



In the News: State's largest pre-K program closes; CPS high schools test scores improve

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The largest pre-kindergarten program in Illinois – Through a Child's Eyes, in Cicero – closed last week because of delayed state payments. Before the closure, it had served about 400 3- to 5-year-olds. Of those, more than 90 percent are at or below the poverty level, and 75 percent speak Spanish as their first language.

The state owes the program more than \$100,000, according to a news release from the Illinois Latino Agenda coalition. The state's total unpaid bill to nonprofit organizations was almost \$500 million as of mid-July.

"Through A Child's Eyes has made contact with all of the appropriate legislative and governmental officials in Illinois to try and secure the release of the funds from the Comptrollers office ... they have been unable to have these funds released," the program said in a statement. (Rebecca Harris, Catalyst)