

ICCTA

Illinois Community College Trustees Association

CALL TO ACTION *** CALL YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS

#saveLccfunding

The Illinois House and Senate have confirmed they will return to Springfield for a special legislative session this week (Wednesday, May 20 – Friday, May 22). **We need your help!**

ICCTA predicts state legislators will look to shore up budget holes by making cuts to core services, including the community college system. Our community colleges are at risk of major harm due to the COVID-19 crisis, and the impact will be compounded by a lack of **flat funding** and support from state government.

TALKING POINTS – Please use this general framework to incorporate data points specific to your college

COVID-19 will have a detrimental impact on your college's financial situation

HERE ARE EXAMPLE DISCUSSION POINTS:

- The COVID-19 crisis has impacted your college in lost revenues and additional costs, including:
 - Transitioning to online education and telework
 - Expenses associated with mitigating and remediating the impact of COVID-19, including cleaning our campus
 - Loss of revenues from cancelled programs and events, closed facilities, and delayed grants

Community colleges are willing and able to assist with the state's economic recovery

- Historical trends show countercyclical effects of economic downturn on community college enrollment – when the economy is weak and jobs are not as readily available, the opportunity cost of going to or returning to community college is low
- Community colleges are positioned to provide job training to enable people to re-enter the workforce

****ASK****

Community colleges are vital to a strong economic recovery. We train workers to re-enter the workforce, both through existing programming and customized training. We recognize the FY21 budget cycle is going to be difficult – but Illinois needs a strong community college system now more than ever.

PLEASE SUPPORT FLAT FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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