



ICAIA NEWS

Illinois College Automotive Instructor's Association



www.icaia.org

1976 FOUNDING FATHERS

- James Lausted (passed in 2009)
Prairie State College
- Paul Rickert (passed in 2017)
Waubensee Community College
- Ray Oviyach (passed in 2018)
Triton College

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ICAIA - Accelerating Forward!

The Spring 2025 ICAIA Conference is just a few weeks away. The March 20 and 21 conference is being hosted by College of Lake County and it is sure to be a good one.

Currently, there is no host identified for the following Fall 2025. Thus, without a host, there will be no conference, no opportunity to gain learning credit, no opportunity to see the vendor trade show.

We encourage everyone to consider hosting an ICAIA conference. If you have concerns, consider a partnership in hosting such as:

- Co-host between 2 schools, such as a local high school and college. Wow, talk about engaging your feeder/articulation schools and building a pipeline of students and cooperation!
- Co-host with a local business partner. The local vendor/business partner may have numerous ideas to help with potential vendors and presenters. What a way to also help build your advisory board participation!

The Association does much of the heavy lifting to host a conference. We are also here to answer any of your questions and concerns. Reach out to any Officer or Board Member and we are here to help.

We look forward to seeing everyone in a few weeks at College of Lake County!

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Treasury Report

The Association continues to be financially sound. Currently, the ICAIA Treasury is at \$46K with expenses for the upcoming conference yet to be paid.

When you pay your membership dues, you will receive an e-mail from me (Art Koudelka - ICAIA Executive Treasurer) with your membership length (1, 3, or 5 years). ICAIA Membership follows the school year and dues are paid in the Fall. Therefore, this year's ICAIA dues pay for the 2024-2025 school year.

Art Koudelka

ICAIA Executive Treasurer
Illinois Valley Community College

Conference Registration

We encourage everyone to use the online registration for the conference. For conference planning and management purposes, we do not accept walk-in (day-of) registration.

New Conference Agenda & Increased Training Hours

ICAIA is following a new conference agenda that allows Instructors who attend both days and the banquet to receive 10 PD Credits (high School Instructors) and 10 ASE Training hours.

Database Report

When paying your ICAIA Dues, please sign up for 3 or 5 years. It saves a lot of work behind the scenes and helps prevent members from missing mailings and communications.

If you have any changes for the database, or if you want to know your dues status, I can be reached at selza@d211.org or cell phone 630-605-6771.

Steve Elza

William Fremd High School

Spring 2025 ICAIA Conference

March 20 and 21, 2025



The Spring 2025 ICAIA Conference is being hosted by the College of Lake County in their automotive training facility located in Building T on their campus. Parking will be available in Lots 8 and 9 for the conference.

19351 W. Washington St.
Grayslake, IL 60030

Contact: Derrek Keesling
Department Chair & Instructor
Automotive Technology
Phone: 847-543-2728
Email: eng521@clcollinois.edu

Host Hotel:

Wingate by Wyndham Gurnee
6090 Gurnee Mills Circle E
Gurnee, IL 60031

Room Block currently filled



Hotel Option 2

Comfort Inn Gurnee
6080 Gurnee Mills Circle E
Gurnee, IL 60031
Phone: 1-847-855-8868

Group Name: College Lake County
Group Code: UQ97B6



Thursday Evening Banquet Location

Austin's Fuel Room

481 Peterson Rd.
Libertyville, IL 60048
Phone: 847-549-1972

Social starts at 6:00 pm
Dinner starts at 6:30 pm

Parking: See map online at www.icaia.org for parking and overflow parking.



Attend an ICAIA Conference and:

- See the latest in the industry!
- Share ideas with peers!
- Learn a lot to take back to your school!
- Make new friends!
- Have a great time!



Online Registration

ICAIA members can register for conferences and pay membership dues online!

ICAIA recommends using the online portal as a quick and easy way to register for the conference and pay any membership dues. Just follow the link located on the main ICAIA website www.icaia.org. The online registration service is provided by Brushfire and delivers a simple and easy to use process for members and vendors to complete the registration process. Utilizing the online registration portal provides:

- Increased convenience (available 24/7)
- Increased speed (No forms to fill out)
- Improved tracking (Helps the host school and Association plan for numbers)

Industry partners interested in participating in the Thursday morning Trade Show can also register via the online portal.

There is a small fee associated with utilizing the online registration portal, but online registration does deliver great value to the member, vendor, host school, and the Association.

Prior Registration Required

ICAIA reminds everyone that for conference planning and management purposes, we do not accept walk-in (day-of) registration.

ISBE Professional Development Credits for Illinois High School Instructors

ICAIA will be offering **10 ISBE PD Credits** for Illinois High School Instructors attending both days of the ICAIA conference. These credits will be issued through Illinois Valley Community College (IVCC) which has graciously agreed to provide these PD Credits again.

Illinois high school instructors that need **ISBE PD Credits** should pick up a **ISBE Evaluation form** at the conference registration table on Thursday morning. The form will need to be complete and returned to Art Koudelka (ICAIA Executive Treasurer) before leaving on Friday, by 12:15 pm. There will be a drop box at the registration table on Friday morning for your convenience.

If your evaluation form is not returned by Friday 12:15 pm., you will **not** receive ISBE PD Credits for the conference.

IVCC will email you your ISBE PD credits within a few weeks (after the conference) for the ICAIA High School Instructors that turned in their ISBE Evaluation form on time.

NEW ICAIA Conference Agenda and Increased Training Hours

ICAIA increased the training session hours in the agenda. Instructors who attend both Thursday and Friday, as well as the banquet to receive 10 PD Credits (high School Instructors) and 10 ASE Training hours. Now, fully attending both Fall and Spring ICAIA Conferences will provide instructors with 20 hours of update training.

Thursday

6:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Trade Show Set-Up
8:00 – 1:00	Trade Show
8:00 – 10:00	Continental Breakfast
8:00 – 10:00	Pickup of Conference Materials
10:00 – 11:45	Technical Session #1
11:45 – 1:00	Lunch / Business Meeting / Door Prizes
1:00 – 2:45	Technical Session #2
2:45 – 3:00	Break
3:00 – 4:45	Technical Session #3
4:45 – 6:00	Free Time & Travel
6:00 – 6:30	Social
6:30 – 7:30	Dinner Banquet
7:30 – 8:00	Keynote Speaker & Presentations

Friday

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 10:15	Technical Session #4
10:15 – 10:30	Morning Break
10:30 – 12:00	Technical Session #5

Upcoming Future Conferences

Spring 2025	College of Lake County
Fall 2025	Host site open. We need a host!
Spring 2026	Host site open. We need a host!
Fall 2026	Host site open. We need a host!
Spring 2027	Host site open. We need a host!
Fall 2027	Illinois Valley Community College (tentative)

Hosting an ICAIA Conference FAQ's

1. My school does not have room. Can I host an ICAIA conference?

YES. ICAIA conferences have been hosted in smaller schools by placing the vendor show in a hallway and utilizing various other classrooms for training sessions. Only if you want to allow a vendor to bring in a large piece of equipment will the auto shop be necessary.

ICAIA has also held the vendor trade show in the host hotel banquet room with no auto shop. ICAIA has also had schools' partner together and split the conference between the 2 schools. There are numerous options, and we are here to discuss and help.

2. I am a one-person or small program. Can I host an ICAIA conference?

YES. ICAIA is here to help support you. ICAIA takes care of all the registration details. ICAIA can help with contacting vendors and presenters. What the host school needs to do is help coordinate lodging, facilities, food vendor, and banquet location. In fact, ICAIA is here to help with that as well if needed.

Remember to consider the possibility of partnering and co-hosting:

- Co-host between 2 schools, such as a local high school and college. Wow, talk about engaging your feeder/articulation schools and building a pipeline of students and cooperation!
 - Consider having students from both schools help together in the set-up.
- Co-host with a local business partner. The local vendor/business partner may have numerous ideas to help with potential vendors and presenters. What a way to also help build your advisory board participation!
- Consider having your students form a leadership committee to help with:
 - Finding a host hotel and banquet location
 - Laying out and setting up the vendor trade show
 - Identifying local vendors
 - ICAIA and you can help take it from there!

3. Why should I host an ICAIA conference?

Hosting an ICAIA conference is a way to show to your school's administration the many positive and great things occurring in our industry, your program, and with your students. There is no better way to open the eyes of your administration and student advisement staff to gain support with lab improvements, equipment purchases, and high-quality student registration.

Show everyone what you and your program is all about! Hosting can help build your connections with local vendors and industry. Hosting provides scholarship support for some of your outstanding students. Hosting supports your fellow automotive instructors. Hosting provides a great sense of pride and accomplishment.

Interested? Reach out to any ICAIA Officer and we are here to help!

Thank You to Oakton College!

Thank you to the faculty, staff, and administration of Oakton College for hosting the Fall 2024 ICAIA Conference. It was a great experience for all who attended with numerous tradeshow vendors and presenters sharing the future of our industry.

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During the Thursday evening banquet, two Oakton College automotive students were presented scholarships for their hard work both in and out of the classroom:

- Jason Smigielski: ICAIA Founding Fathers Scholarship
- Zachary Brzezinski: Jim Krudl Rising Star Scholarship

ICAIA thanks the many sponsors, vendors, presenters, and everyone at Oakton College for hosting a great conference!



Looking forward to seeing you at the next ICAIA Conference!



Note: Notice how a conference can be successfully hosted by placing the vendor tradeshow in a banquet style room.









ICAIA on Facebook

Stay up to date with ICAIA announcements as well as other opportunities to help your program. Search "Illinois College Automotive Instructors Association" on Facebook. Be sure to check it out and follow us today!

