



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

Greetings!

I am proud to welcome delegates to the Ninth International Conference on Education and Learning.

During this year's conference, *Education in the Context of Migration*, scholars will gather to discuss the complex implications of immigration in the U.S. and global education systems. This dialogue is of vital importance to our state. Our state is the home to over 1.8 million immigrants, and one in six Illinois workers is an immigrant. The research presented this weekend will help ensure that we in Illinois continue to fully support our state's residents: Illinois has been and remains a welcoming state for all.

My administration is committed to standing as a firewall against the fear and exploitation espoused by the current federal government. I am proud that the International Conference on Education and Learning has selected Chicago for its conference and thrilled to welcome the renowned scholars who will be attending. Thank you for your contributions in seeking the answers to some of the world's most pressing questions.

As governor of the state of Illinois and the great-grandson of refugees, I offer my best wishes for a memorable and productive weekend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JB Pritzker". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.