



2026 PACESETTER AWARD

*The Illinois Community College Trustees Association's **PACESETTER AWARD** recognizes the many success stories of Illinois' more recent community college students.*

AWARD CRITERIA

Each nomination for the ICCTA Pacesetter Award will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Overcoming life's obstacles (especially those who were non-traditional students)
- Demonstrated promise and distinction in chosen career / field of study
- Humanitarian service that has proven greatly beneficial to society
- Continued interest in and support of education and community colleges
- Completion of a recognized program of instruction (including dual credit courses) or attendance for at least 30 semesters hours at an Illinois public community college **after June 30, 2014**

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Nominations for the ICCTA Pacesetter Award must be submitted by the board of trustees of an ICCTA member college. Each ICCTA member college is eligible to nominate one individual per year. **Currently serving trustees and presidents are not eligible for nomination. Posthumous nominations are not eligible for submission.**

In order for a nomination to be considered, all of the following items must be included in the nomination packet.

The total length must not exceed six (6) single-sided pages:

- Letter of support from the college board of trustees
- Responses to each of the above award criteria questions
- Self-statement of 250 words or less describing how the nominee's life has been shaped by a community college education
- Optional supplemental materials (i.e., resumé, news articles, brochures, photos)

In addition, the nomination must include a narrative statement (not to exceed 150 words) that explains the nominee's qualifications and is suitable for use in ICCTA publicity materials. *The narrative statement is not included in the 6-page nomination packet, but it is required for a nomination to be considered.*

★ Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the disqualification of a nomination ★

Because the names of many deserving nominees are received each year, boards of trustees are encouraged to **re-submit** the names and qualifications of former nominees for consideration.

PROGRAM DEADLINES

All nomination materials must be received **BY 5 PM, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026. THIS DEADLINE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.** All award nominees will be invited to attend ICCTA's June 5, 2026 awards banquet in Lombard, where the statewide winner will be announced.

All nominations and support materials should be sent to the **Illinois Community College Trustees Association, 401 E. Capitol, Suite 200, Springfield, IL 62701-1711.** For more information, please contact Veronica Brown at vbrown@communitycolleges.org or 1-800-454-2282.



2026 ICCTA Pacesetter Award Nomination Form

Name of award nominee _____

Pronunciation of nominee's name _____

Community college _____

Nominee's mailing address _____

Telephone # _____ E-mail address _____

Name of nominator _____

Community college _____

Title/position _____

Nominator's mailing address _____

Telephone # _____ E-mail address _____

To ensure that your awards nomination is processed without delay, please check off the following items before submitting this information:

Nominations Packet -- **NO MORE THAN SIX (6) SINGLE-SIDED PAGES TOTAL** may be submitted:

- ☐ Letter of support from the college board of trustees
- ☐ Responses to each award criteria question
- ☐ Self-statement of 250 words or less describing how the nominee's life has been shaped by a community college education
- ☐ Optional supplemental materials (i.e., resumé, news articles, brochures, photos)

Also required for consideration (but not included in the 6-page limit):

- ☐ Narrative statement of no more than 150 words
- ☐ Completed nomination form

This nomination form and supporting materials must be received by **5 PM, Friday, February 27, 2026**, at the:

Illinois Community College Trustees Association
401 E. Capitol, Suite 200
Springfield, IL 62701-1711
E-MAIL: vbrown@communitycolleges.org

- For more information, contact Veronica Brown at vbrown@communitycolleges.org or 1-800-454-2282 ▪