

# About Us

The Better Government Association was founded in 1923 and will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of serving Illinois residents in 2023. The BGA publishes [Illinois Answers Project](#), an investigative and solutions-focused news outlet launched in 2022, as well as [BGA Policy](#), which advocates for more transparent, accountable and equitable government through public policy reform.

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## Mission

The Better Government Association is a non-partisan, nonprofit news organization and civic advocate working for transparency, equity and accountability in government in Chicago and across Illinois.

## How We Operate

The Illinois Answers Project and BGA Policy teams operate autonomously, with internal policy and practices that ensure the separation of journalism and advocacy. The BGA leadership team maintains oversight over both teams.

## Editorial Independence Policy

We subscribe to standards of editorial independence adopted by the Institute for Nonprofit News:

Our organization retains full authority over editorial content to protect the best journalistic and business interests of our organization. We maintain a firewall between news coverage decisions and sources of all revenue. Acceptance of financial support does not constitute implied or actual endorsement of donors or their products, services or opinions.

We accept gifts, grants, and sponsorships from individuals and organizations for the general support of our activities, but our news judgments are made independently and not on the basis of donor support.

Our organization may consider donations to support the coverage of particular topics, but our organization maintains complete editorial control of all coverage. We will cede no right of review or influence of editorial content, nor of unauthorized distribution of editorial content.

We will accept anonymous donations, for general support only, and only under conditions that safeguard and protect the editorial independence of our organization in compliance with INN's Membership Standards.