

**ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2011 GRANT ALLOCATION**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: The Illinois Cooperative Work Study (ICWS) Program provides grants to public and nonpublic colleges and universities to support education-related work experiences that benefit students academically and financially. Colleges and universities, in cooperation with public and not-for-profit agencies and private companies, provide paid work experiences to Illinois college and university students. The ICWS program supports Goal 2 of the *Public Agenda* by allowing students to reduce their reliance on student loans while providing a link between academic programs and employment. The ICWS program supports Goal 3 of the *Public Agenda* by prioritizing work study opportunities for students seeking degrees in high-demand fields. Finally, the ICWS program supports Goal 4 of the *Public Agenda* by increasing the pool of funds for job training, which can result in businesses expansions in Illinois and full-time employment for students after graduation.

This item recommends that the Board award grants totaling \$1,230,000 to 53 projects at colleges and universities. The 53 projects recommended in this item will support academically related work experiences for a projected 1,456 students at 693 businesses and not-for-profit organizations. Participating employers provide a matching fund commitment that serves to extend the base funding support provided by the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program.

According to interim evaluation reports for the 2008-2009 school year, 60 percent of the students participating in the work study program who were seeking permanent employment in Illinois were hired for permanent employment in 2008-2009.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves Fiscal Year 2011 awards totaling \$1,230,000 for Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grants as detailed in this item.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2011 GRANT ALLOCATION**

Background

This item presents recommendations for the fiscal year 2011 allocation of \$1,230,000 in grants for the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (ICWS). The ICWS Act authorizes the Illinois Board of Higher Education to award grants to public and nonpublic institutions of higher education to support cooperative work study programs. The ICWS Program provides opportunities for students to apply the theory learned during their educational preparation to the world of work. Institutions seek internships that will assist the students financially, provide relevant clinical work experiences in occupations related to their field of academic study, and lead to future employment. Institutions arrange internships and provide Work Study funds to employers who in turn pay the salaries of the interns. Most employers contribute up to 50 percent of an intern's salary.

The ICWS program supports the *Public Agenda* goals:

Goal 2 by allowing students to reduce their reliance on student loans while providing a link between academic programs and employment;

Goal 3 by prioritizing work study opportunities for students seeking degrees in high-demand fields; and

Goal 4 by increasing the pool of funds for job training, which can result in businesses expansions in Illinois and full-time employment for students after graduation.

Program Objectives

- Expand opportunities for students to pursue internships, clinical placement, cooperative programs with business and industry, and other work opportunities linked to a student's academic program;
- Strengthen cooperation between higher education, business, industry, and government;
- Encourage social and community service;
- Maximize the use of matching contributions from business and industry, and governmental and social agencies;
- Create new opportunities for public/private partnerships;
- Integrate other components of student financial aid to reduce reliance on student loans;
- Encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

Institutional and External Support

The ICWS proposals target internship opportunities based on local community needs and labor market demands. Institutions provide strong support services to the student interns and dedicated institutional supervision of the interns. Institutions also have developed comprehensive program evaluation strategies to measure program impact. In doing so, all institutions provide an in-kind institutional match to administer the ICWS program on their campuses.

Employers that participate in the program express extreme pleasure in the quality of the interns who are placed in their businesses. Employers are pleased to employ properly trained, well-educated interns at a reduced cost of normal wages. Most participating employers have agreed to provide up to 50 percent of the wage that is ultimately paid to the students. According to interim evaluation reports for the 2008-2009 school year, 60 percent of the students participating in the work study program who were seeking permanent employment in Illinois were hired for permanent employment in school year 2008-2009.

Review Criteria

The 53 college work study proposals recommended in this item were selected from a pool of 53 applicants requesting \$2.1 million in funding. The recommended projects will support a projected 1,456 students at 693 businesses and not-for-profit organizations. Each proposal was reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the following criteria as presented in the fiscal year 2011 application:

Workforce and Economic Development - How well does the proposal provide clear evidence of addressing issues relative to workforce and economic development, i.e., strengthening cooperation among higher education institutions, K-12 education, business, industry and government; creating opportunities for public/private partnerships; and encouraging students to seek permanent employment in Illinois?

Leveraging Resources - How well does the proposal provide clear evidence of integrating other resources, i.e., integrating other components of financial aid to reduce reliance on student loans; maximizing the use of matching contributions from business, industry, and government; and showing alignment between the Cooperative Work Study Program and other campus work study programs?

Enhances Academic, Employment, and Community Relationships - How well does the proposal enhance academic, employment and community relationships, i.e., expanding student internships linked to a student's academic field; and encouraging social and community service?

Program Articulation - How well does the proposal articulate the administrative requirements for the program, i.e., the student selection process; the relationship between students, faculty, and employers; and clearly defined responsibilities for student supervision and evaluation?

Evaluation Process - How well does the proposal describe the evaluation and assessment measures used to assess the effectiveness of the activities in relation to the goals and objectives, i.e., providing clearly stated performance measures; clearly stating tracking information for follow up of students; and providing an interim evaluation for previously funded projects?

Budget - How well does the budget support the proposed project objectives, i.e., the budget is cost effective and consistent with the scope of the proposed objectives; and the budget reflects maximized use of matching contributions?

In addition to the review criteria listed in the Request for Proposal, the projected number of students served was a factor in the recommended allocation of grants.

Accountability

The ICWS grantees are required to meet several accountability requirements. These requirements include: (1) a performance evaluation, (2) employer commitments, (3) a project budget, and (4) an annual audit. These measures serve to demonstrate program accountability and compliance with ICWS guidelines.

Recommendations

Attached are the fiscal year 2011 recommendations for 53 grants totaling \$1,230,000 that will assist an estimated 1,456 Illinois resident undergraduate students. Table 1 presents a summary of estimated students served, requested amounts, and recommended award amounts by institution. The accompanying project synopses provide an overview of the project activities planned for each of the fiscal year 2011 ICWS recommended projects.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves Fiscal year 2011 awards totaling \$1,230,000 for Illinois Cooperative Work Study grants as detailed in Table 1. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to withhold payment or adjust a grant allocation, if necessary, to conform to existing statute, rule, or available funding or to assure compliance with any previous grant agreements.

Table 1

**Illinois Board of Higher Education
Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program
FY2011 Recommended Allocation**

<u>Item #</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Students Served</u>	<u>FY2010 Award Amount</u>	<u>FY2011 Request Amount</u>	<u>FY2011 Award Amount</u>
1	Augustana College	36	\$ 33,120	\$ 50,000	\$ 30,960
2	Blackburn College	12	11,880	13,682	10,320
3	Bradley University	45	39,500	50,000	44,550
4	CCC - Harold Washington College	24	13,800	50,000	15,640
5	CCC - Wilbur Wright College	12	9,120	30,600	9,720
6	Chicago State University ¹	40		50,000	32,400
7	College of Lake County	35	20,250	50,000	26,350
8	Collge of Dupage	33	34,650	50,000	30,360
9	Concordia University	45	36,450	50,000	34,200
10	Danville Area Community College	8	12,870	26,680	9,920
11	DeVry University-Illinois	30	27,600	50,000	24,300
12	Dominican University	45	44,450	50,000	44,550
13	Eastern Illinois University	39	38,700	50,000	35,880
14	East-West University	40	36,416	37,890	32,400
15	Elgin Community College	14	19,440	50,000	11,650
16	Elmhurst College	39	41,300	50,000	38,540
17	Governors State University	23	33,540	50,000	26,160
18	Greenville College	33	30,100	49,980	30,360
19	Heartland Community College	13	13,760	21,000	10,530
20	Illinois College	21	21,834	21,834	20,790
21	Illinois Eastern - Lincoln Trail	19	14,620	50,000	16,340
22	Illinois State University	41	41,400	49,922	37,720
23	Illinois Wesleyan University	30	32,500	32,500	29,700
24	John A. Logan College	30	24,320	36,000	22,800
25	John Wood Community College	38	36,450	41,480	32,680
26	Joliet Junior College	15	11,180	35,104	13,800
27	Kaskaskia College	12	9,200	26,740	11,040
28	Lake Land College	45	27,600	50,000	34,400
29	Lewis & Clark Community College	40	30,690	35,000	35,000
30	Lewis University	15	14,580	30,000	13,800
31	Lexington College	25	15,200	18,350	15,000
32	Lincoln Land Community College	45	11,000	21,000	21,000
33	MacMurray College ¹	12		35,000	9,120
34	McHenry County College	36	5,160	49,020	15,480
35	Millikin University	15	13,770	18,000	13,800
36	North Central College	15	21,500	31,000	15,400
37	Northeastern Illinois University	41	22,360	50,000	30,720

Table 1 (continued)

**Illinois Board of Higher Education
Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program
FY2011 Recommended Allocation**

<u>Item #</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Students Served</u>	<u>FY2010 Award Amount</u>	<u>FY2011 Request Amount</u>	<u>FY2011 Award Amount</u>
38	Northern Illinois University	45	\$ 44,450	\$ 50,000	\$ 44,550
39	Oakton Community College	45	44,450	50,000	38,700
40	Quincy University	25	29,700	35,000	24,750
41	Rend Lake College	25	23,920	50,000	21,500
42	Richland Community College	21	15,640	21,000	18,060
43	Rockford College ¹	18		20,456	14,580
44	Roosevelt University	12	11,400	36,900	11,040
45	Shawnee Community College	18	11,180	48,020	16,560
46	Southern Illinois University Carbondale	27	25,920	50,000	23,220
47	Southwestern Illinois College	17	16,560	23,500	15,640
48	St. Xavier University	10	16,340	12,750	8,600
49	Trinity Christian College	22	17,480	36,134	17,820
50	Triton College ¹	32		39,000	27,520
51	U of I at Chicago	18	21,500	50,000	16,480
52	U of I at Urbana/Champaign	30	21,500	50,000	25,800
53	Waubonsee	30	13,770	38,117	17,800
TOTALS:		1,456	\$1,164,120	\$2,071,659	\$1,230,000

Institution did not submit an application in FY2010¹

APPENDIX A

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM

FISCAL YEAR 2011

PROJECT SYNOPSES

February 15, 2011

Institution: Augustana College

Project Title: Illinois Emerging Professional Community Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Johnna H. Adam
Director of Internships & Employer Relations
Augustana College Community Engagement Center
639 38th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201-2296
(309)794-7338
johnnaadam@augustana.edu

Recommended Amount: \$30,960

Project Synopsis: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program Internships seek to place undergraduate students with 15 Illinois organizations to encourage students to view working in Illinois as a likely career choice. The internships will provide these companies, particularly the not-for-profits, with skilled students who can take on projects that the organizations do not have sufficient resources to pursue. Through our earlier work with the Cooperative Work Study Program, we have partnered with companies and organizations that can count on Augustana students to help them be more productive and in many cases to serve the community

Cooperative Work Study interns will take on projects at each site, doing research and using ideas from their academic discipline to solve problems that the organizations need to address. Interns are advised by an Augustana supervisor from the Internship Office. Interns are required to complete a reflective assignment, in which they will discuss the value of the internship work, both for themselves and the community.

The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program internships have served to increase private/public partnerships with underserved organizations in the Illinois Quad-City area and enhance the educational opportunities for the College's Students.

Institution: Blackburn College

Project Title: Blackburn College Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mr. Roger Fenton
Associate Dean of Work, Work Program
Blackburn College
700 College Avenue
Carlinville, IL 62626
(217)854-3231, ext. 4291
rfent@blackburn.edu

Recommended Amount: \$10,320

Project Synopsis: The primary goals of the Blackburn College Cooperative Work Study Program are to enhance and expand the college's student-managed work program to include: (1) opportunities for students to gain practical, hands-on work experience in off-campus jobs related to the students' area of academic study and/or possible career interests, and (2) opportunities for students to earn additional income toward meeting educational expenses, and therefore less reliance on student loans.

Institution: Bradley University

Project Title: Fiscal Year 2011 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program Grant

Project Director: Ms. Dawn M. Koeltzow
Associate Director, Springer Center for Excellence in Internships
Bradley University
1501 West Bradley Avenue
Peoria, IL 61625
(309)677-2510
dkoeltzow@bradley.edu

Recommended Amount: \$44,550

Project Synopsis: The proposed Bradley University Fiscal Year 2011 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will provide new and expanded Cooperative Education/Internship opportunities for students in the areas of Education, Engineering, Mathematics, Communications, Physical Sciences, Business, Management, Marketing, Nursing, Health, and Computer Information. It is projected that the 2011 Work Study Program will support a total of 53 Co-op/Internship placements for Bradley University students. These outstanding opportunities—with Illinois employers—will benefit students academically, professionally, and financially. Students will complement their academic programs by gaining invaluable, career-related work experience, establish networking contacts, and become more familiar with full-time career options in Illinois. Bradley’s post-destination Graduate Report will track the success of graduates accepting employment in Illinois. Bradley students will have opportunities to earn \$97,000 in wages, enabling them to offset the cost of college expenses and to be less dependent on loans.

Bradley’s Cooperative Work Study Program will support the University’s efforts to build strong relationships with business, industry, government, and community service agencies. The project will establish new relationships with Co-op/Intern employers, expand and strengthen existing relationships, and continue relationships established with previous years’ grant funds. Twenty-eight Illinois employers have submitted letters of intent indicating their interest in offering career-related opportunities to students in various academic programs. The proposed budget will maximize the use of matching contributions from these employers. Work experiences will be reviewed by faculty/career advisors to ensure that placements are linked to students’ academic progress.

Institution: CCC - Harold Washington College

Project Title: HWC Cooperative Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Kim Bowens
Project Coordinator, Career Planning and Placement
CCC - Harold Washington College
30 East Lake Street
Chicago, IL 60601
(773)553-5666
kbowens3@ccc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$15,640

Project Synopsis: Harold Washington College is requesting funding to continue the FY2011 HWC Cooperative Internship Program. The program will benefit students academically because they will be able to work in their desired program of study. They will be able to apply what they learn in the classroom to the workplace. Students also will benefit financially because they will have the opportunity to earn while they learn. This internship is designed to help them remain focused on their studies, while also having the opportunity to work in their field of study. The benefits of the paid internship encourage students to stay in school, rely less on student loans and ultimately seek employment in the State of Illinois.

Students who participate in HWC Cooperative Internship Program are working towards their Associate in Applied Science Degree in one of the following areas of study: Addictions Studies, Child Development, Elementary Education, Bilingual Teacher Aide, Pre-School Education or School Age Child Care, Social Work (Generalist or Youth Work), Business, Accounting, Horticulture, Hospitality Management, Computer Information Technology, Management, Marketing and/or working towards a basic or advanced certificate. Students who are completing their practicum work will gain hands-on work experience while also receiving academic credit.

The HWC Cooperative Internship program also will allow Harold Washington College to strengthen existing partner relationships and expand internship opportunities with new companies both in the public and private sector. Participating companies will receive a 50 percent salary match up to 20 hours a week per student. The partnership helps to transition students from postsecondary education to careers in public, private, governmental and social service agencies.

Institution: CCC - Wilbur Wright College

Project Title: HPVEC Cooperative Work Study Internship Program

Project Director: Ms Madeline Roman-Vargas, Dean
Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center
CCC - Wilbur Wright College
1645 N. California Avenue
Chicago, IL 60647-5101
(773)489-8989, ext. 8910
mroman-vargas@ccc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$9,720

Project Synopsis: The Humboldt Park Vocational Educational Center (HPVEC) of Wilbur Wright College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago, is seeking continued funding from the Illinois Board of Higher Education to continue its long-established Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program. The program will be used to partially subsidize the wages of approximately twelve students enrolled in the HPVEC's Computerized Numerical Control, Electric/Electronic Industrial Maintenance and Information Processing Technology programs. Students selected for this work study program will be economically disadvantaged community residents with limited work histories. The purpose of the program is to give these students supported work experiences that are structured to recognize and reward on-the-job and school-related performance.

Preparation for internships will begin with a pre-employment class that will be integrated into their respective programs. Since the programs vary in both starting dates and duration, the internship periods will be scheduled at an appropriate time, approximately three months into the program, when the students are ready for an "on-the-job" experience. The internships will be run in two consecutive ten-week periods. Students will work 20 hours a week during each ten-week period, with employers being reimbursed in full for the students' wages in the first period and for half of the students' wages in the second 10-week period. Students must meet all of the employers' performance requirements to be "promoted" from the first internship period to the second. This Cooperative Work Study Internship Program, combined with the industrial maintenance, manufacturing and office skills programs at HPVEC, was meant to impact retention and long-term placement rates of its "at-risk" occupational/technical students, which has been the actual result in the last twelve years, thanks to this grant.

Institution: Chicago State University

Project Title: 2011 Cooperative Work Study Program-Chicago State University

Project Director: Mr. Lee A. Junkans
Director, Career Development Center
Chicago State University
9501 S. King Drive
CRSU Room 180
Chicago, IL 60628-1598
(773)995-4462
ljunkans@csu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$32,400

Project Synopsis: Between 2006-2009, the ICWS Program at Chicago State University has been so successful among Chicago State students and area employers that the grant for fiscal year 2007 (\$32,000) had been used up by April 15, fiscal year 2007 (\$32,000) barely made it for the Spring 2008 and 2006 (\$32,000) were used up by November of 2006. We are therefore asking for an increase in funding to enable us meet the increased demand. Additional funding to support the establishment of an Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will enable CSU to maximize its resources by providing employment opportunities to our diverse populations, comprised of a majority of African American students as well as Latino students. The program will help students meet their financial obligations, thereby increasing the retention rate at the university and increasing the likelihood of graduation. With graduation, these students will then enter the Illinois employment market in the fields of science, math and business.

Institution: College of DuPage

Project Title: College of DuPage Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Jean Spahr, Manager
Cooperative Education & Internship Program
Career Services Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Boulevard
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6599
(630)942-2657
spahrj@cod.edu

Recommended Amount: \$30,360

Project Synopsis: In response to immediate, economically-driven, community workforce needs and projected job growth in the horticulture and hotel and lodging management industries, the College of DuPage (COD) will create cooperative work-study positions for an estimated 33 students. The internships will be seamlessly integrated into the COD Cooperative Education and Internship Program (CEIP), which, through 25 years of experience, provides the necessary foundation of management expertise, materials, recruitment resources, and industry connections to successfully launch, conduct, and evaluate the proposed internship project.

Nine established DuPage County employer-partners have made commitments to hire, supervise, and evaluate COD students from the Horticulture and Hotel and Lodging Management programs. These employers, ranging from unique floral boutiques to premier hotel properties have an excellent history of working with the College and hiring our students for full-time career-track positions beyond internships. This component supports the goal of encouraging students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

Internships are a required element of the COD Hotel and Lodging Management and Horticulture programs, ensuring that the experiences are rigorous and pre-professional, and participating students are dedicated to learning as they work. All employers will be reimbursed for 50 percent of student wages. Social and community service will be incorporated into the internships by engaging students in projects that will either serve or integrate the local community or provide experience working with disadvantaged populations. The opportunity for paid work ultimately reduces students' reliance on loans. The project also will increase their awareness of other financial aid options within and outside of College of DuPage.

Institution: College of Lake County

Project Title: College of Lake County Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Sylvia M. Johnson
Executive Director, Career and Placement Services
College of Lake County
19351 W. Washington Street
Grayslake, IL 60030-1198
(847)543-2404
nsmith@clcillinois.edu

Recommended Amount: \$26,350

Project Synopsis: The College of Lake County proposes to continue its Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program Grant to benefit students academically and financially during the current economic crisis by fulfilling the program's general goals: expanding opportunities for student internships, reducing students' reliance on loans, enhancing public/private sector partnerships, supporting work experiences for students in academic programs of engineering, science, computer science and business, and encouraging students in the program to seek permanent employment in Illinois. Over the project's three-semester duration, eight businesses will provide work-study opportunities for a minimum of 35 students using \$47,900 in program funds. An additional \$2,100 is requested for the audit.

The program will supplement the college's existing Cooperative Education Program, which has provided work-study experiences for more than 4,000 students in the past 25 years. Eligible students will be matched with appropriate businesses, based on interviews and academic considerations, attend at least four of twelve workshops or complete applicable written assignments, and work with an assigned faculty sponsor as a mentor. The mentors are experts in their fields and measure specific work-related objectives and outcomes for students in the workplace. All of the seminar instructors have a Masters degree and are very well versed in the subject areas that they are presenting. The college will provide ongoing evaluation and track student job placement to ensure that the objectives and the guidelines of the Co-op Work Study Program are followed.

Institution: Concordia University

Project Title: Enhancing Relationships for Workplace Development through Work Study

Project Director: Mr Gerald Pinotti
Director, Career Services
Concordia University
7400 Augusta
River Forest, IL 60305
(708)209-3032
jerry.pinotti@cuchicago.edu

Recommended Amount: \$34,200

Project Synopsis: Concordia University Chicago is seeking funding to partially support internship opportunities for as many as seventy students. Student participation will come primarily from the Colleges of Business, Education, and Arts/Sciences. These majors represent labor shortages in the areas of Teaching, Computer Science/Information, Exercise Science, Social Work, and Accounting. The Concordia internship program is designed to promote and encourage Illinois residents to develop an active learning relationship with industry, government, and non profit employers; enabling them to expand their interests in the work world. This practical experience supports the ultimate goal, of long standing full time employment.

Taking part in this grant allows institutions with limited resources, to serve the students fully, which is no easy feat for a private institution. We provide the student unlimited access to a wide variety of learning experiences and professional networks. This access is due largely to the existence of the grant, because this incentive helps the smaller university the most. The generous support of our state allows faculty and staff here at Concordia to educate and prepare our students in the overall career search process. We have begun establishing a comprehensive program dedicated to assist students in their quest for meaningful employment

Finally, the Grant offers assistance to students representing a wide variety of fields of study from traditional majors to those with distinct difficulties and specialties. Faculty and staff are afforded insight into advances in industry technologies and subsequent changes in employment trends. As a result of this feedback faculty and staff have responded by improving curriculum and by reflecting the importance of experiential learning and in accord with the desired outcomes and objectives of our industry partners. Overall the presence of the Illinois Cooperated Work Study Grant Program at Concordia has fueled the creation of programs and systems tailored to better serve our students. Concordia University is further equipped to proactively address employment related issues in the context of student development. Participation in this program has heightened our students ability to integrate their classroom knowledge with practical experience. They are now better prepared than ever to enter and succeed in the Illinois Workforce.

Institution: Danville Area Community College

Project Title: SHARE Project: Scholars Hands-on Approach Relevant to Employment

Project Director: Ms. Carla M. Boyd
Director, Career Services
Danville Area Community College
2000 E. Main Street
Danville, IL 61832-5199
(217)443-8593
cboyd@dacc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$9,920

Project Synopsis: With respect to current economic conditions around the state, Vermilion County continues to struggle with a depressed economy. In an effort to combat this, Danville Area Community College and local businesses continue to partner together to train local residents. With the help of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, students who reside in Illinois and have an interest in hands-on learning, a financial need, and a desire to work in the surrounding community have had the opportunity to gain work experience in a local business. Fiscal year 2011 project goals include: (1) reduce student loan dependence while benefiting students financially; (2) expand internship opportunities for students by creating, promoting, and strengthening partnerships between higher education, business, industry, and governmental agencies; (3) enhance student academic performance and retention by matching students with employment opportunities in their chosen career; and (4) increase student awareness of local employment opportunities thus encouraging students to seek jobs within the asate while making them 'labor-ready'.

Students are chosen on the recommendation of Faculty/Staff, Division Deans and Career Services representatives, and then placed into an employment opportunity based on their educational plan. Employers also interview potential students prior to placement. Once employed, the student begins to see how the educational world ties into the world of work, i.e. theory vs. hands-on application. With the self-confidence and skills gained from the working experience, classroom instruction becomes more meaningful and grades improve, and the financial assistance of a job makes life more manageable and reduces the need to borrow. Once again, the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program helps to provide that vital link between businesses in Vermilion County and Danville Area Community College students.

Institution: DeVry University-Illinois

Project Title: FY 2011 IL Cooperative Work Study Program Application

Project Director: Ms. Laura E. Snyder
Senior Student Central Advocate, Career Services
DeVry University-Illinois
3300 N. Campbell Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618
(773)697-2072
lsnyder@devry.edu

Recommended Amount: \$24,300

Project Synopsis: The implementation of this program promotes DeVry University students seeking Associate and Bachelor degrees in the following programs: Business Administration, Computer Engineering Technology, Computer Information Systems, Electronics and Computer Technology, Electronics Engineering Technology, Health Information Technology, Network and Communications Management, Network Systems Administration, Web Graphic Design, Multimedia Design and Development, Biomedical Engineering Technology, Accounting, Game and Simulation Programming, and Technical Management, to Illinois employers. The objectives of the program are to: (1) increase the retention and marketability of business and technology students by providing relevant, real-world experience in business and industry; (2) reduce the students' reliance on loans by providing a source of financial aid through paid education-related work experience, (3) promote future, full-time, employment opportunities within Illinois via strong cooperative education relationships with business, industry and local government; and (4) expand this successful program to DeVry University's West and South Suburban Campuses, thereby increasing the student and employer participation.

Institution: Dominican University

Project Title: CAREERNET 2011 - Dominican University

Project Director: Mr. Jose L. Garcia
Assistant Director, Career Development
Dominican University
Parmer 010
7900 W. Division Street
River Forest, IL 60305
(708)524-6567
jl Garcia@dom.edu

Recommended Amount: \$44,550

Project Synopsis: This year marks the 17th anniversary of Dominican University's highly successful CAREERNET internship program. The main goals of this program are to assist students in acquiring paid internship experiences that are academically relevant to their major field of study, reduce reliance on financial assistance, encourage social and community service, and to encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation.

The CAREERNET program has allowed us to establish new business and community partnerships and has strengthened existing relationships with both large and small employers in both public and non-profit organizations. This year, the requested funding will be used once again as matching funds to support student wages for 54 academically relevant internship experiences, as well as provide one-time stipends to ten students who complete unpaid internships. Junior and senior level students can earn up to eight academic credit hours by successfully completing an internship in their major field of study.

Upon completion, students will have a better understanding of their skills and abilities, as well as a clearer goal for potential careers. This program includes a strong evaluation component with the students' performance closely monitored by their faculty internship advisor, their employment supervisor, and career advisors.

Institution: Eastern Illinois University

Project Title: EIU Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Linda L. Moore
Director, Career Services
Eastern Illinois University
1301 Human Services Center, Room 1301
Charleston, IL 61920
(217)581-2412
llmoore@eiu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$35,880

Project Synopsis: Eastern Illinois University will enhance the work readiness skills and employability of its Illinois residency students through the use of a grant designed to partially offset the wages paid to the students by an Illinois employer. Furthermore, Eastern Illinois University will enhance the business climate within the State of Illinois by providing well trained graduates with successful work experience at Illinois work sites. A strong and talented workforce is essential to keeping Illinois businesses on the cutting edge of their industries and economically viable as a contributing organizations with our Illinois communities.

A wide range of employers representing numerous industries throughout the State will provide at least 50 percent of an hourly salary for work performed by students that will enhance their career related skills. Students will benefit from this experience by acquiring important technical and general work skills, in addition to reducing their reliance on loans to finance their education.

A final benefit will be that students will be able to make more informed decisions about elective courses that relate to the skills needed within the real work world. As a work-study student engaged in work related to their majors, students will receive a more detailed perspective of their potential career paths and then will be able to make good choices about which courses will provide the most benefit for their professional preparation to enter a chosen career field.

Institution: East-West University

Project Title: EWU - IBHE ICWS Program 2011

Project Director: Ms. Lori L. Grove
Grants Specialist, Development and University Relations
East-West University
816 S. Michigan
Chicago, IL 60605
(312)939-0111, ext. 1820
lori@eastwest.edu

Recommended Amount: \$32,400

Project Synopsis: East-West University, a predominately minority serving private higher education institution located in Chicago's South Loop, seeks to partner with local governmental, not-for-profit agencies and other Chicago employers to provide the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program to its currently enrolled Illinois resident college students. The program is critical to workforce and economic development, including strengthening cooperation between higher education institutions, K-12 education, business, industry and government; and creating new opportunities for public/private partnerships. Graduates will be encouraged to seek permanent employment in Illinois. East-West University will partner with employers in Chicagoland to provide students with valuable industry experience while attending college. Goals of the program include: increased opportunities for full-time employment in Illinois; increased student awareness of job skills needed to compete in today's global, competitive workplace; increased workplace preparation skills, leading to a greater opportunity for full-time employment upon graduation; improved university-community relationships; increased involvement and service to the community for current college students; and exposure of disadvantaged and first generation college students to the professional world of work.

Institution: Elgin Community College

Project Title: Elgin Community College Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Peggy Gundrum
Director, Career Services
Elgin Community College
1700 Spartan Drive
Elgin, IL 60123-7193
(847)214-7122
pgundrum@elgin.edu

Recommended Amount: \$11,650

Project Synopsis: Elgin Community College seeks funding to provide cooperative work-study opportunities for 10-15 students, all of whom will be undergraduate students residing in Illinois. The goal of the Illinois Cooperative Work-Study Program is to support students both academically and financially through work-study opportunities. Students are selected to participate in the ICWS program on the basis of their academic major and the need for employment to reduce the financial burden associated with obtaining higher education. Work-study opportunities will be offered to student's majoring in all of Elgin Community College's career and transfer programs. Work-study opportunities support and enhance the classroom experience. Through work-study experiences, students are supported and encouraged to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation.

In addition, Elgin Community College, through participation in the ICWS program, supports workforce and economic development within the community through the development of new public-private sector partnerships, and the maintenance and strengthening of existing business and industry partnerships. It is our marketing plan to target businesses that will particularly benefit from the subsidized labor assistance. The ICWS program is a great opportunity for employers to employ skilled help, at a reduced cost, while supporting students with work experience in their selected career fields

Institution: Elmhurst College

Project Title: JOBPATH

Project Director: Ms. Holly L. Coffin
Internship Coordinator, Center for Professional Excellence
Elmhurst College
190 Prospect Ave
Elmhurst, IL 60126-3296
(630)617-6457
hollyc@elmhurst.edu

Recommended Amount: \$38,540

Project Synopsis: The Elmhurst College JOBPATH program seeks to provide purposeful job internships for over 40 students in Illinois companies and organizations. These internships would provide meaningful learning opportunities in the private and public/government sectors, in minority owned businesses and in businesses within the science, mathematics and education fields. Student interns complete pre-, mid- and post-internship assessment tools, and employers complete formal evaluations, to ensure the best possible chance for full-time employment upon completion of the internship.

Paid internships in the private sector would have a 50/50 salary match with the employer, and students procuring internships in the non-profit sector would have a 60/40 salary match. Students participating in unpaid internships would receive a stipend based on the number of hours worked, or a travel expense reimbursement. There is a stated intent to hire the student full-time if the opportunity exists and the intern has been performing at a satisfactory level. Students benefit from the program both academically and financially. They are given the opportunity to earn money, therefore decreasing the need for student loans, while enhancing their career development, earning credit hours and exploring a potential career field.

The JOBPATH program at Elmhurst College has been successfully placing students into professional positions in Illinois businesses for the last nineteen years. The program provides necessary practical experiences for aspiring professionals while offering Illinois organizations the opportunity to hire young professionals who are well prepared for entry into the workforce.

Institution: Governors State University

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program Proposal

Project Director: Cynthia Lynn Comber
Recruitment Coordinator, Office of Career Services
Governors State University
1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484
(708)235-7355
c-comber@govst.edu

Recommended Amount: \$26,160

Project Synopsis: Governors State University (GSU) student participation and involvement in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (ICWS) will greatly increase student knowledge and understanding of the realities of their academic areas in terms of job expectations and performance. Based on the success of our student participation in the previous ICWS programs, the University asks to continue its involvement to offer co-curricular practical experiences and increase the number of participants and employers in this program. The planned relationship between students, faculty, and employers will strengthen GSU's mission to enhance the educational, cultural, social, and economic development of the region through partnerships with government, business, education, civic, and other organizations.

The goals of GSU's 2011 Illinois College Work Study Program are to:

provide 23 GSU students an extended, organized learning experience by integrating traditional classroom study with practical, professional, and paid work experiences in the following areas of concentration: accounting, computer science, education, marketing, sciences, and public relations/media;

Facilitate a learning experience directly related to the students' academic curriculum/discipline by assisting them in job placement at a company or organization where they will gain work experience within their profession and have the opportunity to develop professional work habits, work ethics, skills, and professional attitude and dress. The integration of academic requirements and work experience will help students to develop an awareness of job tasks and duties associated with their academic major.

Develop partnerships with companies to promote community service and instill in students a sense of community. Paid internships will reduce reliance on financial aid/loans and encourage students to work in areas related to their academic majors.

Incorporate current job trends reflective of the work environment through internship opportunities, cooperative programs, and/or clinical placements within public/private industry and government.

Institution: Greenville College

Project Title: IBHE Cooperative Workstudy Program Grant FY 2011

Project Director: Mr. Patrick M. Miller
Associate Dean for Leadership & Life Calling
The Office of Student Development
Greenville College
315 East College Avenue
Greenville, IL 62246
(618)664-6613
patrick.miller@greenville.edu

Recommended Amount: \$30,360

Project Synopsis: In this grant proposal, Greenville College is requesting \$49,980 for our seventeenth year of funding to continue the IBHE Cooperative Work Study Program for undergraduate students. The co-op program operates independently from other campus employment opportunities and student work study programs. The goals and objectives of the co-op work study program are to: (1) enhance students' academic experiences by providing opportunities for students to directly apply their academic learning experiences to real work situations; (2) develop employer partnerships with not-for-profit organizations which provide social and community services; (3) encourage students to obtain permanent employment in the State of Illinois; and (4) provide students with financial assistance to offset their college costs.

Approximately 35 students are expected to be placed in 35 different organizations. Participants earn up to \$8.50 an hour from the grant funds and are paid by submitting a timecard to the Associate Dean for Leadership & Life Calling or his designee, signed by the on site supervisor. Students from all academic programs are encouraged to participate in the co-op program. Students must enroll for at least two co-op or internship credits and are required to work a minimum of 40 hours per credit. Students develop co-op learning objectives with their academic advisor, based on their academic and career interests. Students often report that their co-op experiences help them clarify their occupational interests and affirm their academic studies. The program has consistently served a wide variety of organizations and agencies by providing qualified student workers who possess genuine interests in serving their communities throughout the state.

Institution: Heartland Community College

Project Title: Heartland Community College Internship Program

Project Director: Mrs. Sara L. Baker
Coordinator of Workforce Services
Heartland Community College
1500 W. Raab Road
Normal, IL 61761
(309)268-8034, ext. 8035
sara.baker@heartland.edu

Recommended Amount: \$10,530

Project Synopsis: The fundamental goal of the Heartland Community College Internship Program is to partner with area employers to increase local internship opportunities which will provide students with meaningful work-based learning experiences related to their academic area of study and contribute to students' employment readiness after graduation. The program seeks to financially benefit the greatest number of students through ensuring efficient use of grant funds. The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant will assist the College in meeting its goals and objectives, enhancing relevant learning opportunities for students while strengthening the link between academic programs and employment, developing and maintaining relationships between the College and business, industry and government organizations, encouraging social and community service, creating new opportunities for public/private partnerships, and encouraging students to seek permanent employment in Illinois. The Program will maximize the use of matching contributions from internship sponsors and, when applicable, be integrated with other components of financial aid.

During the 2011 Grant Period, the HCC Internship Program proposes to partner with seven sponsors to provide 13 supervised internships to eligible students. To be eligible, students must meet prerequisites in at least one of the following nine academic fields: Business, Communications, Criminal Justice, Health, Humanities & Fine Arts, Digital Media, Science/Math, Social & Behavioral Sciences, and Technology.

Students who participate in the Internship Program are given an opportunity to integrate classroom and practical learning in an on-the-job setting, and benefit through: practical application and development of classroom knowledge/skills through hands-on experience; an increased awareness of their skills, knowledge and abilities, in relation to the world of work; an increased awareness of additional learning needs, leading to an increase in focus and motivation to achieve; an increased development of decision-making, problem solving and interpersonal skills, and a cultivation of independent learning skills.

Institution: Illinois College

Project Title: IC Explorers

Project Director: Mrs. Susie Drake
Director of Career Services
Illinois College
1101 West College
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(217)245-3041
sdrake@ic.edu

Recommended Amount: \$20,790

Project Synopsis: Illinois College, located in Jacksonville, Illinois, is a four-year, private institution committed to the highest standards of scholarship and integrity in the liberal arts. Illinois College (IC) will utilize grant funds for its IC Explorers program. Twenty-one students will be awarded paid internships (clinical placements and cooperative work study positions) sponsored by eight employers in state government, private enterprise, health-related higher education and the non-profit sector. The IC Explorers internships encourage students to think critically, solve problems through teamwork, conduct independent research, develop an understanding of workplace dynamics, and prepare for fulfilling lives of leadership and service.

The application process for IC Explorers internships is highly competitive because students understand how important the internship can be to their future. The IC Explorers internships are valued by future employers and graduate schools for being academically rigorous and for connecting the interns' education with real-world workplace experience. Internships provide a stipend to reduce students' reliance on student loans, as well as free housing and free tuition credit, with direct supervision by faculty members and Career Services staff. In all, each internship is valued at more than \$5,780. Therefore, the grant will be matched by employer cash contributions (\$18,912) as well as institutional cash and in-kind support provided by the College (\$87,416).

Because interns are effectively being pre-screened for employment, it is anticipated that many will be permanently employed by internship sponsors or will use their internship experiences to secure other employment in Illinois. Although students in every major will be eligible to participate in these internships, the program will be targeted and strongly marketed to attract students in science, engineering, mathematics, and education majors.

Institution: Illinois Eastern - Lincoln Trail

Project Title: Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program

Project Director: Mr. Chris Teague
Lead Instructor, Telecommunications Training
Illinois Eastern - Lincoln Trail
11220 State Highway 1
Robinson, IL 62454-5707
(618)544-8252, ext. 1926
teaguec@iecc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$16,340

Project Synopsis: Since FY2003, Illinois Eastern Community Colleges (IECC) has been awarded the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program grant. This grant has allowed IECC to develop and implement a highly successful Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program which has provided support to Telecom students academically and financially through enhanced partnerships between Illinois business and industry employers and IECC. Twenty-four cooperating employers have participated in IECC's Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program over the past seven summers and we have received 19 letters of intent from cooperating employers who are interested in participating during FY2011 and who are committed to this very worthwhile program next summer.

The IECC plans to continue to develop and improve their Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program which will expand their summer work program to all eligible Telecom students and continue to provide a work/school cooperative on-the-job-training experience as well as encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois. The Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program has allowed students to gain valuable work experience and employment training in Telecommunications Technology. The program has benefited students academically and financially by enhancing their educational background, aiding their transition to full-time employment in Illinois, reducing the students' reliance on student loans, and promoting social and community service. Each of the student's work placement is directly linked to their academic program of an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Telecommunications Technology.

Institution: Illinois State University

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant-Illinois State University

Project Director: Ms. Pamela Jean Cooper
Assistant Director for Professional Practice, Career Center
Illinois State University
Campus Box 2520
Normal, IL 61790-2520
(309)438-3245
pjcoope@ilstu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$37,720

Project Synopsis: The goals of the project are to benefit students academically and financially, reduce reliance on student loans, and enhance public-private sector partnerships. Goals and objectives include placing students with reputable Illinois employers who will provide students with opportunities to put into practice what they are learning in their academic programs. Goals also include encouraging students to seek internship opportunities that lead to successful permanent employment in Illinois. The goals and objectives of this project are linked both to the Illinois Public Agenda, (“... Use competency-based assessments, professional development, and employers as classroom mentors to improve skill levels and work readiness...”); and Illinois State University’s Educating Illinois 2003-2010 (“fully engage in outreach with business, industry, government, and education.” “outcomes from partnerships established between Illinois State University and business, industry, government, and education.”).

Project Participants: Illinois State University students - Funding is essential to assist students in realizing academic and career goals. Funding will support enhanced classroom learning by combining academic curricula with internships, clinical placements, and/or service learning work experiences. Funding also will assist in expanding opportunities for students to pursue internships with business and industry, and other career opportunities linked to a student’s academic program. Monetary compensation by Illinois employers during the students’ applied career learning experiences will also reduce student dependence on student loans.

Project Participants: Illinois Employers - Additional funding goals include continuing to enhance public-private sector partnerships by engaging Illinois businesses in the program through venues that include participation in career fairs sponsored by the Career Center and academic departments; and encouraging students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

“...[E]ducating the student inside and outside of the classroom, so that students come to appreciate learning as an active and lifelong process”, is the link between the students, Educating Illinois, the Illinois Public Agenda and the IBHE Cooperative Work Study Program.

While this project will benefit Illinois businesses, the principal clientele to be served are Illinois State University students.

Institution: Illinois Wesleyan University

Project Title: Illinois Wesleyan ICWS Program

Project Director: Ms. Jo Porter, Director
Sponsored Programs & Foundation Relations, Advancement
Illinois Wesleyan University
1312 Park Street
P. O. Box 2900
Bloomington, IL 61702-2900
(309)556-3058
jporter@iwu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$29,700

Project Synopsis: Illinois Wesleyan University requests continued funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program to help 25-30 students take advantage of the learning opportunities offered by internships at various businesses, government and social service agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Not only do students in internships gain valuable training and fund an entry into the work force, but work study internships also help students meet their educational expenses. Given the growing cost of higher education, it is not unexpected that students gravitate toward internship positions that will both give them work experience they seek and help them pay their educational bills, especially in tight economic times and given the cost of higher education. The unfortunate offshoot of the financial pressures students face is that positions with social agencies and nonprofit organizations--positions that have as much (if not more) to offer students in the way of practical and professional experience--can too often go unfilled. To address these needs, the IWU ICWS program seeks not only to create more opportunities for students to link their course-work with their internship opportunities, and in so doing to ease the financial burden imposed by tuition and student loans, but also to encourage social and community service on the part of our students, thus making them better citizens by helping to make it financially possible for students to accept internship positions with nonprofit organizations and social service agencies unable to offer competitive wages on their own.

Institution: John A. Logan College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Lisa J. Hudgens
Director of Placement, Student Services
John A. Logan College
700 Logan College Road
Carterville, IL 62918-2500
(618)985-3741 x 8379
heatherevans@jalc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$22,800

Project Synopsis: The John A. Logan College Fiscal Year 2011 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will use grant funds to encourage new and established employers to provide work experiences for John A. Logan College students. Students will have the opportunity to integrate classroom studies with learning through work experiences in the field related to the students' career goals. Eighteen southern Illinois employers have submitted letters of intent to provide Education/Internship opportunities for students who are Illinois residents.

The proposed budget will enable approximately 30-32 students to pursue career-related work experience. This program encourages social and community service opportunities, maximizes the use of matching grant contributions from participating organizations, reduces reliance on financial assistance, and encourages students to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation. The goals of the project are to expand opportunities for students to pursue career-related work experience, create new opportunities and strengthen existing relationships between John A. Logan College and participating organizations, encourage social and community service opportunities, reduce reliance on financial assistance, and encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation.

These supervised work experiences will include both an appropriate learning environment and a productive work experience that enhances what is offered in the regular classroom. Students will gain knowledge and skills through practical, on-site work experiences that is directly linked to their academic background. Students will earn income, which will assist in reducing reliance upon state funded student loans and other financial aid programs. Grant funds also will pay for an external audit. The program is available to John A. Logan College students that have completed 12 semester hours, have a 2.0 GPA and are recommended by a faculty member. Participation is open to all Illinois businesses, corporations, and governmental agencies.

Statistics indicate that John A. Logan College students are routinely hired as full-time or part-time employees following their work-study experience while others secure employment through networking contacts. This program includes a strong evaluation component with the student's performance closely monitored by their employment supervisor and the Project Director.

Institution: John Wood Community College

Project Title: FY11 Cooperative Work Study Program at John Wood Community College

Project Director: Ms. Marcia Lynn Avise
Administrative Assistant to Academic Deans
John Wood Community College
1301 South 48th Street
Quincy, IL 62305-8736
(217)224-6500, ext. 4182
mavise@jwcc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$32,680

Project Synopsis: John Wood Community College, and our business community, requests continued funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program. Funding will establish internships with new employers and continue our work with our established employer-partners.

Funding requests for the 2011-2012 academic years will provide on-site work experiences for 38 students. This funding will allow the Cooperative Work-Study program to support positions in the following areas of study: Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts, Engineering, Early Childhood Education, Agriculture, Business, Management & Marketing, Landscape and Turf Management, Local Sustainable Foods and Construction Trades.

Area employers have indicated a commitment to hire students and at least match the \$4.00 per hour provided by the funding. The benefits of the project include stronger ties between John Wood and our business community, reduced reliance on financial aid by the student participants, and encouragement to students to pursue permanent employment within our local state economy.

Institution: Joliet Junior College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study

Project Director: Ms. Bridgett Larkin
Employer Relations Coordinator, Career Services
Joliet Junior College
1215 Houbolt Road
Joliet, IL 60431-8938
(815)280-2762
blarkin@jjc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$13,800

Project Synopsis: Joliet Junior College (JJC), the nation's first public community college, acts as a leader in teaching and learning, strives to prepare its students for success, and provides lifelong learning to the diverse community it serves. Participating in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will help JJC to accomplish these goals. With this program, the Career Services Office will place students in internships where they will obtain high-quality work experience in their chosen field of study. This program benefits students, local employers, and the community college. It enables small local businesses with limited operating budgets to employ skilled and educated student interns, which in turn strengthens partnerships between the College and local industry.

Joliet Junior College's main goals for this program include strengthening cooperation between higher education and local businesses, providing student interns with a competitive wage to help with college expenses, encouraging students to find permanent employment with local businesses upon graduation, and providing students with practical work experience directly linked to their field of academic study. This work experience is an essential part of the College's mission and the Illinois Commitment to partner with business and industry to provide a well-educated workforce in Illinois.

For the 2011 fiscal year, JJC would like to target students for internships in the fields of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education, Construction, and Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD). Grant funds will provide opportunities for fifteen students to learn practical employment skills directly related to their academic major while earning a competitive wage.

Institution: Kaskaskia College

Project Title: Kaskaskia College Cooperative Work Study Partnership

Project Director: Mrs. Wendy Sue Blythe
Career Services Specialist, Student Services
Kaskaskia College
27210 College Road
Centralia, IL 62801-9285
(618)545-3073
wblythe@kaskaskia.edu

Recommended Amount: \$11,040

Project Synopsis: Kaskaskia College's Work Study Partnership program provides financial assistance that benefits students academically, reduces their reliance upon loans to fulfill their education goals, and prepares them to enter or re-enter the labor market upon graduation. Employers are sought that utilize the latest advances in technology in their industry, and who agree to provide progressive learning experiences that enhance the ability of students to obtain employment in Illinois related to their program of study.

The ICWS Program allows students to obtain compensated workforce training to fulfill academic and financial obligations, strengthens the alliance between the college and the private sector, and assist district employers in defraying the cost of recruiting and training qualified individuals for employment. Six employers have agreed to offer opportunities for as many as ten students in the coming year.

The principal goals of Kaskaskia College's ICWS Program include: expand opportunities for students to pursue internships, clinical services and other employment opportunities linked to their academic program; strengthen the College's alliances with business, industries and government entities; improve the affordability of academic programs by offering extensive financial aid including the ICWS Program, thus reducing students' reliance on loans; enhance students' abilities to obtain employment related to their program of study, encourage them to seek permanent employment in Illinois by offering workplace training, and encourage them to practice social and community service.

Institution: Lake Land College

Project Title: Lake Land College Cooperative Work Study Program 2011

Project Director: Ms. Emily Ramage
Grants Specialist
Lake Land College
5001 Lake Land Blvd.
Mattoon, IL 61938-9366
(217)234-5403
eramage@lakeland.cc.il.us

Recommended Amount: \$34,400

Project Synopsis: Lake Land College's Fiscal Year 2011 Cooperative Work Study Program (CWSP) will provide opportunities for pre-baccalaureate and technical program students to pursue paid work experience related to their academic majors. Lake Land's long-term goal is to provide cooperative education employment to all qualified students who desire it. In FY2011, a participation level of approximately 30 students is anticipated, and financially needy students will fill at least 90 percent of available positions.

Targeted programs include Civil Engineering Technology, Computer-Aided Design, Automotive Technology, and Agriculture. Lake Land's CWSP is strengthening our cooperation between higher education, business, industry and local government. Seven employers, including two local city governments and a county highway department, have committed their participation for 2011. More importantly, we have built relationships with many private sector employers in our district including employers in building construction, automotive technology, engineering firms, and agriculture.

All employers will pay 50 percent of students' wages. Students will be required to complete three learning objectives and to research Illinois job opportunities in their career field. Lake Land understands the CWSP is designed to create new employers/college partnerships and to encourage many existing internship employers to join the CWSP. For FY2011, the seven participating employers expressed interest in placing a total of 61 interns; however, the maximum funding available to the project will support approximately 30 paid internships. With a greater number of potential positions available, Lake Land's 30 FY2011 CWSP students should be successful in securing one that matches well with their need for applied learning relevant to their program of study.

Institution: Lewis & Clark Community College

Project Title: Lewis and Clark Community College ICWSP

Project Director: Ms. Alice C. Bunjan
Manager Career Services
Lewis & Clark Community College
5800 Godfrey rd
Godfrey, IL 62035-2466
(618)468-5500
abunjan@lc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$35,000

Project Synopsis: Lewis and Clark Community College (LCCC), with the assistance of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, will place approximately 40 students from career fields in cooperative/internship/field experiences in order to achieve the following objectives: (1) to strengthen LCCC's career programs through enhanced guided practical experiences in the field; (2) to respond to the workforce needs of the wider community of southwest Illinois through experientially-strengthened career programs in high demand, high paying fields; and, (3) to improve the preparation of its students in career fields through meaningful, guided practical experiences in their fields.

Career fields to be included in these placements are nursing, CAD/drafting, machinist, Computer Network, and technology, Paralegal, Office technology, Accounting and Process Operations/production. Employers included in the partnerships are: Jersey County Supervisor of Assessments, Conoco Phillips, D & R Machine Company, Robert Watson attorney, Alton Memorial Hospital, Jersey Community Hospital, St. Anthony's Healthcare, Cope Plastics, and Carlinville Hospital, Abengoa Energy, Solutia, Inc., JMW Associates, Robert Bruegge Law firm, Simmons Law and Cope Plastics.

Institution: Lewis University

Project Title: Intertrak

Project Director: Ms. Smret Smith
Director for Career Services
Lewis University
One University Parkway Unit #270
Romeoville, IL 60446-2298
(815)836-5332
smithsm@lewisu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$13,800

Project Synopsis: The Lewis University's Illinois Cooperative Work Study program called Intertrak complements the institution's formal internship program. Located in the southwestern suburbs of the Chicago metropolitan region, the University serves just over 6,100 students, the largest enrollment in University history. At Lewis University, 85 percent of the total undergraduate student population receives some form of financial aid. In addition, a significant number of Lewis University students are first generation college students, and approximately 30 percent of Lewis University students are minority students.

Employers view the program positively and participate regularly. Each new fiscal year brings new partnerships with employers. Throughout the history of the program, student interns have worked an average 15-20 hours per week and have earned an average of \$9.42 per hour. This varies slightly from year to year. Students are employed within the areas of human resources management, marketing, aviation maintenance, computer graphic design, accounting, social service, management information systems, healthcare, communications, and business management. Students, employers, and University faculty and staff report positive benefits from the program in aligning subject-area coursework with applied work experience. Intertrak provides a valuable resource that enhances success in academic programs, reduces reliance on loans, and strongly encourages students to remain with Illinois-based employers.

Institution: Lexington College

Project Title: Experiential Learning Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Kathy Dornhecker
Director of Career Services
Lexington College
310 S. Peoria Street
Chicago, IL 60607-3534
(312)226-6294 x 234
carserv@lexingtoncollege.edu

Recommended Amount: \$15,000

Project Synopsis: A grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Cooperative Work Study program will continue supporting young women in Lexington College's successful two-tiered Experiential Learning Internship Program (ELIP). Assistance from the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Cooperative Work Study program will continue to enrich the already thriving ELIP to facilitate 20 women college students from historically underrepresented populations involvement with competitive compensation and diversify the internship employment opportunities.

Successful since its inception in 1993, the current ELIP structure at Lexington College offers students a substantial income during the internship experience and includes a broader, cross-section of corporate and small business owners in the Illinois hospitality industry. Through Cooperative Work Study funding, this diverse group of young women will be able to benefit from the ELIP as a means to obtain the skills, knowledge and relationships necessary to be productive and promote-able employees, support themselves while in college and experience a broader professional opportunity to enhance opportunities for permanent employment after graduation.

The goal of Lexington's internship program is to apply academic knowledge learned in the classroom, through experiential learning and so better prepare these students who will enter the workforce. All candidates for Lexington's degree programs complete two experiential work internships before receiving their BAS degree. At the end of the internship experience, this diverse group of women will have developed skills and a stronger understanding of the work ethic and skills needed to thrive in Illinois' hospitality and service industries.

Business leaders in the Illinois service industry are looking to Lexington as a resource for employees who have the know-how and work ethic to contribute to their businesses. Employer profiles range from large corporations to local entrepreneurs and non-profits looking to build relationships with Lexington and its students.

Institution: Lincoln Land Community College

Project Title: Lincoln Land Community College Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Mary Beth Ray
Director, Career Development Services
Lincoln Land Community College
5250 Shepherd Road
Springfield, IL 62794-9256
(217)786-2472
marybeth.ray@llcc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$21,000

Project Synopsis: Since 1999, the Cooperative Work Study Program (Co-op) at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) has successfully expanded opportunities for students to succeed through the development of individualized contextual learning environments that integrate academic instruction with relevant real-world work experiences. The primary goals of the LLCC Co-op program are to: (1) actively engage students in a manner that increases their academic performance while simultaneously reducing their reliance on student loans; (2) link classroom learning with relevant, paid work experience in the student's field of study; (3) offer opportunities for social and community service; (4) create, support and expand relationships with employers in the LLCC college district; and (5) encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

Participation in the Co-op program benefits students academically and financially by placing them in relevant paid positions whereby they can apply what they have learned through traditional classroom instruction to actual work related problems and situations. Students receive payment for their hours worked, gain valuable insight into their particular industry, and can earn up to 3 credits hours per semester. Upon completion of the experience, the employer is reimbursed a portion of the salary paid to the student.

The LLCC Co-op program allows students to infuse a real-world component into their program of study. This type of contextual learning has been demonstrated to assist students in their educational performance. According to the Center for Occupational Research and Design, contextual learning helps students to "discover meaningful relationships between abstract ideas and practical applications in the context of the real world." Applied instruction recognizes that "learning is a complex and multifaceted process that goes far beyond drill-oriented, stimulus-and response methodologies."

Institution: MacMurray College

Project Title: MacMurray Illinois Cooperative Grant

Project Director: Mrs. Jackie Marie Looser
Controller/Director of Financial Aid
MacMurray College
447 E. College
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(217)479-7007
jackie.looser@mac.edu

Recommended Amount: \$9,120

Project Synopsis: The Project Goals and Objectives are to: (1) provide a hands-on learning experience to four nursing students, four education students, one interpreting student and three business students through integration of classroom study with paid practical experience in their future professional environments; (2) assist students participating in the program with the establishment of a professional network for future employment prospects in Jacksonville and surrounding areas following graduation from MacMurray; (3) assist participating students with the cost of attendance through means other than student loans, thereby reducing the debt load of the students following graduation; and (4) allow potential employers the opportunity to train students as a prospective employee.

Participants to be served:

1. The program will provide hand-on, paid professional experience to four nursing students, two education students, one student service, three business and two sports management students and thereby supplement and further enhance their subject curriculum.
2. The Program will serve Passavant Area Hospital and local schools participating in the after school program, together with MacMurray College by providing funding to assist in the payment of participating students in various study roles.

Time lines:

The program will fund employment of students beginning with the Spring 2011 Semester beginning January 2011 at MacMurray College. Funding of student's work experiences will continue through the Fall 2011 beginning August 2011 and ending December 2011 and the Spring 2012 semester beginning January 2012 and ending May 2012.

Institution: McHenry County College

Project Title: MCC Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Juletta Patrick
Assistant Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs
McHenry County College
8900 US Highway 14
Crystal Lake, IL 60012-2761
(815)455-8613
csobolak@mchenry.edu

Recommended Amount: \$15,480

Project Synopsis: McHenry County College's (MCC) Career and Technical Education Division has successfully placed 1,220 students in internships in over 60 businesses as part of their academic course of study in the last ten years. Through the internship program, students combine practical work experience with academic theory that helps foster critical-thinking, problem-solving, and professional skills. Currently, 14 fields of study ranging from fire science and criminal justice to accounting allow students to earn course credits toward their degrees or certificates. Adding the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program funds to MCC's automotive program helped MCC expand and strengthen partnerships with area businesses while placing students in valuable work experiences. Offering a match for student wages helped business stretch finite resources while hiring additional help, making them eager to participate in MCC's paid internship program. After graduation, students were hired to continue working at their internship sites, keeping workers in Illinois.

The Career and Technical Education Division at MCC plans to expand on the automotive department's success by increasing the number of students participating in Cooperative Work Study Program from six to 36 students in 2011 through a funding request of \$49,020.00. Career and Technical Education faculty members from early childhood education, business, personal fitness training, and other departments will offer a paid internship to help offset the cost of tuition and avoid student loans. As a new component in 2011, MCC faculty and the financial aid office will partner to offer paid internships to students proving evidence of financial need. Additionally, faculty members will recruit eight new business partners willing to reimburse 50 percent of students' wages.

Courses are administered cooperatively between the course instructor and work place supervisor. Periodic review sessions will be held to assess students' progress, address problems, and review appropriateness of work involvement. Evaluation of students' progress will be based, in part, between written evaluation and consultations with the cooperating employer.

Institution: Millikin University

Project Title: Millikin University Entrepreneurship Internship Program

Project Director: Mrs. Sharon T. Alpi
Coleman Foundation Professor in Entrepreneurship
Director/Center for Entrepreneurship, Tabor School of Business
Millikin University
1184 West Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522
(217)424-6298
salpi@mail.millikin.edu

Recommended Amount: \$13,800

Project Synopsis: Millikin University's Tabor School of Business has a longstanding internship program in conjunction with the community's medium-sized and large businesses. In 2002, the Tabor Center for Entrepreneurship established the Entrepreneurship Internship Program to serve the area's entrepreneurial firms and to offer students entrepreneurial experiences. Funding for the Entrepreneurship Internships was initially provided by the Kauffman Foundation. The 2004 through 2010 ICWS programs provided additional funds to serve more businesses and to add not-for-profit organizations as internship sites.

For FY2011, Millikin will serve 15 students and 11 sites with the requested funding. Continued funding will help the University extend this program for the benefit of Millikin's business, education, science, nursing, graphic design, and computer students and the businesses and not-for-profit agencies that employ them.

Institution: North Central College

Project Title: North Central College CareerLinc

Project Director: Mr. Jeffrey Denard
Director, Career Development
North Central College
30 N. Brainard Street
Naperville, IL 60540
(630)637-5142
jddenard@noctrl.edu

Recommended Amount: \$15,400

Project Synopsis: One of the paramount objectives at North Central College is to strengthen the curricular and extra-curricular programs that distinguish our model of education and enhance student interaction with faculty and staff and engagement with their learning environment. One of the goals developed to achieve this aims to increase and document student participation in programs fostering active learning, including extended learning opportunities such as internships.

Involvement with the Illinois College Work Study program (ICWS) directly supports this mission. If we, as an institution, strive to enhance this portion of our students' educational experience, then the ICWS is a means to that end. The shared goals to benefit students academically, minimize student financial burdens, enhance community, business, non-profit and government partnerships, expand student opportunities, and retain students within the State of Illinois makes the obtainment of this grant a win-win.

Through this grant the college will be able to increase efforts to develop partnerships with Illinois businesses, government agencies and not-for-profit organizations. Students will be more likely to be involved in paid, out of class experiences, thereby initiating some of the underlying goals of reducing financial burdens, gaining pre-professional experience and indirectly increasing the likelihood of remaining within the state. As finances have a direct correlation with a student's desire and ability to participate in internships, this grant increases the probability that a student will get involved with an organization who previously did not offer paid internships, and thus, increase their – and our - connections to the future.

Institution: Northeastern Illinois University

Project Title: Illinois CWSP FY 2011

Project Director: Mr. Lorn B. Coleman
Director, Office of Career Services
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 N. St. Louis Avenue
Bldg. B, Room 119
Chicago, IL 60625-4699
(773)442-4680
L-Coleman@neiu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$30,720

Project Synopsis: Northeastern Illinois University proposes to use grant funds to establish internships for current undergraduate students meeting eligibility criteria.

One of the objectives of the program will be to provide opportunities for qualified resident Illinois students to acquire relevant career related experience prior to graduation with a bachelor's degree. This experience will enhance the employability of the student upon graduation.

Another objective of participating in the program will be to facilitate outreach efforts to medium and small employers by establishing internship ventures and strengthening cooperation with higher education.

The specific academic majors identified by the prospective employers for internship development during FY2011 are: Accounting, History, Business, Computer Science, Communications, Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, Human Services, Human Resources, Justice Studies, Liberal Arts, Marketing, Pre-Law, Public Relations, and Social Work.

Specific commitments from 13 employers to hire 41 student interns from the above mentioned majors have been secured. Participating companies will provide 50 percent of the wages paid to students in the form of matching funds. In fact, six of the 13 employers (46 percent) who have provided commitments for FY2011 are new to the program. This supports another program objective which is to attract new organizations and agencies to work with the University.

Institution: Northern Illinois University

Project Title: FY11 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program at NIU

Project Director: Ms. Cindy Henderson
Executive Director, Career Services
Northern Illinois University
301 Lowden Hall
DeKalb, IL 60115
(815)753-4405
chenderson@niu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$44,550

Project Synopsis: The Northern Illinois University (NIU) Career Services department proposes to partner with a number of large and small employers to provide valuable career-related work experiences. These supervised experiences will offer students professional, hands-on experience applicable to their field of study to compliment what is offered in the formal classroom. Career Services proposes this cooperative experience with 10 employers, many of which have participated in previous years when monetary awards were received from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study grants. Selected employers will offer career-relevant work experiences for students from the NIU Colleges of Business, Education, Health & Human Sciences, Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Visual & Performing Arts.

The specific objective is to provide financial assistance to students whose majors traditionally limit them to volunteer internships. In light of the fact that two-thirds of all NIU students rely on some form of financial assistance to attend school, this grant will significantly impact student reliance on financial aid and student loans. To these ends, the goals of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant are directly compatible with those of the Career Services office. The grant will provide valuable career-related experiences for the students, expand their knowledge in a variety of fields, enhance their future employment opportunities and help to alleviate the increasing cost of pursuing a degree.

Institution: Oakton Community College

Project Title: Oakton Community College Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Shannon McKenzie
Internship Specialist, Academic Affairs
Oakton Community College
1600 East Golf Road
Des Plaines, IL 60016-1268
(847)635-1404
alaurenc@oakton.edu

Recommended Amount: \$38,700

Project Synopsis: Since 2000, Oakton Community College's Internship Program, funded by the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, has provided 310 Illinois students with paid, practical work experiences designed to augment the conceptual knowledge and job-specific skills students develop in the classroom. Fully aligned with Oakton's institutional goals, the Internship Program places selected students in employer-subsidized positions. Employers agree to pay at least 50 percent of students' wages and typically offer students 12-14 week long internships, working 10-20 hours a week, paying at least \$9 an hour. These internships enable students to reduce their dependence on education loans, increase the depth and practice of their academic knowledge, and improve their employability.

For the FY2011 funding period, Oakton's Internship Program proposes to place 46 students into paid internships. In addition, Oakton will recruit at least 15 new employers into the program and continue to work with our existing partner companies, with emphasis on accounting, human resources, business/sales, web and graphic design, marketing, engineering, information technology, and manufacturing. Oakton will create new opportunities for collaboration among students, employers, the Internship Specialist and others at Oakton. Finally, Oakton will encourage all interns to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

In meeting those objectives, Oakton's Internship Program will continue to address the seven Cooperative Work Study Program objectives established by the Illinois Board of Higher Education and further the Board's goals to "help business and industry sustain strong economic growth" and ensure that "no citizen will be denied an opportunity for a college education because of financial need." Oakton appreciates the Board's continued support of this unique and beneficial program.

Institution: Quincy University

Project Title: Early Exploratory Internship Program

Project Director: Dr. John M. Schleppenbach
Professor of Communication, Communication
Quincy University
1600 College Avenue
Quincy, IL 62301
(217)228-5439
jschlepp@quincy.edu

Recommended Amount: \$24,750

Project Synopsis: The Quincy University proposal will provide opportunities for students as interns in education, information technology, communication technology, business and marketing, pre-professional health programs and social work programs to explore careers in a variety of fields in area agencies and businesses.

Twenty-three organizations have agreed to provide a 50 percent match for student wages for 20-30 interns based on an average rate of \$8.50 per hour for an average of 13 hours per week each semester. Some interns will be involved in entrepreneurship in business and technology.

A faculty advisor, career center advisor and advising committee coordinate the program. Fields included are: broadcast and print communication, education, sports management, computer science and technology, business (marketing, finance, accounting), government service, social work and entrepreneurship.

Institution: Rend Lake College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Paula L. Myers
Specialist, Community and Corporate Education
Rend Lake College
468 North Ken Gray Parkway
Ina, IL 62846-9740
(618)437-5321, ext. 1380
myers@rlc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$21,500

Project Synopsis: Rend Lake College requests continued funding for the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program for the purpose of providing cooperative education work experience opportunities for 25 students. Each student's work experience will be directly linked to their individual academic program. Twelve employers have committed to participate in the project by providing academically relevant work experience for the student and by providing matching funds to pay the students.

There are several major programs for which the demand is sufficiently high that no financial assistance is needed in placing students with employers. Fiscal Year 2011 ICWS grant funds will be used primarily to place education majors. Education majors have difficulty being placed in a paid work experience due to the budget constraints affecting area public schools and are typically limited to simple observation or volunteer experience in a classroom.

This project will continue a unique application of Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program funds by placing the majority of students into paid employment in the schools. The students may instruct, tutor, monitor, mentor, and provide extra-curricular activities for public school students. All activities are conducted under the supervision of a certified teacher. In addition, students majoring in IT Systems may be placed in area schools or other businesses to gain experience in building and maintaining computer operating systems.

Given the opportunity to apply skills acquired in the classroom in a real world setting, the students participating in this project will receive many academic benefits that will contribute substantially to their employment prospects after graduation from college. The earnings they will receive while participating in the project will also lessen the students' need for student loans.

Institution: Richland Community College

Project Title: Richland Community College Grant Request

Project Director: Mr. Michael G. Diggs
Director, Enrollment Services/Career Services
Richland Community College
One College Park
Decatur, IL 62521-8513
(217)875-7211, ext. 205
mdiggs@richland.edu

Recommended Amount: \$18,060

Project Synopsis: Richland Community College will provide a Cooperative Work-Study Program for approximately 21 students during the 2011-2012 grant year. The work-study placements will occur but is not limited to the following fields: Education, Information Technology (IT), Engineering Technology, Business and Agri-business, Biofuels, Power Generation-Nuclear, Graphic Design, Office Technology, and Drafting and Design Engineering.

The Cooperative Work-Study Program will be coordinated through Career Services. The Director of Career Services will manage all the employer agreements, employer reimbursements and reporting requirements for the program. The Director also will collaborate closely with participating faculty in all related programs. Richland faculty will supervise and grade the students enrolled in intern/practicum in their discipline as well as work with employers to ensure that learning objectives are met. In this way, the faculty, Director and local businesses maintain a collaborative partnership and encourage students to obtain employment in their field of study and stay employed in the State of Illinois.

Institution: Rockford College

Project Title: Working within the Region: Work Study and Beyond

Project Director: Mr. Bernard J. Sundstedt
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Rockford College
5050 East State Street
Rockford, IL 61108-2393
(815)226-3371
BSundstedt@rockford.edu

Recommended Amount: \$14,580

Project Synopsis: The goal of the Cooperative Work Study Program at Rockford College is to provide academically relevant, paid work experiences to Illinois resident Rockford College students. Qualifying students will be placed in paid internship positions related to their chosen field of study that will aid in reducing their reliance on student loans. The program has proven results in encouraging social and community service, strengthening the tie between internships and academic interest. Students will be placed in social service agencies, local educational settings, and in businesses. These placements will enhance public-private sector partnerships and forge relationships that will encourage students to consider permanent employment in the State of Illinois.

Institution: Roosevelt University

Project Title: Roosevelt University 2011 Grant Proposal

Project Director: Mr. Eric Tammes
Assistant Vice President for Student Services
Office of Career Development
Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605-1394
(312)341-6960
etammes@roosevelt.edu

Recommended Amount: \$11,040

Project Synopsis: Roosevelt University, a private, urban, non-sectarian institution of higher learning is requesting Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program grant funds to assist in the placement of 12 cooperative education and internship students. Students from five of the university's academic colleges - Walter E. Heller College of Business Administration, College of Education, College of Arts and Sciences, Chicago College of Performing Arts, and Evelyn T. Stone College of Professional Studies - will be encouraged to gain work related experiences in their field of study. This field related training will assist students in making the connection between theories that are introduced in the classroom with real work experience. The experiences that students gain will give them an advantage in the competitive labor market.

Grant funds will assist in the partnerships between the public and private sectors as well as encourage social and community service. The wages earned by students will reduce the reliance of student loans and maximize the use of students' financial resources. Successful new professionals, living and working in Illinois, will encourage economic growth within the state, both in the public and private sectors.

Institution: Shawnee Community College

Project Title: COOP Grant

Project Director: Ms. Leslie Cornelious-Weldon
Career Services Coordinator
Shawnee Community College
8364 Shawnee College Road
Ullin, IL 62992-9725
(618)634-3337
lesliec@shawneecc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$16,560

Project Synopsis: The Career Services Department at Shawnee Community College (SCC) has created and maintained a partnership with nine rural K-12 school districts, with 18 instructional sites, and nine area employers to continue a Cooperative Work Study project to serve 18 college students who are considering careers in education, social service, technology and other labor shortage occupations in Illinois. The Cooperative Work Study experiences will be closely linked to the students' academic fields and will offer a progressive sequence of experiences that will afford them opportunities to explore chosen occupations and consider committing to them.

All participants will attend an Orientation to Cooperative Education workshop and complete a background check. Education majors will be encouraged to enroll in an Introduction to Education class (EDU 110). Education majors will be employed as Teacher Assistants in area schools under the close tutelage of exemplary teachers. Other Cooperative Education students will be provided guidance and mentoring from the business owners or other experienced professional. The project goals are to: (1) increase the number of dedicated K-12 teachers in the State of Illinois; (2) reduce student reliance on student loan programs; (3) continue to expand the existing Cooperative Work Study program to include social services, technology and other labor shortage occupations; and (4) strengthen relationships between SCC, area schools, and employers.

Institution: Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Project Title: SIUC Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program 2011

Project Director: Ms. Beverly Robbins
Career Services Specialist, University Career Services
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
900 South Normal Avenue, MC 4703
Carbondale, IL 62901-4703
(618)453-7112
bevj@siu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$23,220

Project Synopsis: This grant program will allow Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) to enhance and expand current work study/internship opportunities for Illinois undergraduate students to gain work-based, academically-structured experiences while networking with professionals in their fields of study. The experiential learning will contribute toward the retention and graduation of participating students by confirming career goals, enhancing and adding to real-world work skills, and exposing students to professional work settings.

The internship positions will be designed and mutually agreed upon by students, faculty, and employer representatives and will relate to the student's academic field of study. This will allow the student to reinforce the knowledge gained in the classroom and incorporate emerging trends within the industry to better prepare them for employment in Illinois after graduation. It also will provide students with an opportunity to reduce their reliance on student loans by increasing their earnings while gaining related work experience.

Both employers and students will evaluate the program. Student performance will be evaluated by employer site supervisors and also by faculty members if the student is receiving college credit.

Fifteen employers, including five new sites, have submitted letters of interest, to participate and project hiring approximately 32 students from the following colleges within the University: Agricultural Sciences; Science; Mass Communication & Media Arts and/or Communication design; Applied Sciences and Arts (Architectural Studies); Business and Administration; Engineering; and Education.

Students participating in the program generally earn an average of \$8.25 to \$12.00 per hour and work an average of 15 to 20 hours per week during Fall and/or Spring Semester (16 weeks each semester) and up to 40 hours per week during Summer Semester (12-14 weeks).

Institution: Southwestern Illinois College

Project Title: 2011 SWIC Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Martha Nelson
Dean, Counseling and Career Center
Southwestern Illinois College
2500 Carlyle Avenue
Belleville, IL 62221-5899
(618)235-2700, ext. 5554
martha.nelson@swic.edu

Recommended Amount: \$15,640

Project Synopsis: The 17 internships provided by funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will benefit Southwestern Illinois College students by providing partnership initiatives to a wide range of academic program areas, employers, and agencies including 11 program areas, 16 area employers/organizations, the Southwestern Illinois College Career Activities and Employment Center, and the Employer Advisory Council. The project director and program coordinators will oversee the grant.

The 17 internships are credit-bearing internships: 12 internships in the private sector with a 50/50 employer match: two Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration interns will gain a variety of experience servicing heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment; one Electronic Technology internship will offer a wide range of work with technology utilizing electronic components; two internships will be provided in Network Design and Administration working in the telecommunications and computer field; one Computer Information Systems internship will be offered where the intern will gain knowledge in the technical support and help desk areas; one Paralegal Internship will be offered where the intern will gain valuable experience in the legal field; three Culinary Arts internships will be offered allowing the students to apply classroom theories to actual situations; one Auto Collision and Repair Technology internship will be offer a wide range of experience in the auto body repair field and one Horticulture interns will gain hands-on experience in that field.

Five community service internships will be included in the grant: two internships will be offered in Human Services, these locations will allow the student to gain experience in serving adult autism clients; one Web Design and Administration internship will give a range experience in maintaining and developing web sites; one Paralegal Studies internship will be in a free legal services office and one Office and Administrations and Technology internship will offer the student experience in office skills in a not-for-profit environment.

Institution: St. Xavier University

Project Title: Saint Xavier University ICWS Program

Project Director: Ms. Jodi Martin
Assistant Director, Career Services
St. Xavier University
3700 W. 103rd Street
Chicago, IL 60655
(773)298-3133
malloymartin@sxu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$8,600

Project Synopsis: The primary goal of the Internship Program at Saint Xavier University (SXU) is to assist students with securing meaningful, career-related employment opportunities prior to graduation. In so doing, the program also assists Chicago-area employers by helping them to meet their part-time, professional hiring needs. Many of these are local employers from the Southwest side of the metropolitan area who are in need of qualified, classroom educated employees, but are unable to pay them the market salary rates. The support of the grant funding from the State of Illinois will permit some of these organizations to secure the employees they need while providing at least 10 students with part-time jobs that are directly related to their academic majors and career goals. These internship placements strengthen the cooperation between the University and local employers, create new opportunities for public/private partnerships, and encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

Almost all of SXU students must work to meet educational expenses. Over 80 percent of them are commuters, and more than 90 percent are eligible to receive financial aid. Approximately 64 percent are first-generation college students, and 96 percent are residents of the State of Illinois. They often seek work experiences close to home in order to be able to satisfy obligations outside their academic careers. Local employers are eager for the opportunity to act as mentors to inexperienced professionals and value the chance to evaluate potential full-time employees before extending offers for permanent employment. Many local area social service, educational, and not-for-profit agencies, in particular, would benefit greatly from being able to take advantage of the reimbursement funding from the State of Illinois. It is estimated that seven employers will participate in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study program. Four employers have confirmed participation in the program and three additional employers have expressed an interest.

On the strength of their experiences in these positions, many of these students will be encouraged to become full-time employees and continue to work and reside in the State of Illinois. According to the 2008 SXU Graduate Survey, of the respondents employed, 98 percent accepted positions in Illinois.

Institution: Trinity Christian College

Project Title: Trinity at Work 2011

Project Director: Ms. Jackie Medenblik
Director, Cooper Career Center
Trinity Christian College
6601 W. College Drive
Palos Heights, IL 60463-0929
(708)239-4821
jackie.medenblik@trnty.edu

Recommended Amount: \$17,820

Project Synopsis: Trinity@Work: The Trinity ICWS Internship Project provides an avenue to Trinity students and their prospective Illinois employers to enhance economic development in our community and reduce student reliance on loans. Trinity requests support from ICWS to continue strides to advance Trinity's ties with local non-profits, community organizations and businesses while also providing students with additional financial, academic and practical support. These internships serve Illinois students who find it difficult to locate pertinent placements in their chosen fields because of funding restrictions from the non-profit organizations they will service and because their majors limit the availability of paid internship opportunities.

Trinity will provide 22 placements with seven employers in a 60/40 grant/employer match. Internships are determined by student and community needs in special education, psychology, sociology, social work, environmental management and preservation, IT and non-profit management. These placements open internship experiences to students to explore their chosen professional disciplines. The Trinity@Work program provides our students with a variety of new income producing jobs for students to reduce their reliance on debt as the primary means of financing their undergraduate education.

Institution: Triton College

Project Title: Pathways to Work Experience

Project Director: Ms. Sherry Burlingame
Director, Grants Development
Triton College
2000 Fifth Avenue
River Grove, IL 60171-1995
(708)456-0300, ext. 3249
sburling@triton.edu

Recommended Amount: \$27,520

Project Synopsis: Triton College, a public community college on the urban fringe of the City of Chicago, services 25 of the most economically challenged and diverse communities in the state. The goal of this grant is to create 28 cooperative work study opportunities for currently enrolled, first-generation, low income students from economically disadvantaged background that have high unmet financial need. Beyond our successful hospitality work-study program, this particular population has traditionally not had the opportunity to gain meaningful work experience in their area of educational and career interest.

Additionally, a goal of this program is to establish new relationships with local employers, especially manufacturing employers, who would not traditionally offer cooperative work study experiences for students with less than 60 hours of college credit. Through efforts of the project, we will widen the scope of Cooperative Work Study experiences into the disciplines of industry, technology, science, and business. Employers targeted include local industry, municipalities, small businesses, and non-profits. (Non-traditional settings for our cooperative work study program.) This represents an expansion of our cooperative work-study program into new economic sectors and to new student groups.

Institution: University of Illinois Chicago

Project Title: UIC Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Dr. Rod Shrader
Faculty Director, Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies
University of Illinois at Chicago
815 W. Van Buren, Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60607
(312)996-2670
rshrader@uic.edu

Recommended Amount: \$16,480

Project Synopsis: Through the Cooperative Work Study Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), we seek to achieve a number of goals. Primarily, our goal is to provide students with real-world work experiences which will assist them in gaining employment post-graduation. We hope to achieve this through partnerships with area architectural firms, businesses, cultural institutions, community service organizations and government agencies. We also aim to provide students with experiences that integrate, test, and apply theoretical knowledge learned in the classroom with real world work situations. Students learn how theoretical information is shaped by the realities of the practical world, thereby enhancing and reinforcing their classroom experiences. We also aim to assist our students with developing and honing their on-the-job skills, including analytical and reasoning, communication, and professional skills.

The benefits of the UIC Cooperative Work Study Program are: reduced reliance on financial aid for students, closer and stronger relationships with the various companies and organizations that hire and support the students in the program, and greater prospects of permanent employment with these employers for students upon graduation.

Institution: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Project Title: UIUC Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Dr Gail S Rooney
Director, The Career Center
University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
715 S. Wright Street
Champaign, IL 61820
(217)244-1497
grooney@illinois.edu

Recommended Amount: \$25,800

Project Synopsis: Experiential learning is a crucial component of undergraduate education as it allows students to put into practice what has been taught in the classroom and provides a glimpse into a potential career. Similarly, employers value, and in certain professions require, experiential education as part of a student's preparation for employment and/or licensing. Nearly 100 percent of employers indicate that internship experience is a factor when making hiring decisions (National Association of Colleges and Employers, Job Outlook, 2008 Survey).

The University of Illinois values and strongly encourages application of classroom learning in the real world. While real-world scenarios may be studied and simulated in the classroom, nothing can replace actual application and experience in the real world experience. The Illinois Cooperative Work Study (ICWS) Program provides an avenue to provide students with quality experiences related to their academic program and professional goals as well as enhances the connection between theoretical and applied learning.

The goals of the University of Illinois ICWS Program are: (1) increase the number of high quality internship and other experiential learning opportunities available to students that are linked to academic programs of study and career goals of students, (2) expand and strengthen relationships with employers in the State of Illinois, (3) assist students and families meet the rising cost of higher education, and (4) increase offers of permanent employment in the State of Illinois for new college graduates.

Established as a Land Grant University, Illinois focuses on opportunities to fulfill its mission of learning and labor in service to the citizens of the State of Illinois. The ICWS grant provides an avenue for the University to fulfill its mission. The anticipated enhanced program will benefit students academically and financially in diverse curricula, support public-private sector partnerships, and encourage students to seek employment in local/regional organizations.

Institution: Waubonsee Community College

Project Title: Waubonsee Community College Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Teri L. Cullen
Career Services Manager, Career Services
Waubonsee Community College
Illinois Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554-9454
(630)466-2407
tcullen@waubonsee.edu

Recommended Amount: \$17,800

Project Synopsis: Waubonsee Community College's internship program is designed to complement students' educational experiences with employment experiences directly related to their fields of study. Currently, 14 fields ranging from auto body repair to early childhood education administration, allow students to earn semester hours toward degrees or certificates during their internships, and each field has at least one full-time faculty member willing to serve as an advisor.

The college's internship program is coordinated by its Career Services Center and has grown quickly during the past several years, and its success is dependent on local businesses and not-for-profit organizations willing to partner with it and provide settings where students can apply what they have learned in their classes to the real-world under the guidance of faculty members and workplace supervisors. Correspondence between instructors and supervisors and regular site visits, in turn, provide excellent opportunities to improve academic curricula and stay up-to-date with employers' needs.

Between Fiscal Years 2007 to 2010, Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program funds were integral to the college's internship program's growth. Its numbers of student placements and participating employers increased steadily, and funding in FY2011 will help sustain this positive trend in a negative economic environment.

