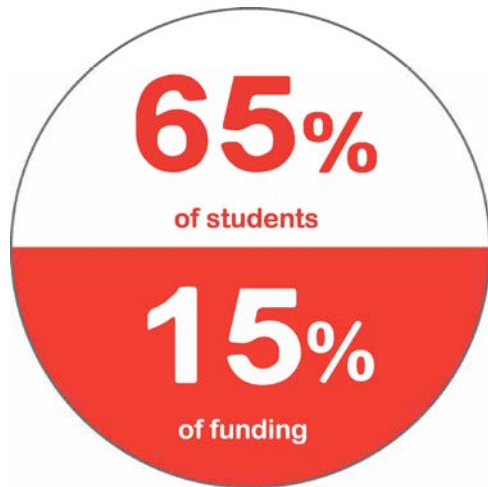


Make Community Colleges a Priority



*Illinois community colleges educate **65%** of students in Illinois public higher education but receive only **15%** of state higher education funding*

In FY2002, the state of Illinois appropriated \$310 million to community colleges.

In FY2018, the state of Illinois appropriated \$249 million to community colleges.

Community colleges teach 2/3 of the state's public higher education students but receive only 1/8 of Illinois higher education funding.

Make Community Colleges a Priority



ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

- 🎓 The Illinois Community College System is the third largest in the nation with 48 community colleges and 39 college districts in Illinois.
- 🎓 Over 800,000 students taking credit, noncredit, and community education courses walk through the doors of an Illinois community college each year.
- 🎓 Earning an Associate of Applied Science or long-term certificate from an Illinois community college adds more than \$570,000 in lifetime earnings.
- 🎓 The average full-time Illinois community college student pays \$4,206 per year in tuition and fees.
- 🎓 Nine out of 10 of the state's community college graduates live, work, pay taxes, and raise their families in Illinois.
- 🎓 The "typical" Illinois community college student is 29 years old and enrolled part-time.
- 🎓 More than two-thirds of all minorities in Illinois public higher education attend community colleges, and nearly 18,000 students with disabilities and 43,000 students with limited English proficiency are served each year.
- 🎓 Illinois community colleges educate 65 percent of the students enrolled in Illinois public higher education but receive only 15 percent of the state's higher education funding.
- 🎓 Nearly 74 percent of Illinois employers have hired a community college student and over 26 percent of Illinois employees have completed a credit course at a community college.
- 🎓 One year after graduation, Illinois' community college occupational graduates averaged a full-time salary of \$35,270 in 2012.
- 🎓 Illinois was the first state in the nation to "guarantee" its community college occupational graduates; those graduates who need additional technical training may enroll in the appropriate courses at no cost to themselves or their employers.
- 🎓 College costs can be reduced and students are able to gain access to college-level coursework during high school through dual credit. Community colleges offered 10,994 dual credit courses to 111,643 high school students (students are counted for each course they enroll in).