



ILGISA 2025 - 2027 Strategic Plan

Status Update as of 1/13/2026

Goal 1: Advance educational opportunities and the sharing of ideas

Measures: Send evaluations after each event, and maintain an overall approval rate of over 75%.

STATUS	INITIATIVE	DATE	COMMITTEE	COMMENTS
Ongoing	Host full-day or half-day short courses or workshops on specific topics of interest.	4FY26	Professional Development	Working on developing GIS topics for 2026. Also reviewing various presentation platforms.
Ongoing	Continue hosting monthly webinar programs on relevant topics in GIS.	Ongoing	Professional Development	Currently scheduling webinar topics throughout 2026.
Ongoing	Create video shorts/snippets of “how-to” do certain GIS tasks.	1FY26	Professional Development	Currently researching common GIS methods that can be viewed by the membership.
Ongoing	Develop a mentorship/job shadow program for students and/or young professionals in the industry.	3FY25	Education	The main portion of the program has been developed. A sub-committee will be formed to review any legal challenges with the formal rollout and advertising of the program.
Ongoing	Host a minimum of 2 full-day Regional Meetings across the state of Illinois.	1FY25 & Ongoing	Program	Two regional meetings are scheduled in Springfield and Chicago.
Ongoing	Host an Annual Conference with 5 concurrent tracks.	4FY25 & Ongoing	Program	Reviewed the survey results from 2025. Currently planning the 2026 conference in East Peoria.

Goal 2: Increase awareness of GIS in Illinois

Measures: Send a membership survey annually with a question asking about ILGISA’s efforts to increase GIS awareness.

STATUS	INITIATIVE	DATE	COMMITTEE	COMMENTS
Ongoing	Post on ILGISA’s social media pages a minimum of 3x per month.	1FY25 & Ongoing	Outreach	Continuing to post various topics on LinkedIn including job opportunities and future ILGISA events.

Ongoing	Formalize connections/relationships with educational institutions. (For example, participate in career fairs/days at various universities)	3FY25	Education	The committee is working on student pop-ups for 2026. Also contacting education institutions to connect with ILGISA.
Ongoing	Establish Midwest GIS event calendar on ILGISA.org website.	Ongoing	Outreach	Currently posting upcoming GIS events (i.e. MAGIC Symposium) on the ILGISA website.
Ongoing	Evaluate New ILGISA Awards. (Academic & Organization)	3FY25	Governance	Currently reviewing the logistics and rollout of the ILGISA Educator Award.
Goal 3: Grow Membership				
Measures: Increase membership numbers by 5% annually. Track member retention rate, and ensure it is on an upward trajectory.				
STATUS	INITIATIVE	DATE	COMMITTEE	COMMENTS
Ongoing	Identify and understand underrepresented segments of the industry.	2FY25 & Ongoing	Outreach	This was started in 2025. The committee is researching all available industries that GIS is being utilized throughout the state.
Not Started	Re-evaluate organizational membership structure.	1FY26	Governance	The Governance Committee will start to review in 2026.
Not Started	Convert Existing Student Members to Active Members.	2FY26 & Ongoing	Education & Outreach	The Education Committee will start to review in 2026.
Ongoing	Convert Lapsed Members Back to Active Members.	1FY26 & Ongoing	Outreach & Professional Development	The membership list will need to be reviewed to remove duplicate entries. Will start the initiative this upcoming Spring.
Goal 4: Facilitate Networking				
Measures: Send a membership survey annually with a question asking about ILGISA's networking opportunities.				
STATUS	INITIATIVE	DATE	COMMITTEE	COMMENTS
Ongoing	Partner with vendor members to host pop-up events throughout the state at various universities or other venues with a primary focus on networking.	3FY25	Education	The committee is working to host pop-up events with Illinois State and WIU. Additional pop-up events will be scheduled throughout 2026.
Complete	Create an online digital forum for members to interact between in-person events.	3FY25	Outreach	The ILGISA forum site was launched last year.

Ongoing	Add more 'formal' networking opportunities at the Annual Conference and Regional Meetings.	4FY25 & Ongoing	Program	The Program Committee will be looking at additional networking opportunities at future regional meetings and the upcoming 2026 annual conference.
Ongoing	Add Special Interest Groups (SIG's) during the Annual Conference and/or Regional Meetings.	4FY25 & Ongoing	Program	Developing a panel session track for the 2026 annual conference.
Goal 5: Stabilize Financial Standing Measures: Grow reserve account (Goal: \$50,000) by 4FY27.				
STATUS	INITIATIVE	DATE	COMMITTEE	COMMENTS
Ongoing	Explore alternate revenue streams. (Example: webinar sponsors, swag sponsors, etc.)	4FY25	Finance	Currently reviewing the sponsorship structure for the 2026 annual conference.
Ongoing	Evaluate investments.	4FY25	Finance	The Finance Committee is reviewing all of the existing investments. Will also be researching new financial opportunities throughout 2026.