

ICCTA Board Highlights

Notes from the ICCTA Board of Representatives' February 5-6, 2024 meetings, held in conjunction with the Community College National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C.

ADVOCACY FEDERAL ISSUES



How many Illinois trustees, presidents, administrators, and students can you identify in this photo from ICCTA's February 6 meeting with U.S. Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth in Washington, D.C.?

- Received briefings on community colleges' [2024 federal legislative priorities](#), the [Kids on Campus Initiative](#), and the [Digital Learning Pulse Survey](#);
- Hosted a [group meeting with U.S. Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth of Illinois](#) on food insecurity, infrastructure needs, Workforce Pell, predatory for-profit colleges, healthcare staffing shortages, the 2024 Farm Bill, TRIO funding, FAFSA reform, and DACA renewal; and
- Acknowledged trustee Aaron Smith of John A. Logan for his service as the Association of Community College Trustees' Illinois State Coordinator for 2023.

STATE ISSUES

- Received an update on [pending state legislation affecting community colleges](#). Nearly 7,000 bills have been submitted to the Illinois Legislative Reference Bureau for drafting;
- Discussed ICCTA-initiated [Senate Bill 3787](#), which would allow an Illinois community college district to offer a baccalaureate degree program under specified conditions. Supporters plan to hold a subject matter hearing on SB 3787 this spring;
- Learned that the new Higher Education Futures Table is studying how Illinois can maintain equity in higher education following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on affirmative action. Illinois Community College Board executive director Dr. Brian Durham chairs the Dual Credit Subcommittee; and

- Were informed that the Illinois Board of Higher Education is recommending a [5% funding increase](#) for Illinois community colleges in Fiscal Year 2025. Gov. JB Pritzker will deliver his FY25 budget address on February 21.

TRUSTEE EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- Were encouraged to [register](#) for [ICCTA's March 8-9 meetings](#) in Kankakee. Education options include the Trustee Roundtable, a seminar on "Charting the Future: Navigating Artificial Intelligence (AI) Opportunities in Community College Governance," and a presentation by Dr. Arthur Levine on his book *The Great Upheaval*;
- Noted that ICCTA will partner with the Level Up Coalition to sponsor an educational equity summit in Chicago on April 30; and
- Announced that the ICCTA Board of Representatives will meet in Springfield on Wednesday, May 1, followed by Community College Lobby Day on Thursday, May 2.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2024

- February 21: Governor's Budget Message / State of the State Address, Springfield
 February 23: Deadline for 1st round of [ICCTA award nominations](#)

MARCH 2024

- March 7: [Illinois Council of Community College Presidents joint meeting with Chief Academic Officers and Chief Student Service Officers](#), Kankakee Community College, Kankakee
 March 8: [Illinois Council of Community College Presidents meeting](#), Kankakee Community College, Kankakee
 March 8-9: [ICCTA Board of Representatives and committee meetings](#), Kankakee Community College, Kankakee
 March 13: [Illinois Board of Higher Education meeting](#), Monmouth College and videoconference
 March 19: Illinois primary election
 March 22: [Illinois Community College Board meeting](#), Joliet Junior College, Joliet
 March 27: ICCTA West Central Region meeting, Black Hawk College East, Galva
 March 29: Deadline for 2nd round of [ICCTA award nominations](#)

APRIL 2024

- April 5-9: [American Association of Community Colleges' annual convention](#), Louisville, Kentucky
 April 18: [Illinois Student Assistance Commission meeting](#), Deerfield and Springfield offices
 April 25: Phi Theta Kappa All-Illinois Banquet, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield

NEXT MEETING

The ICCTA Board of Representatives will meet on Saturday morning, March 9, 2024, at Kankakee Community College in Kankakee, Illinois.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Illinois Community College Trustees Association

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ICCTA supports all public community college trustees through information exchange, training, and advocacy to assist them in effective leadership locally and statewide.