

**ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2012 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 54 projects at colleges and universities. The 54 projects recommended in this item will support academically related work experiences for a projected 1,464 students at 668 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 2009-2010 school year, 56 percent of the students participating in the work study program who were seeking permanent employment in Illinois were hired for permanent employment in 2009-2010.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves Fiscal Year 2012 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 2012 GRANT ALLOCATION**

Background

This item presents recommendations for the fiscal year 2012 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 2009-2010 school year, 56 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 2009-2010.

Review Criteria

The 54 college work study proposals recommended in this item were selected from a pool of 54 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 2012 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 2012 recommendations for 54 grants totaling \$1,230,000 that will assist an estimated 1,464 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 2012 ICWS recommended projects.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves Fiscal year 2012 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					
FY2012 Recommended Allocation					
			FY2011	FY2012	FY2012
		Students	Award	Request	Award
Item #	Institution	Served	Amount	Amount	Amount
1	Augustana College	45	\$ 30,960	\$ 50,000	\$ 40,050
2	Blackburn College	13	10,320	14,000	9,750
3	Bradley University	51	44,550	50,000	45,600
4	CCC - Harold Washington College	20	15,640	50,000	16,600
5	CCC - Wilbur Wright College	16	9,720	49,200	9,720
6	Chicago State University	11	32,400	50,000	10,130
7	College of Lake County	31	30,360	50,000	27,590
8	College of Dupage	25	26,350	50,000	22,250
9	Concordia University	60	34,200	50,000	34,650
10	Danville Area Community College	7	9,920	17,130	9,920
11	DeVry University-Illinois	30	24,300	50,000	24,300
12	Dominican University	64	44,550	50,000	45,600
13	Eastern Illinois University	69	35,880	50,000	45,600
14	East-West University	63	32,400	48,682	32,850
15	Elgin Community College	10	11,650	50,000	8,510
16	Elmhurst College	39	38,540	50,000	36,270
17	Governors State University	24	26,160	50,000	24,320
18	Greenville College	25	30,360	49,400	30,360
19	Heartland Community College	12	10,530	15,000	9,960
20	Illinois College	25	20,790	21,830	21,830
21	Illinois Eastern - Lincoln Trail	19	16,340	50,000	16,910
22	Illinois State University	55	37,720	48,850	45,600
23	Illinois Wesleyan University	30	29,700	32,000	32,000
24	John A. Logan College	24	22,800	32,000	18,000
25	John Wood Community College	29	32,680	33,732	25,810
26	Joliet Junior College	13	13,800	23,496	13,800
27	Kaskaskia College	10	11,040	22,450	8,900
28	Lake Land College	30	34,400	50,000	33,000
29	Lewis & Clark Community College	20	35,000	20,000	20,000
30	Lewis University	17	13,800	17,500	14,110
31	Lexington College	25	15,000	18,350	14,750
32	Lincoln Land Community College	50	21,000	21,000	21,000
33	Loyola University ¹	35	0	50,000	29,050
34	MacMurray College	13	9,120	13,500	8,750
35	McHenry County College	21	15,480	25,800	17,430
36	Millikin University	14	13,800	22,500	13,020
37	North Central College	21	15,400	31,000	19,530
38	Northeastern Illinois University	25	30,720	41,960	30,720

Table 1 (continued)

Illinois Board of Higher Education					
Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program					
FY2012 Recommended Allocation					
			FY2011	FY2012	FY2012
		Students	Award	Request	Award
Item #	Institution	Served	Amount	Amount	Amount
39	Northern Illinois University	45	\$ 44,550	\$ 50,000	\$ 42,220
40	Oakton Community College	40	38,700	50,000	35,600
41	Quincy University	35	24,750	35,000	35,000
42	Rend Lake College	26	21,500	50,000	23,140
43	Richland Community College	18	18,060	20,000	20,000
44	Rockford College	18	14,580	20,456	14,940
45	Roosevelt University	25	11,040	36,900	22,250
46	Shawnee Community College	18	16,560	48,020	18,000
47	Southern Illinois University Carbondale	15	23,220	50,000	14,450
48	Southwestern Illinois College	15	15,640	20,575	16,000
49	St. Xavier University	15	8,600	23,000	9,250
50	Trinity Christian College	18	17,820	42,300	14,940
51	Triton College	23	27,520	30,600	20,470
52	U of I at Chicago	14	16,480	50,000	14,460
53	U of I at Urbana/Champaign	28	25,800	50,000	26,040
54	Waubonsee	20	17,800	34,881	15,000
	TOTALS:	1,464	\$1,230,000	\$2,031,112	\$1,230,000
	Institution did not submit an application in FY2011 ¹				

APPENDIX A

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM

FISCAL YEAR 2012

PROJECT SYNOPSES

April 10, 2012

Institution: Augustana College

Project Title: Augustana College Emerging Professionals Internship Program

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

Recommended Amount: \$40,050

Project Synopsis: It has been an exciting year for the internship program at Augustana College (Augustana). Through a strong commitment to experiential education, Augustana was able to grow its internship program by over 120 percent in the past year. This achievement was made possible in part by the grant funds received from Illinois Board of Higher Education's (IBHE) Cooperative Work Study program which funded Augustana's Emerging Professionals Internship Program making internships a viable possibility for our economically challenged students. With the 2010 grant of approximately \$33,000, we were able to fund 29 internships at 11 community partners. With the increase in funding requested from the IBHE for 2012-13, we propose to fund 45 internships with up to 16 community partners including 4 new partners. The award will provide new and expanded internship opportunities for students in the areas of education, engineering, mathematics, communications, physical science, business, management, marketing, health, and computer information new majors impacted by the grant this year include - biology, pre-med, environmental studies and graphic design.

The primary goals of our program are to: (1) assist Illinois permanent resident students in acquiring paid internship experiences that are academically relevant to their major field of study; (2) reduce intern reliance on financial assistance; (3) inspire interns to participate in social and community service; and (4) educate students on employment opportunities in Illinois and encourage them to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation.

Emerging Professionals interns take on projects at each site, doing research and using concepts from their academic discipline to solve problems that the organizations need to address. Interns are advised by an Augustana supervisor from the Internship Office as well as a member of faculty. Interns are required to complete reflective assignments, in which they will discuss the value of the internship work, both for themselves and the community. At the end of the grant period, interns will be surveyed regarding the benefits of their internship program as well as their likelihood of seeking permanent employment in Illinois following graduation.

Further, the Emerging Professionals Internship Program has allowed Augustana to establish new business and community partnerships and has strengthened existing relationships with both large and small employers in public, privaten and non-profit organizations. These relationships have resulted in creating Illinois based job opportunities not only for the participating interns but for other Augustana students as well.

Again this year, the requested funding will be used as matching funds to support student wages giving Emerging Professional interns the opportunity to earn over \$90,000 in wages to offset the

costs of college and be less dependent on student loans for 45 academically relevant internship experiences. Additionally, student interns can earn up to nine academic credit hours by successfully completing an internship in their major field of study.

Augustana appreciates the positive impact that the Emerging Professionals Program has had on our internship program and thanks the IBHE for its continued support of this unique and beneficial program.

Institution: Blackburn College

Project Title: Blackburn College Cooperative Work Study Program

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

Recommended Amount: \$9,750

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 areas of student academic study and/or possible career interest; (2) increased opportunities for students to earn additional income toward helping to meet their educational expenses, and therefore less reliance on loans; and (3) Additional opportunities for educational partnerships between the college and area business, education, government, and community service employers.

Institution: Bradley University

Project Title: Fiscal Year 2012 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Dawn Koeltzow
Associate Director, Springer Center for Excellence in Internships
Smith Career Center
Bradley University
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(309) 677-2510
dkoeltzow@bradley.edu

Recommended Amount: \$45,600

Project Synopsis: The proposed Bradley University Fiscal Year 2012 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 2012 Work Study Program will support a total of 51 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. Program outcomes will successfully support Goal 2, Goal 3, and Goal 4 of the Illinois Board of Higher Education Public Agenda.

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 (28) 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. All of these goals and objectives for Bradley’s Cooperative Work Study Program are discussed in more detail in the following proposal.

Institution: CCC - Harold Washington College

Project Title: HWC Coop Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Kim M. Bowens
Project Coordinator, Career Planning and Placement
CCC - Harold Washington College
30 East Lake Street
Chicago, IL 60601-2495
(312) 533-5666
kbowens3@ccc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$16,600

Project Synopsis: Harold Washington College (HWC) is requesting funding to continue the FY2012 HWC Cooperative Internship Program. The program will benefit students academically because they will participate in a work based learning opportunity in their chosen academic pathway and program of study. They will be able to apply what they learn in the classroom to the workplace. Students will also benefit financially because they will have the opportunity to earn while they learn and reduce the need to obtain loans. This internship is designed to help students remain focused on their studies and gain valuable work experience in an environment that fosters a learning community. The benefits of the paid internship encourage students to stay on their academic track, rely less on student loans and ultimately remain employed in the State of Illinois. Students who participate in HWC Cooperative Internship Program are on target to complete an 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, Digital Multi-Media, Hospitality Management, Computer Information Technology, Management, Marketing, and/or 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 strengthens the partnership with business and industry. Harold Washington College can 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 viable jobs after graduation from community college.

Institution: CCC - Wilbur Wright College

Project Title: Internships for Next Generation Jobs in Manufacturing & Industry

Project Director: Ms. Madeline Roman-Vargas
Dean, Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center
CCC - Wilbur Wright College
1645 North 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 Education Center (HPVEC) of Wright College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago, proposes an Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program that targets students in its Computerized Numerical Control (CNC) and Electric/Electronic Industrial Maintenance (EEIM) programs. The programs address community workforce and economic development needs and the mismatch between available jobs in advanced manufacturing and industrial businesses and the skills of local job seekers. The CNC and EEIM programs provide students with industry-recognized, stackable credentials that can be earned for job entry and advancement. The target population for the Cooperative Work Study program will be economically disadvantaged CNC and EEIM students with limited work histories.

Project Goals include: Providing students with supported work study experiences in advanced manufacturing and industrial settings to instill and develop successful work habits; providing students the opportunity to practice technical skills in supported work settings; developing long-term partnerships with businesses and increasing the number who actively participate in shaping and managing internship programs; improving student retention and motivation and reducing reliance on student loans; improving student prospects for full-time, permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation with good wages; and improving student prospects for gaining additional credentials and career advancement in their field through further education.

Project Objectives include: (1) placing a total of 16 students from the CNC and EEIM programs into cooperative internships using employer matching contributions to the maximum extent possible; (2) integrating a career development course into the CNC and EEIM programs to prepare at least 16 disadvantaged students for internships; (3) establishing a financial aid Coordinating Council to ensure adequacy of financial aid, alignment between the Cooperative Work Study and existing campus work study programs, and reduce reliance on student loans; and (4) implementing an evaluation system that will be used to advance students from one level of accomplishment to another within the Cooperative Work Study Program and to ensure continuous improvement of the program.

Institution: Chicago State University

Project Title: Chicago State University Illinois Cooperative Program

Project Director: Dr. Renee D. Mitchell
Executive Director,
Human Resources University Career Development
Office of Human Resource/Career Development Center
Chicago State University
9501 S. King Drive, ADM 203
Chicago, IL 60628
(773) 995-2040
rmitch26@csu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$10,130

Project Synopsis: As part of the overall Student Career Development strategy, the Chicago State University Illinois Cooperative Program will focus on four goals: (1) integrating experiential field training with academic studies; (2) supporting the growth of economic development by providing a pipeline of highly qualified and skilled employees; (3) assisting students in bridging the gap from a learning environment to the competitive workforce by incorporating business specific training; and (4) developing a strong partnership between the University and Illinois employers.

Through a competency-based development program and strong business partnership, the University and Illinois employers will identify core knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for the student to successfully transition into a productive employee. Through combined efforts from the student, the perspective employer, the faculty and the University career development center, additional training and intellectual guidance will be provided to ensure the overall success of the student/employee and the program.

The funds received through the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will enable Chicago State University to maximize its resources by providing additional employment opportunities to our diverse populations. The program will help students meet their financial obligations, thereby increasing the retention rate at the university and increasing the likelihood of graduation. With the support of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, students will effectively transition into the Illinois employment market in the fields of education, health, science, math, and business.

Institution: College of DuPage

Project Title: College of DuPage Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Sara Kirby
Assistant Manager, Career Services
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Boulevard
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6599
(630) 942-2657
steward@cod.edu

Recommended Amount: \$27,590

Project Synopsis: College of DuPage (COD), Glen Ellyn, IL, proposes the creation of cooperative work-study positions for a minimum of 31 students in the Business, Technology, Health and Biological fields. The internships will be integrated into the COD Cooperative Education and Internship Program (CEIP), which will provide the management expertise, materials, recruitment resources, and industry connections to successfully launch, conduct, and evaluate the internship project.

Twelve (12) established DuPage County employer-partners have committed to hire, supervise, and evaluate COD students from the following programs: Computer Information Systems and Technology, Horticulture, Business Administration, Marketing, Accounting, Biological Sciences, Automotive Technology, and Paralegal Services. Internships will provide opportunities for students to apply the concepts and skills learned in the classroom setting, as well as to strengthen partnerships between COD and area businesses, provide community service opportunities, and encourage students to seek employment in Illinois.

The following objectives will be achieved: (1) an estimated 31 students will complete cooperative work-study experiences; (2) an estimated 12 employer-partners in four fields will create paid internships for COD students; (3) community service opportunities will be available as a part of the experience; (4) 100 percent of participating employer-partners will contribute 50 percent of the intern's hourly wages; (5) at least 50 percent of the employer-partners will hire staff they would not normally be able to hire because of this program; (6) 100 percent of participating interns will receive information about alternative financial aid options; and (7) at least 75 percent of internship duties will be pre-professional in positions with businesses or industries that project long-term job growth in the greater Chicago area, leading to possible permanent employment in Illinois.

The College of DuPage Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will be evaluated to determine the extent to which the project goals and objectives have been met. Evaluation will be both formative and summative, with several built-in checkpoints that enable the assessment of learning and workplace progress. Data will be collected in an ongoing fashion as project activities are implemented. Documentation of the number of students and employers, wage information, matching wage commitments, information on permanent Illinois hires, feedback from employers, students, and faculty advisors will be captured in the CEIP database by the Assistant Manager for Career Services. All employer and student records are archived upon completion of the internship.

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 West Washington Street
Grayslake, IL 60030-1198
(847) 543-2404
nsmith@clcollinois.edu

Recommended Amount: \$22,250

Project Synopsis: The goals and specific objectives of the College of Lake County's proposed Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, which are consistent with section 1015.40 of the program guidelines, are to serve 25 students by performing the following: expand opportunities for students to pursue internships, cooperative programs with local businesses, employers and organizations linked to students' academic programs; strengthen cooperation and promote partnerships among the college, local businesses, employers, organizations and government; maximize the use of contributions from employers, and agencies participating in the program, to support student wages; integrate other components of student financial aid to reduce reliance on student loans; support work experiences for students in academic programs such as computer science, education, mathematics, health and business; encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois; and provide students with relevant work experience for current and future jobs.

The College of Lake County assures that neither its current cooperative education program nor the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, which would enhance the college's program, serve any sectarian purpose. Furthermore, the college assures that no partisan political activity would be associated with the program, that it will comply with applicable state and federal laws, and that it would supplement, but not supplant, the college's existing cooperative education program.

Institution: Concordia University

Project Title: Enhancing Relationships for Workplace Development through Work Study

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

Recommended Amount: \$34,650

Project Synopsis: Concordia University Chicago is seeking to partially support internship opportunities for as many as sixty students. Student participation will come largely from the College of Education, as well as the College of Business and Health Sciences. These majors represent labor shortages and future growth in education, primarily early childhood development. We also are addressing need in health as well as exercise science and business computer science/information. The Concordia 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 working world. This practical experience supports our ultimate goal of finding full and meaningful employment.

Taking part in this grant allows institutions with limited resources, to serve students fully, which is no easy feat for a private institution. We provide the student with unlimited access to a wide variety of learning experiences and professional networking opportunities. This access is due mostly to the existence of the grant, because the incentive helps us smaller universities the most. The generous support of the 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 full-service program dedicated to assisting students in their quest for meaningful employment.

Finally, the Grant offers assistance to students representing fields of study with the greatest possibility for employment, combining current shortages and future growth projections. We are not going to use precious state funds on majors in areas with dismal opportunities, focusing instead on those with a very positive employment picture. 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 Cooperative Work Study Program at Concordia has fueled the creation of programs and systems tailored to better serve our students. Concordia University Chicago has fueled the creation of programs and systems tailored to better serve our students. We are now better equipped to proactively address employment related issues in context of student development. Participation in this program has heightened our students ability to integrate classroom knowledge and practical experience. They are now better prepared to enter and succeed in the Illinois Workforce.

Institution: Danville Area Community College

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

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

Recommended Amount: \$9,920

Project Synopsis: Institution: Even though Vermilion County, Illinois, continues to confront a depressed economy, signs of economic growth can be seen through area employers increasing their current workforce. In an effort to address the local workforce needs, Danville Area Community College and local businesses partner together to provide hands-on training for students. With the help of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, students who reside in Illinois, have an interest in hands-on learning, financial need, and a desire to work in the surrounding community have the opportunity to gain valuable work experience at a local business. FY2012 project goals include: (1) reducing student loan dependence while financially benefiting students; (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 State while making them 'labor-ready'.

To participate in the program, students are recommended by Faculty/Staff, Division Deans and Career Services, then placed into an employment opportunity based on their program of study. Employers interview students prior to enrollment in SHARE. Once placed, students begin to correlate the educational theory with practice in a work environment. With the self-confidence and valuable skills gained from the work experience, classroom instruction becomes more meaningful and grades improve while making life more manageable by reducing 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: FY2012 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Quiana Jackson
Senior Career Advisor, Career Services
DeVry University-Illinois
3300 North Campbell Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618
(773) 697-2076
qjackson@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, Justice Administration, Management, 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) o 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 Grant 2012

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

Recommended Amount: \$45,600

Project Synopsis: This year marks the 18th 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 civic engagement, 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 continued to strengthen 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 are able to 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 of potential careers. This program includes a thorough 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: Illinois Board of Higher Education - Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Debbie D. Endsley
Career Advisor, Career Services
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920
(217) 581-7461
ddendsley@eiu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$45,600

Project Synopsis: Eastern Illinois University will enhance the work readiness skills and employability of its Illinois residency students through the use of a \$50,000 grant designed to partially offset the wages paid to the student 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 employers on the cutting edge of their respective industries as well as to provide a more economically viable solution to contributing organizations within our Illinois communities.

Employers representing a variety of industries throughout the State of Illinois will provide a minimum 50 percent match towards student salaries with the CWS program providing a maximum 50 percent match. Work performed by the students will enhance their career related skills in addition to exposing them to a variety of employment environments and networking opportunities with industry professionals. Students will benefit from this experience by acquiring important technical and general work skills as well as reducing their reliance on loans to finance their education.

A final benefit of the CWS program is the opportunity for students to make better informed decisions about elective courses that relate to the skills needed within the real work world. As work study students they will receive a more detailed perspective on their potential career paths and make good choices about which courses will provide the most benefit for their preparation into their chosen profession.

Institution: East-West University

Project Title: EWU - IBHE ICWS Program 2012

Project Director: Ms. Lori Louis Grove
Grants Specialist, Development and University Relations
East-West University
816 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605-2188
(312) 939-0111, ext. 1820
lori@eastwest.edu

Recommended Amount: \$32,850

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 (ICWS) 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 through the University's proposed Project V.O.I.C.E. (Vocational Opportunities in Community Employment). This year's proposed Project V.O.I.C.E. will engage 24 local businesses, community organizations, and cultural institutions with students who will have the opportunity for professional work experience through ICWS funds in the FY2012 grant period.

East-West University will partner with employers in Chicagoland to provide students with valuable industry experience while attending college. Goals of the program include: (1) increased opportunities for full-time employment in Illinois; (2) increased student awareness of job skills needed to compete in today's global, competitive workplace; (3) increased workplace preparation skills, leading to a greater opportunity for full-time employment upon graduation; (4) improved university-community relationships; (5) increased involvement and service to the community for current college students; and (6) 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 of Career Services
Elgin Community College
1700 Spartan Drive
Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 214-7122
pgundrum@elgin.edu

Recommended Amount: \$8,510

Project Synopsis: Elgin Community College seeks funding to provide cooperative work-study opportunities for approximately 10 students, all of whom will be Elgin Community College 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 ICWSP on the basis of their desire to work in a job that is aligned with 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 students 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 ICWSP, 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 intent to partner with businesses that will benefit from the subsidized labor assistance. The ICWSP 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, CPE
Elmhurst College
190 Prospect Avenue
Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 617-6457
hollyc@elmhurst.edu

Recommended Amount: \$36,270

Project Synopsis: The Elmhurst College JOBPATH program seeks to provide purposeful job internships for 39 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 twenty 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: Ms. Cynthia Lynn Comber
Recruitment Coordinator, Office of Career Services
Governors State University
1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484
(708) 235-7355
ccomber@govst.edu

Recommended Amount: \$24,320

Project Synopsis: Governors State University (GSU) student participation and involvement in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (ICWSP) will greatly increase student knowledge and understanding of the realities of their academic major field in terms of job expectations and performance. Based on the success of our student participation in the previous Illinois College Work Study 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 Governors State University'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 2012 Illinois College Work Study Program are to: (1) Provide 24 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. (2) 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. (3) 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. (4) 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: FY2012 Greenville College ICWSP Grant Proposal

Project Director: Mr. Patrick Monroe Miller
Associate Dean for Leadership & Life Calling
Greenville College
315 East College Avenue
Greenville, IL 62246
(618) 664-6611
patrick.miller@greenville.edu

Recommended Amount: \$30,360

Project Synopsis: In this grant proposal, Greenville College is requesting continued funds for our eighteenth year 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 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 25 students are expected to be placed in 25 different organizations. Participants earn \$8.50 an hour from the grant funds and are paid by submitting a timecard to the Associate Dean for Leadership & Life Calling or designee, signed by the onsite 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 forty 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 Career Services
Heartland Community College
1500 West Raab Road
Normal, IL 61761
(309)268-8034
sara.baker@heartland.edu

Recommended Amount: \$9,960

Project Synopsis: The fundamental goal of the Heartland Community College (HCC) 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 2012 Grant Period, the HCC Internship Program proposes to partner with six sponsors to provide 12 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. A majority of internships are anticipated to be in 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 K. Drake
Director, Career Services
Illinois College
1101 West College Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(217) 245-3041
sdrake@ic.edu

Recommended Amount: \$21,830

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 the grant funds for its IC Explorers program. Twenty-five students will be awarded paid internships (clinical placements and cooperative work study positions) sponsored by 10 employers in state government, private enterprise, health-related higher education and the non-profit sector. 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 \$6,000. Therefore, the grant will be matched by employer cash contributions (\$27,365) as well as institutional cash and in-kind support provided by the College (\$100,160).

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 College

Project Title: Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program

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

Recommended Amount: \$16,910

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 eight summers and we have received 19 letters of intent from cooperating employers who are interested in participating during FY2012 and who are committed to this very worthwhile program next summer.

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges plan 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 J. Cooper, Assistant Director
Professional Practice and Employer Relations, Career Center
Illinois State University
Research & Sponsored Programs
Campus Box 3040
Normal, IL 61790-3040
(309) 438-2528
pjcoope@ilstu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$45,600

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 University Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mr. John Patrick Workman
Assistant Director,
Sponsored Programs & Foundation Relations, Advancement
Illinois Wesleyan University
P.O. Box 2900, 1312 Park Street
Bloomington, IL 61702-2900
(309) 556-3902
jworkman@iwu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$32,300

Project Synopsis: Illinois Wesleyan University (IWU) 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 the 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 to 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 doing so 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

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

Recommended Amount: \$18,000

Project Synopsis: The John A. Logan College Fiscal Year 2012 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. Fifteen southern Illinois employers will submit letters of intent to provide Education/Internship opportunities for students who are Illinois residents.

The proposed budget will enable approximately 22-26 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: FY 12 IL Cooperative Work Study Program at JWCC

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

Recommended Amount: \$25,810

Project Synopsis: John Wood Community College and our business community requests 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 2012-2013 academic years will provide on-site work experiences for 29 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 \$4.15 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 L. Larkin-Beene
Director, Career Services
Joliet Junior College
1215 Houbolt Road
Campus Center 1175
Joliet, IL 60431-8938
(815) 280-2476
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 2012 fiscal year, JJC would like to target students for internships in the fields of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education, Web Design and Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD). Grant funds will provide opportunities for 13 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
Kaskaskia College
27210 College Road
Centralia, IL 62801
(618) 545-3073
wblythe@kaskaskia.edu

Recommended Amount: \$8,900

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 CWS 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. Eight employers have agreed to offer opportunities for as many as ten students in the coming year.

The principal goals of Kaskaskia College's CWS 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 CWS 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

Project Director: Ms. Tina Moore
Director of Career Services
Lake Land College
5001 Lake Land Boulevard
Mattoon, IL 61938-9366
(217) 234-5346
tmoore@lakeland.cc.il.us

Recommended Amount: \$33,000

Project Synopsis: Lake Land College's Fiscal Year 2012 Cooperative Work Study Program 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 FY2012, 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, and Agriculture. Lake Land's Cooperative Work Study Program is strengthening our cooperation between higher education, business, industry and local government.

Five employers, including a local city government and a county highway department, have committed their participation for 2012. 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 Cooperative Work Study Program is designed to create new employers/college partnerships and to encourage many existing internship employers to join the Program. For FY2012, the five 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 FY12 Cooperative Work Study Program students should be successful in securing one that matches well with their need for applied learning relevant to their program of study.

Institution: Lewis and Clark Community College

Project Title: Lewis and Clark Community College ICWSP

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

Recommended Amount: \$20,000

Project Synopsis: Lewis and Clark Community College (LCCC), with the assistance of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, will place approximately 20 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 process operations technology/production, nursing, CAD/drafting, biologic lab technician, computer technology, graphics and networking, paralegal, office technology, accounting and green constructions and agricultural restoration. Employers included in the partnerships are: Jersey County Supervisor of Assessments, Ameren, Carlinville Hospital, Jersey Community Hospital, Center Ethanol, Cope Plastics, Abengoa Energy, Solutia, Inc., Simmons Law, Terminal Railroad, Madison County Circuit Clerk, and Olin Corporation.

Institution: Lewis University

Project Title: Interntrak

Project Director: Ms. Chris Breier
Associate Director, Career Services
Lewis University
One University Parkway Unit #270
Romeoville, IL 60446
(815) 836-5675
breierch@lewisu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$14,110

Project Synopsis: Lewis University's Illinois Cooperative Work Study program, called Interntrak, complements the institution's formal internship program. Located in the southwestern suburbs of the Chicago metropolitan region, the University serves just over 6,400 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. Interntrak 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 South Peoria Street
Chicago, IL 60607
(312) 226-6294, ext. 234
carserv@lexingtoncollege.edu

Recommended Amount: \$14,750

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 promotable 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 of Career Development Services, Student 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: Institution: 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 three 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: Loyola University of Chicago

Project Title: Loyola University Chicago Paid Internship Program

Project Director: Dr. Patrick M. Green
Director, Experiential Learning
Center for Experiential Learning
Loyola University of Chicago
1032 West Sheridan Road
Loyola University Chicago
Chicago, IL 60660
(773) 508-3945
pgreen@luc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$29,050

Project Synopsis: Loyola University Chicago is situated in the major metropolitan area of Chicago and enrolls approximately 9,856 full-time undergraduate students. The university serves an increasingly diverse population of students with over 95 percent of all eligible students receiving financial assistance. Loyola University Chicago is a private, Jesuit university and the largest Catholic research institution in the nation. While rigorous programs of research and study are one hallmark of a Jesuit education, Loyola's mission of generating "knowledge in service of humanity" challenges students to learn broadly, think critically, serve generously, lead with integrity, and respect diversity with a common purpose of building a better society. In accord with this mission, students throughout Loyola University Chicago are encouraged to gain work related experiences in their field of study through academic internships through the university internship program. These field experiences provide opportunities for students to practice classroom learning in professional workplace settings.

Through funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant, Loyola University Chicago students will work with staff in these three Centers to obtain internships positions related to their academic studies and that are paid. The Loyola Paid Internship Program will enhance the academic program of the student, and diminish the financial reliance on loans and part-time jobs unrelated to academics. Additionally, funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant will enable the Loyola internship program to: (1) provide 35 opportunities for Illinois-based Loyola students to obtain paid internships as part of their academic course of study resulting in over \$80,000 wages earned and (2) enhance relationships with 20 current employer partners, while encouraging five new employer partners in non-profit, government, and business organizations through the incentive of 50 percent reimbursement to student intern salaries. This program aims to develop well-trained, new professionals, living and working in Illinois, fostering both economic growth and professional training within the state.

Institution: MacMurray College

Project Title: MacMurray Cooperative Program

Project Director: Ms. Laci Engelbrecht
Director of Financial Aid
MacMurray College
447 East College Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(217) 479-7043
laci.engelbrecht@mac.edu

Recommended Amount: \$8,750

Project Synopsis: The project Goals and Objectives are to: (1) provide a hands-on learning experience to students through internships with local businesses and organizations. The work experience will be paid practical experience related to their future profession; (2) assist students participating with the establishment of a professional network for future employment prospects in Jacksonville and surrounding areas following graduation; (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 prospective employees.

Institution: McHenry County College

Project Title: Building McHenry County's Future Workforce

Project Director: Mr. James Falco, Executive Dean
Education, Career and Technical Education
McHenry County College
8900 US Highway 14
Crystal Lake, IL 60012-2761
(815) 479-7728
jfalco@mchenry.edu

Recommended Amount: \$17,430

Project Synopsis: Through the McHenry County College's (MCC) internship program, students combine practical work experience with academic theory that helps foster critical-thinking, problem-solving, and professional skills. Currently, 10 fields of study ranging from education 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 helps 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 Education, Career and Technical Education and Health Sciences Divisions at MCC plans to place 21 students in local businesses, schools, and government entities through the use of Cooperative Work Study Program funding. Career and Technical Education faculty members from early business, personal fitness training, automotive and other departments will offer a paid internship to help offset the cost of tuition and avoid student loans. As a new component finalized in fiscal year 2012, MCC faculty and the financial aid office partner to offer paid internships to students proving evidence of financial need. Additionally, faculty members will recruit seven 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: Ms. Sharon T. Alpi
Coleman Foundation Professor in Entrepreneurship
Director, Center for Entrepreneurship,
Millikin University
1184 West Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522
(217) 424-6298
salpi@millikin.edu

Recommended Amount: \$13,020

Project Synopsis: Millikin University in Decatur requests continued funding from the FY2012 Illinois College Work-Study Program for the ninth year of the university's successful Entrepreneurship Internship Program. This grant will be matched by an institutional in-kind contribution of \$8,900 and by a site employer contribution totaling \$21,000. The university seeks to support 14 students at 14 sites in FY2012.

The Entrepreneurship Internship Program places qualified students with Decatur-area small-to-medium sized businesses and not-for-profit agencies that use entrepreneurial practices in their operations. Through carefully supervised internship experiences, participating students not only earn wages, thus reducing their reliance on student loans, but also complete learning goals and earn academic credit. Discipline-based campus faculty advisors coordinate each placement.

The goals and expected results of the program are multifaceted. Students apply their classroom learning to a professional setting; in addition, the mentoring relationship they develop with their supervisors immerses them in the many aspects of owning/directing a small enterprise in Illinois. They earn wages and academic credit and make valuable community connections. Supervisory sites gain competent, professional assistance and also have the opportunity to encourage student interns to consider a career as an Illinois entrepreneur. Faculty site supervisors use their role to help integrate entrepreneurial concepts into their teaching.

Again for the FY 2010 program, Millikin's assessment shows that the vast majority of former program participants that have completed their education have chosen homes and careers in the state of Illinois.

Institution: North Central College

Project Title: CareerLinc 2012

Project Director: Mr. Jeff Denard
Director, Career Development
North Central College
30 North Brainard Street
Naperville, IL 60540-5146
(630) 637-5142
jddenard@noctrl.edu

Recommended Amount: \$19,530

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 (ICWS) program 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 Cooperative Work Study Program FY2012

Project Director: Ms. Barbara Cosentino
Associate Director, Office of Career Services
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 North St. Louis Avenue, B-119
Chicago, IL 60515
(773) 442-4686
B-Cosentino@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 FY2012 are; Accounting, Business, Computer Science, Communications, Early Childhood Education, Human Services, Human Resources, Justice Studies, Liberal Arts, Marketing, Political Science, Public Relations, Social Work, and Special Education.

Specific commitments from 12 employers to hire 25 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 11 employers (55%) who have provided commitments for FY2012 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: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Cindy Henderson
Executive Director, Career Services
Northern Illinois University
Campus Life Building, 240
DeKalb, IL 60115-2860
(815) 753-4405
chenderson@niu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$42,220

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) 376-7165
alaurenc@oakton.edu

Recommended Amount: \$35,600

Project Synopsis: Since 2000, Oakton Community College's Internship Program, funded by the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, has provided 350 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 on average \$10 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.

In FY2012, Oakton's Internship Program proposes to place 40 students into paid internships. In addition, Oakton will recruit at least 15 new employers into the program and work with 30 existing partner companies, with emphasis on the accounting, 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 these 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 Schleppenbach
Professor of Communication
Quincy University
1800 College Avenue
Quincy, IL 62301-2699
(217) 228-5432, ext. 3156
jschlepp@quincy.edu

Recommended Amount: \$35,000

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

Twenty-one organizations have agreed to provide a 50 percent match for student wages for 30-35 interns based on an average rate of \$9.00 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, graphic design, and entrepreneurship.

Institution: Rend Lake College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

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

Recommended Amount: \$23,140

Project Synopsis: Rend Lake College requests continued funding in 2012 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program grant funds for the purpose of providing cooperative education work experience opportunities for 26 students. Each student's work experience will be directly linked to their individual academic program. Ten 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 2012 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 major 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: Cooperative Work Study Program 2012 for Richland CC

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

Recommended Amount: \$20,000

Project Synopsis: Richland Community College will provide a Cooperative Work Study Program for approximately 18 students during the 2012-2013 grant year. The work study placements will occur in but is not limited to the following fields: Education, Information Technology (IT), Engineering Technology, Business and Agribusiness, 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 courses in their discipline as well as work with employers to ensure 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
VP for Institutional Advancement
Rockford College
5050 East State Street
Rockford, IL 61108-2393
(815) 226-3371
bsundstedt@rockford.edu

Recommended Amount: \$14,940

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 2012 Grant Proposal

Project Director: Mr. Christopher J. Willis
Assistant Director, Employer Relations & Internships
Office of Career Development
Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Avenue, AUD 470
Chicago, IL 60605
(312) 341-3674
cwillis@roosevelt.edu

Recommended Amount: \$22,250

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 twelve cooperative education and internship students. Students from the five schools – 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 fields of study. This field related training will assist students in making the connection between the theories that are being introduced in the classroom with real work experiences. The experiences students will gain 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 assist in funding their education and completing their degrees. 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: Cooperative Workstudy Grant

Project Director: Mrs. Leslie Cornelious-Weldon
Career Services Coordinator
Shawnee Community College
8364 Shawnee College Road
Ullin, IL 62976-9725
(618) 634-3337
lesliec@shawneecc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$18,000

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 2012

Project Director: Ms. Diane Frew
Administrative Aide, Career Services
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
900 South Normal Avenue, MC 4703
Carbondale, IL 62901-4703
(618) 453-1030
dianef@siu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$14,450

Project Synopsis: Participation in the program will allow Southern Illinois University Carbondale 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 field of study. The experiential learning will contribute toward the retention and graduation of participating students by confirming career goals, enhancing work skills, and providing real world experience.

The internship positions will be designed and mutually agreed upon by students, faculty and employer representatives and will relate to the participating students' majors.

Institution: Southwestern Illinois College

Project Title: FY 2012 - 2013 Illinois Work Study Grant

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: \$16,000

Project Synopsis: The 15 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 ten program areas, 14 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 15 internships are credit-bearing internships. Ten internships in the private sector with a partial funding match: one Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration intern 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; two Culinary Arts internships will be offered allowing the students to apply classroom theories to actual situations; and two 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 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: Saint Xavier University

Project Title: Saint Xavier University ICWS Internship Program

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

Recommended Amount: \$9,250

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 15 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. Five 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 2010 SXU Graduate Survey, of the respondents employed, 98 percent accepted positions in Illinois.

Institution: Trinity Christian College

Project Title: Trinity@Work

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

Recommended Amount: \$14,940

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 18 placements with five employers in a 60/40 grant/employer match. Internships are determined by student and community needs in special education, psychology, social work, environmental management and preservation, marketing and 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: Right Path Right Now, Triton College Work-Study Program

Project Director: Dr. Sherry Burlingame
Director, Grants Development
Triton College
2000 Fifth Avenue
River Grove, IL 60171-1995
(708) 456-0300, ext. 3074
sburling@triton.edu

Recommended Amount: \$20,470

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 college offers outstanding educational values in a dynamic environment and provides high-quality career-oriented learning opportunities, including a robust and growing cooperative work study program. The goal of this grant is to create 23 cooperative work study opportunities for currently enrolled, 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. In addition, another important goal of this program is to help generate new work opportunities in high-growth, high-demand industries and occupations. In the Triton District, besides the Hospitality and health care sectors, other high-growth industries include business and manufacturing.

With this grant, Triton can establish new relationships with local employers, especially manufacturing and business employers, who would not traditionally offer cooperative work study experiences for students with less than sixty 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, which provide rich opportunities. Employers targeted include local industry, small businesses, and even non-profits. This represents an expansion of our cooperative work-study program into new economic sectors and to new student groups.

Institution: University of Illinois at Chicago

Project Title: UIC Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Judith K. De Jong
Assistant Professor, School of Architecture
University of Illinois at Chicago
845 West Harrison Street (MC030)
Architecture and the Arts Building, Room 3100
Chicago, IL 60607
(773) 710-1225
jdejong@uic.edu

Recommended Amount: \$14,460

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 professional work experiences that 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 their professional skills, including analytical thinking and reasoning, and strong interpersonal communication

The benefits of the UIC Cooperative Work Study Program include: 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: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program - UIUC

Project Director: Dr. Gail S. Rooney
Director, The Career Center
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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Recommended Amount: \$26,040

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. Over 91 percent of employers indicate that work experience is a factor when making hiring decisions (National Association of Colleges and Employers, Job Outlook, 2012 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: WCC Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (FY 2012)

Project Director: Ms. Teri Cullen
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Recommended Amount: \$15,000

Project Synopsis: Waubonsee Community College’s internship program is designed to complement students’ educational experiences with work experiences directly related to their fields of study. Currently, 15 fields ranging from art to criminal justice, allow students to earn up to six semester hours toward degrees or certificates, and each field has a full-time instructor designated as a faculty advisor.

The college’s internship program, coordinated by its Career Services Center, has grown since first participating in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program in FY2007, 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 under the guidance of faculty advisors and workplace supervisors. As a direct result, ideal opportunities to improve academic curricula and stay current with regard to partnering employers’ needs are provided.

The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program has been integral to the college’s internship program’s growth despite the current recession, which has affected numerous residents within its district. Its numbers of student placements and participating employers continue to increase steadily, and funding in FY2012 will help sustain this positive trend in a negative economic environment.