

# ICCTA ACTION ALERT

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February 17, 2006

The Illinois General Assembly completed its work for the week and adjourned on Thursday afternoon, February 16. This date coincides with the deadline for the passage of most bills out of committees in the house of origin. With the exception of appropriation bills and legislation that has received extended deadlines, bills that did not advance out of committees will probably not receive further consideration. Both the House and Senate are scheduled to return to Springfield on Tuesday, February 21, to begin floor actions on bills that passed out of committees.

On Wednesday, February 15, the Governor delivered his budget message to a joint session of the General Assembly. The Governor's \$55 billion budget provides a 2% increase in state funding for higher education. The community college system would receive an overall 1.9% increase in state support, while the universities would receive a 1.1% increase. A complete analysis of the community college system budget will be available when all of the details are known. The Governor's FY 07 budget recommendations are attached for review.

## BILLS OF INTEREST TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES

The following is a list of bills that are still advancing through the legislative process. Many initiatives will not be considered this spring due to a limit on the number of bills (3) that each legislator will handle during the session.

**House Bill 4209 Harper College Baccalaureate Degree Initiative (Bassi)**

**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

**Status: SECOND READING in the House**

Amends the Public Community College Act. Allows William Rainey Harper College to create a pilot baccalaureate program under which the district may establish and offer bachelor's degrees in 2 fields of study if certain conditions are met, including requiring (i) that the degree programs not compete with any nearby public university, (ii) that the district identify and document unmet workforce needs, (iii) that the degree programs not require any additional funding from local taxes or the State, (iv) that the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the offering of the degree programs, and (v) that the pilot program expire 4 years after the initial offering of the degree programs, unless otherwise extended by law. Effective immediately.

**HB 4221 ISAC Student Loan Sales / Interest Fees (Jakobsson)**

**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

**Status: THIRD READING in the House**

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Provides that if any of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission's student loans are sold or transferred to a private entity, then the private entity must offer an interest rate on the loan that is the same as or lower than the Commission offered at the time of sale or transfer and must offer the same fee reduction plan that was offered by the Commission at the time of sale or transfer. Effective immediately. (ICCTA opposes the sale of ISAC's student loan portfolio and believes that passage of this legislation would remove incentives for potential buyers.)

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ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

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www.communitycolleges.org (web site)

**HB 4339 Minority Transfer Centers for Chicago and Morton Colleges (Collins)**

**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

**Status: SECOND READING in the House**

Amends the Public Community College Act. Requires ICCB to establish a 3-year pilot program under which each community college in the City Colleges of Chicago and Morton College districts must employ one person as a coordinator and one person as a recruiter to assist inner-city students in transferring to public universities in Illinois. Provides that ICCB shall provide a grant to each of these districts to fund the positions. Sets forth responsibilities of the coordinator and recruiter. Requires ICCB to study the overall success of the pilot program and report its findings to the General Assembly. Provides that after the report is filed, the General Assembly may continue the program, increase funding for the program, or expand the program to all public community colleges in the State. Effective July 1, 2006. *(ICCTA has expressed concerns that if the legislation passes without an appropriation, then the affected colleges would be subject to an unfunded mandate.)*

**HB4406 Higher Education Grant for Child Raised by a Grandparent (Jones)**

**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

**Status: SECOND READING in the House**

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. For his or her first year of full-time attendance at an institution of higher learning, provides that a person is entitled to a \$1,000 grant if he or she (i) is in the legal custody of his or her grandparent and receives public aid assistance under the Illinois Public Aid Code, (ii) has graduated from high school with a cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and (iii) has been recommended for the grant by the principal of his or her high school.

**HB 4442 Open Meetings Act - 48 Hours Notice (Hannig)**

**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

**Status: SECOND READING in the House**

Amends the Open Meetings Act. With respect to posting meeting notices at the public body's principal office and at the meeting's location at least 48 hours before the meeting, requires that the notices be placed in locations visible and accessible by the public at all times the notice is posted.

**HB 4453 Illinois Workforce Investment Board (McKeon)**

**ICCTA Position: SUPPORT**

**STATUS: PASSED House 113-0; FIRST READING in the Senate**

Amends the Illinois Workforce Investment Board Act. Provides that the Illinois Workforce Investment Board shall develop a method for measuring Illinois' progress in transitioning to a high-skill, high-wage, and high-productivity economy at the State, regional, and local levels. Sets forth that the Board shall develop a set of benchmarks that measure whether Illinois is developing a globally competitive workforce that is aligned with the needs of the current and emerging economy. Requires the Board to report annually on Illinois' progress on each of the benchmarks and that the Board make changes to these benchmarks as necessary to improve measurement and reporting while, at the same time, maintaining consistency across annual reports to the General Assembly. Deletes specific benchmarks set forth in the Act.

**HB 4652 Baccalaureate Completion Matching Grants Act (McCarthy)**

**ICCTA Position: MONITOR**

**Status: SECOND READING in the House**

Amends the Illinois Financial Assistance Act for Nonpublic Institutions of Higher Learning. Changes the short title to the Baccalaureate Completion Matching Grant Act (and makes conforming changes in the School Code). Makes changes concerning the calculation of the grant formulae and the conditions of institutional eligibility. Effective July 1, 2006. Provides that (i) the participating institution shall determine student eligibility using the federal definition for need-based student aid, defined as the estimated family contribution subtracted from the institutional cost of attendance and (ii) a student shall be eligible for assistance if the institution determines that the student has remaining need, according to information provided by the student's completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid, as applied to the federal definition for need-based student aid.

**HB 4995                      Community College Student Housing (Schock / Black)**

**ICCTA Position:            SUPPORT**

**Status:                      HELD in House Rules Committee**

Amends the Public Community College Act. Allows a board of trustees to provide or contract for residential housing for students and employees. In the Article concerning building programs, removes dormitories from the definition of "facilities". Effective immediately.

**HB 5269                      Community College Learn English Initiative (Coulson)**

**ICCTA Position:            MONITOR**

**Status:                      SECOND READING in the House**

Amends the Public Community College Act. Requires ICCB to establish and administer a "We Want to Learn English Initiative" to provide resources for immigrants and refugees in Illinois to learn English in order to move towards becoming full members of American society. Provides that each fiscal year, the Board shall include in its budget proposal \$25,000,000 in funding for the Initiative. Provides that no less than half of the funds appropriated for the Initiative each fiscal year shall be disbursed to community-based, not-for-profit organizations, immigrant social service organizations, faith-based organizations, and on-site job training programs. (*Similar legislation – SB 2376, sponsored by Sandoval – is on THIRD Reading in the Senate.*)

**SB 2225                      University Remediation (Maloney)**

**ICCTA Position:            MONITOR**

**Status:                      SECOND READING in the Senate**

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Provides that if a public university admits a student who needs remedial coursework, then the university must require that the student complete the remedial coursework.

**SB 2778                      Higher Education Emergency Worker Attendance (Sieben)**

**ICCTA Position:            MONITOR**

**Status:                      SECOND READING in the Senate**

Amends the Volunteer Emergency Worker Job Protection Act and various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. Provides that no public university or community college attendance policy or attendance policy of a faculty member thereof may in any way penalize a student who is a volunteer emergency worker for absence from class caused by the performance of his or her duties as a volunteer emergency worker. Amends the Volunteer Fire Protection Association Act. Provides that no public university or community college attendance policy or attendance policy of a faculty member thereof may in any way penalize a student who is a volunteer fire protection association member for absence from class caused by the performance of his or her duties as a volunteer fire protection association member. Effective immediately.

**House Joint Resolution 24      Joint Task Force on Community Colleges (McCarthy)**

**ICCTA Position:            SUPPORT**

**Status:                      Passed House 113-0; HELD in Senate Rules Committee**

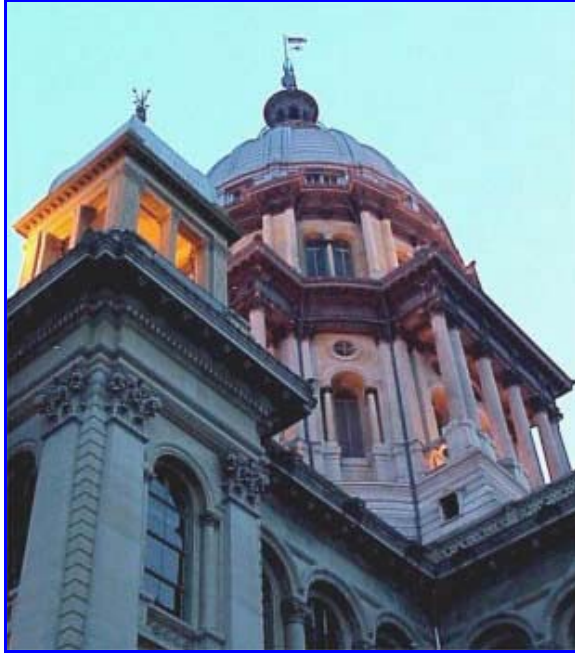
Creates a Joint Task Force on Community Colleges to review the present community college system and its future.

**☞ Register for Community College Lobby Day on March 29 --  
call ICCTA at 1-800-454-2282 ☞**



Illinois Community College Trustees Association

## LOBBY DAY



ICCTA LOBBY DAY  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

- 11 AM: ICCTA Executive Committee meeting  
Harry L. Crisp Community College Center
- 12 Noon: Legislative briefing (includes lunch)  
Harry L. Crisp Community College Center
- 1 PM: Legislative visits  
State Capitol Complex

*(See other side for directions and hotel information)*

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### 2006 ICCTA LOBBY DAY REGISTRATION FORM

All Lobby Day activities are **FREE**. Advance registration is required to make certain we are able to accommodate everyone for lunch.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs? Please indicate: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this completed registration form by Monday, March 20, 2006 to:  
Illinois Community College Trustees Association  
401 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 200  
Springfield, IL 62701-1711  
217-528-8662 (fax)  
[iccta@communitycolleges.org](mailto:iccta@communitycolleges.org) (e-mail)

• For more information, call ICCTA at 1-800-454-2282 •

## **Directions to the Harry L. Crisp Community College Center**

*(4th and Capitol)*

The Harry L. Crisp II Community College Center is located two blocks east of the State Capitol and one block north of the Executive Mansion at 401 East Capitol Avenue in downtown Springfield.

### **From the North and East:**

From I-55 take Clear Lake exit.

From I-72 continue west on Clear Lake, which becomes Jefferson Street, turn south (left) on Fifth Street, and then Turn west (right) on Capitol Avenue for 1 block.

### **From the South and West:**

From I-55 or US-36, take Sixth Street exit traveling north, turn west (left) on Capitol Avenue for 2 blocks.

## **Hotel information**

The following hotels have rooms available on March 28 & 29:

Mansion View Inn & Suites - \$79.95 per night

529 S. 4<sup>th</sup> • 217-544-7411

President Abraham Lincoln Hotel (formerly the Renaissance Hotel)- \$89

701 E. Adams • 217-544-8800

(Call or email Lisa Nardi at [lnardi@presidentabrahamlincolnhotel.com](mailto:lnardi@presidentabrahamlincolnhotel.com) to receive this special rate)

Springfield Hilton - \$159 per night

600 E. Adams • 217-789-1530

The following budget summary was prepared by the Illinois Community College Board.

ICCB's website also includes a link to the Governor's FY07 budget recommendation for community colleges:

<http://www.iccb.state.il.us/HTML/pdf/sysfin/fy07GovBudgetRecommendations.pdf>

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From: Geoffrey Obrzut  
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2006 4:33 PM  
To: PRESIDENT List  
Subject: Governor's Budget Message

Governor Blagojevich gave his Fiscal Year 2007 budget address to the General Assembly today. I am pleased to report that the Governor's budget includes an overall 1.9% increase for the Illinois Community College System. Most notable are increases in the Base Operating and Equalization Grants. The Base Operating Grant was increased due to a \$5.4 million reallocation of the former Funding Impact Grant line into the Base Operating line, plus a 1% (\$2.033 million) increase. The Funding Impact Grant was in its third and final year this year and no longer exists. The Equalization Grant was increased by 1%, or more than \$766,000. The budget also includes \$3 million for the Student Success Grant, while funding for the Workforce and P-16 grants remain at their current FY 2006 levels. Funding for Adult Education and Family Literacy also shows an increase in the Governor's budget of 2% (\$684,800). The Career and Technical Education grant line also increases by 2% (\$238,200). The Governor's budget also includes \$50 million for the replacement of temporary buildings on community college campuses, part of the original commitment for a total of \$250 million for these projects. There may also be capital renewal funds available. The General Assembly will still have input on the budget with member initiatives and possible adjustments in other line items.

As you are aware, the Governor's Office of Management and Budget has proposed some form of shared services that could affect the ICCB and other higher education agencies staff. At this time, the proposed services have been pared back and the ICCB budget and operations staff will remain intact, though some may be working on different projects.

Another topic of which you are aware is the sale of student loans from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to a private sector investment company. At this time, we have no direct knowledge that such a sale is taking place, or what form that sale may take.

I am testifying this afternoon before the Senate Appropriations III Committee on the ICCB budget, as are all the other higher education agencies and universities. We are still analyzing the Governor's budget proposal and will certainly communicate any details to you that will impact our community colleges.

Please feel free to contact me or Randy Barnette if you have any comments, questions, or concerns on the budget or other topics.

Geoffrey S. Obrzut  
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**Illinois Community College Board  
Table 1  
Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Grants**

<u>Grants</u>	<u>FY 2006 Appropriation</u>	<u>FY 2007 Governors Recommendations</u>	<u>Difference from FY2006</u>	<u>Percent Difference</u>
Base Operating Grant	\$ 191,837,100	\$ 199,318,000	\$ 7,480,900	3.9%
Small College Grant <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 780,000	\$ 840,000	\$ 60,000	7.7%
Funding Formula Impact Grant	\$ 5,507,500	\$ 0	\$ (5,507,500)	-100.0%
Equalization Grant	\$ 76,617,500	\$ 77,383,700	\$ 766,200	1.0%
City Colleges of Chicago Grant	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>Unrestricted Grants</b>	<b>\$ 289,742,100</b>	<b>\$ 292,541,700</b>	<b>\$ 2,799,600</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
Workforce Development Grant	\$ 3,311,300	\$ 3,311,300	\$ 0	0.0%
P-16 Initiative Grant	\$ 2,279,000	\$ 2,279,000	\$ 0	0.0%
Disadvantaged Student Success Grant	\$ 0	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	-
Retirees Health Insurance Grant	\$ 626,600	\$ 626,600	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>Restricted Grants</b>	<b>\$ 6,216,900</b>	<b>\$ 9,216,900</b>	<b>\$ 3,000,000</b>	<b>48.3%</b>
<b>TOTAL GRANTS</b>	<b>\$ 295,959,000</b>	<b>\$ 301,758,600</b>	<b>\$ 5,799,600</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
<b>Statewide Initiative &amp; Other Grants</b>				
East St. Louis Higher Education Center	\$ 1,589,100	\$ 1,589,100	\$ 0	0.0%
Lincoln's Challenge Grant	\$ 120,100	\$ 120,100	\$ 0	0.0%
Special Legislative Grants	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 0	-
<b>Total Statewide Initiatives &amp; Other Grants</b>	<b>\$ 2,309,200</b>	<b>\$ 2,309,200</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 298,268,200</b>	<b>\$ 304,067,800</b>	<b>\$ 5,799,600</b>	<b>1.9%</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> The requested amount includes the additional small college grant award for those districts that qualify.

**Illinois Community College Board**

**FISCAL YEAR 2007  
ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY SYSTEM OPERATING BUDGET**

	<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Percent</b>
	<b><u>Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>Governor's Recommendations</u></b>	<b><u>from FY 2006</u></b>	<b><u>Difference</u></b>
Basic Grants	\$ 15,829,600	\$ 16,146,200	\$ 316,600	2.0%
Public Assistance Grants	\$ 7,922,100	\$ 8,080,500	\$ 158,400	2.0%
Performance Grants	\$ 10,491,800	\$ 10,701,600	\$ 209,800	2.0%
GED Testing Administration	\$ 1,147,600	\$ 1,307,600	\$ 160,000	13.9%
Total State Resources	<u>\$ 35,391,100</u>	<u>\$ 34,928,300</u>	<u>\$ (462,800)</u>	<u>-1.3%</u>
Federal Grants	\$ 29,867,200	\$ 25,000,000	\$ (4,867,200)	-16.3%
Total	<u><u>\$ 65,258,300</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 59,928,300</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (5,330,000)</u></u>	<u><u>-8.2%</u></u>

**Illinois Community College Board**

**FISCAL YEAR 2007 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION SYSTEM OPERATING BUDGET**

	<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Percent</b>
	<b><u>Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>Governor's Recommendations</u></b>	<b><u>from FY 2006</u></b>	<b><u>Difference</u></b>
Grants to Colleges & Universities	\$ 11,911,700	\$ 12,149,900	\$ 238,200	2.0%
Total State Resources	<u>\$ 11,911,700</u>	<u>\$ 12,149,900</u>	<u>\$ 238,200</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
Federal Perkins III Grant	\$ 22,207,100	\$ 23,607,100	\$ 1,400,000	6.3%
Total	<u><u>\$ 34,118,800</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 35,757,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,638,200</u></u>	<u><u>4.8%</u></u>