



ICCTA Board Highlights



Advocacy

Federal Level

- Received a briefing on community colleges' [2026 federal legislative priorities](#) and the five main pillars of marketing community colleges in Illinois and across the country.
- Hosted group meeting with U.S. Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth of Illinois on Pell Grants, boosting community colleges as economic engines, bolstering our role in Workforce Development, and strengthening accountability and transparency.

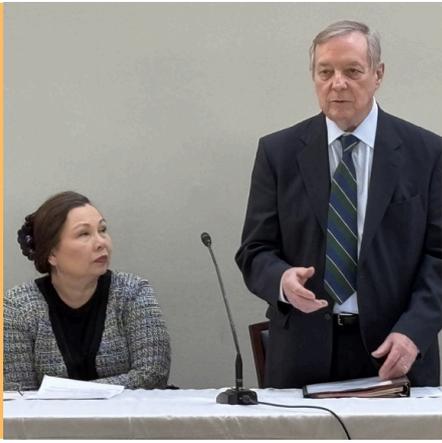
State Level

- Welcomed Allena Barbato, College of Lake County, as the newly appointed ACCT State Coordinator.
- Reviewed [ICCTA's 2026 Legislative Initiatives](#) and discussed the “One Click, College Admit” marketing campaign that will launch in April in conjunction with Community College Month.
- Announced ICCTA's 2026 Lobby Day for Wednesday, May 6, in Springfield, IL. There is also a Student Lobby Day scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2026. More details for each event to come.

Trustee Education

- Discussed the upcoming release of the Economic Impact Study reports produced by ICCB.

February 2026 Board Meeting & ACCT'S NLS | Washington, D.C.



Member Engagement

- Heard remarks from Student Trustee, Pascalinegrace Phongo, Parkland College, on her experience being a Student Trustee. Phongo reminded us of the tremendous power we hold in helping shape the lives of current and future students. She remarked on learning just how powerful one voice of change can have on her community and encouraged Trustees to continue advocating for community colleges in Illinois and across the nation.
- Reviewed dates for the Illinois State Fair in August 2026. ICCB will have tables at both the Springfield and Du Quoin fairgrounds and Trustees are encouraged to volunteer. More information to be distributed soon.
- Noted that **14** Student Trustees attended the 2026 NLS—an outstanding level of participation. Great job, everyone!
- Reminded Trustees that the 2026 ACCT Leadership Congress will be held in Chicago, IL. As the host state, members are encouraged to submit session proposals and award nominations.
- Learned Dr. Maureen Banks, Parkland College, was slated by ACCT's Nominating Committee to run as a Director-at-Large for ACCT's Board.
- Reminded Trustees that the first round of nominations for the [2026 ICCTA Awards and Scholarships](#) is Friday, February, 27, and the second round is due Friday, March 27, 2026.

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ICCTA's Next Meeting

ICCTA Board Meeting & Seminar
March 20-21, 2026
Moraine Valley Community College

Click [HERE](#) for more events

