smith, LLP
(3.25 hours of instruction)

5:00 – 8:30 PM COMMUNICATION SKILLS - NLP

Underscores how people

Lewis Bender, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus SIU, Edwardsville IPSI Facilitator and Instructor (3.25 hours of instruction)

7:00 – 7:45 AM FULL BREAKFAST

Convention Center

8:00 AM - Noon KEYS TO EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT

Make sure you are Placing people in the right place, creating goals that drive your people to succeed, delegating effectively, and teaching new skills.

Doug Cartland, DCI

Noon – 1:00 PM LUNCH

1:00 – 4:30 PM HOW TO BUILD DYNAMIC TEAM COHESIVENESS

Techniques for building rapport and cooperation and eliminating toxic political culture.

Candid, honest discussions

Candid, honest discussion that turn problem situations into positive ones.

Doug Cartland, DCI (7.25 hours of instruction)

5:30 – 8:30 PM NETWORKING EVENT

Great food and fellowship!

DINNER PROVIDED

7:00 – 7:45 AM FULL BREAKFAST

Convention Center

8:00 AM — Noon ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE WORKPLACE

This session covers factors contributing to a lack of accountability and addresses the impacts of lack of or low accountability on the team.

Lewis Bender, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus SIU, Edwardsville IPSI Facilitator and Instructor

(3.75 hours of instruction)

FREE AFTERNOON

This free afternoon makes up for a very long day on Monday.

Participants are strongly encouraged to use this time to network and relax in preparation for the rest of the week.

Organized activities include golf, trap shooting, and local tourism attractions.

You are on your own for lunch and dinner.

7:00 – 7:45 AM FULL BREAKFAST

Convention Center

8:00 AM - 1:30 PM PROFESSIONALISM IN PUBLIC WORKS*

- Dressing for Success
- Dining in Style

Instructors TBA

Includes working lunch.
(3.75 hours of instruction)

1:30 – 4:30 PM "JUST THROW STRIKES"

Service Excellence

Steve Ludwig, Ludwig Speaks (3.25 hours of instruction)

5:00 – 6:00 PM SOCIAL HOUR

6:00 – 7:00 PM BANQUET

7:00 – 8:00 PM AWARDS for the CLASS OF FALL 2025 and the CLASS OF SPRING 2026

7:00 – 7:45 AM FULL BREAKFAST

Convention Center

8:00 AM - Noon CONDUCTING PERFORMANCE APPRAISALS

Techniques and procedures for success!

EUREKA TO ACTION PLAN

Putting the lessons learned this week into an action plan!

Lewis Bender, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus SIU, Edwardsville IPSI Facilitator and Instructor

(3.75 hours of instruction Course #9802)



CERTIFICATES will

be provided to all participants after the last session on Friday. This includes the third year class.
No exceptions.

