CONSTITUTION AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

Educational institutions that receive federal funding are required to hold an educational program about the United States Constitution on September 17th of each year, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. When September 17th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, a college may recognize Constitution Day during the preceding or following week.

The purpose of Constitution Day is to ensure that students in our country are gaining an increased knowledge and appreciation for this valuable and important document of freedom.

What ISAC Provides

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) provides information concerning Constitution and Citizenship Day to students within the Students & Parents area at isac.org. As you build your own program, or website pages, take advantage of the information available on the Constitution Day Resources page for students (located at https://www.isac.org/students/constitution-day-resources.html).

Additional Constitution Day Resource material is available on these pages, including a link to a Spanish translation of the Constitution.

Congressional Initiative

Federal Register: May 31, 2005 (Volume 70, Number 103) (correction notice)

This Congressional initiative is authorized by Section 111 of Division J of Pub. L. 108-447, the “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, Dec. 8, 2004; 118 Stat. 2809, 3344-45 (Section 111).

For Additional Information

For more information concerning school requirements, contact Alex Stein at the U.S. Department of Education:

400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4W218
Washington, DC 20202-2110
202.205.9085
constitutionday@ed.gov

Reviewed and/or Updated in August 2019
Informational Resources

Below are some additional resources relating to the U.S. Constitution that you may want to reference as you create a Constitution Day program. While the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) does not endorse any of these programs or websites, you may find them useful in assisting students in learning about the Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution Online
http://usconstitution.net

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration
http://www.archives.gov/
The site includes links to a variety of resources such as:
  - Scanned copy of the U.S. Constitution
    https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution
  - Constitution Day Resources from the Bill of Rights Institute
    http://billofrightsinstitute.org/educate/educator-resources/
      - Constitutional Principles Videos
        http://billofrightsinstitute.org/engage/student-resources/constitutional-principles-videos/

Resources from the Gutenberg Project
  The Federalist Papers (written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay to explain the Constitution to the people of America, and to garner their support for it)
  https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1404/1404-h/1404-h.htm

Spanish Translation

Constitución de los Estados Unidos de América (from the U.S National Archives and Records Administration)

National Constitution Center – Interactive Constitution
http://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution

Constitution Rights Foundation: Foundations of our Constitution (online lessons)
http://www.crf-usa.org/constitution-day/constitution-day-lesson-plans-kindergarten-middle-and-high-school.html