

**ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2013 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 \$1,114,500, a reduction of 9.4 percent from last year, to 54 projects at colleges and universities. Since FY2009, the ICWS program has been cut by 46 percent. In FY2013, only 56 percent or \$1.1 million of the \$1.96 million requested funds can be awarded, thus reducing the number of internships that can be offered to students at Illinois colleges and universities.

The 54 projects recommended in this item will support academically related work experiences for a projected 1,435 students at 670 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.

The ICWS program continues to demonstrate good results. According to interim evaluation reports for the 2010-2011 school year, **70 percent** of the students participating in the work study program who were seeking permanent employment in Illinois were hired for permanent employment.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves Fiscal Year 2013 awards totaling \$1,114,500 for Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grants as detailed in Table 1 of this item.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2013 GRANT ALLOCATION**

Background

This item presents recommendations for the fiscal year 2013 allocation of \$1,114,500 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 2010-2011 school year, **70 percent** of the students participating in the work study program who were seeking permanent employment in Illinois were hired for permanent employment.

Review Criteria

The 54 college work study proposals recommended in this item were selected from a pool of 54 applicants requesting \$1.9 million in funding. The recommended projects will support a projected 1,435 students at 670 businesses and not-for-profit organizations. Each proposal was reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the following criteria as presented in the fiscal year 2013 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 define 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.

Impact of Budget Cuts

Since FY2009, the ICWS program has been cut by 46%. In FY2013, only 56% or \$1.1 million of the \$1.96 requested funds can be awarded, thus reducing the number of internships that can be offered to students at Illinois colleges and universities.

Recommendations

Attached are the fiscal year 2013 recommendations for 54 grants totaling \$1,114,500 that will assist an estimated 1,435 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 2013 ICWS recommended projects.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves Fiscal year 2013 awards totaling \$1,114,500 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					
FY2013 Recommended Allocation					
			FY2012	FY2013	FY2013
		Students	Award	Request	Award
Item #	Institution	Served	Amount	Amount	Amount
1	Augustana College	42	\$ 40,050	\$ 50,000	\$ 36,462
2	Blackburn College	10	9,750	16,160	7,748
3	Bradley University	49	45,600	48,500	46,241
4	CCC - Harold Washington College	15	16,600	25,000	11,843
5	CCC - Wilbur Wright College	12	9,720	13,200	9,297
6	Chicago State University	11	10,130	49,000	9,522
7	College of Lake County	26	27,590	50,000	21,601
8	College of DuPage	25	22,250	50,000	20,770
9	Concordia University	45	34,650	50,000	32,166
10	Danville Area Community College	10	9,920	27,520	9,335
11	DeVry University-Illinois	30	24,300	50,000	21,244
12	Dominican University	48	45,600	50,000	44,808
13	Eastern Illinois University	45	45,600	50,000	42,007
14	East-West University	42	32,850	39,801	28,041
15	Elgin Community College	8	8,510	50,000	7,101
16	Elmhurst College	39	36,270	50,000	33,858
17	Governors State University	33	24,320	50,000	28,649
18	Greenville College	30	30,360	49,997	26,544
19	Heartland Community College	10	9,960	10,045	8,308
20	Illinois College	27	21,830	21,830	21,830
21	Illinois Eastern - Lincoln Trail	14	16,910	50,000	12,673
22	Illinois Institute of Technology	22	0	48,600	18,277
23	Illinois State University	45	45,600	50,000	42,007
24	Illinois Wesleyan University	30	32,000	32,000	30,005
25	John A. Logan College	24	18,000	36,000	16,803
26	John Wood Community College	30	25,810	34,728	24,924
27	Joliet Junior College	19	13,800	50,000	13,800
28	Kaskaskia College	10	8,900	16,015	8,681
29	Lake Land College	26	33,000	50,000	25,572
30	Lewis & Clark Community College	21	20,000	30,000	19,603
31	Lewis University	12	14,110	15,500	9,969
32	Lexington College	28	14,750	27,975	13,603
33	Lincoln Land Community College	24	21,000	21,000	20,835
34	MacMurray College	13	8750	11,660	8,101
35	McHenry County College	18	17,430	25,800	13,946
36	Millikin University	16	13,020	25,500	12,890
37	North Central College	18	19,530	31,000	18,803
38	Northeastern Illinois University	30	30,720	41,960	28,005

Table 1 (continued)					
Illinois Board of Higher Education					
Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program					
FY2013 Recommended Allocation					
			FY2012	FY2013	FY2013
		Students	Award	Request	Award
<u>Item #</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Served</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Amount</u>
39	Northern Illinois University	45	\$ 42,220	\$ 50,000	\$ 39,066
40	Oakton Community College	35	35,600	50,000	30,385
41	Quincy University	35	35,000	35,000	33,172
42	Rend Lake College	26	23,140	35,000	21,601
43	Richland Community College	20	20,000	25,000	18,670
44	Roosevelt University	25	22,250	22,250	21,703
45	Shawnee Community College	19	18,000	47,924	18,236
46	South Suburban College ¹	6	0	6,000	4,648
47	Southern Illinois University Carbondale	15	14,450	50,000	12,622
48	Southwestern Illinois College	16	16,000	20,575	14,936
49	St. Xavier University	18	9,250	30,600	10,202
50	Trinity Christian College	17	14,940	39,888	13,171
51	Triton College	24	20,470	50,000	20,239
52	U of I at Chicago	11	14,460	23,000	11,138
53	U of I at Urbana/Champaign	25	26,040	50,000	24,837
54	Waubensee Community College	20	15,000	21,760	14,002
	TOTALS:	1,314	\$1,186,010	\$1,955,788	\$1,114,500
Institution did not submit an application in FY2012 ¹					

Institution: Augustana College

Project Title: Augustana College Emerging Professionals Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Johnna Adam
Director, Internships & Careers Office
Augustana College
639 38th Street
Community Engagement Center
Rock Island, IL 61201
(309) 757-3097
JohnnaAdam@augustana.edu

Recommended Amount: \$36,462

Project Synopsis: The past two years have been exciting for the internship program at Augustana College (Augustana). Through a strong commitment to experiential education, Augustana grew its internship program by over 200 percent during the period. This growth was made possible in part by the internship grant funds received from Illinois Board of Higher Education's (IBHE) Cooperative Work Study program which funded Augustana's Emerging Professionals Internship Program. This program makes internships a viable possibility for our economically challenged students. With the 2011 grant of approximately \$31,000, we funded 18 internships at nine community partners. To date with the 2012 grant of approximately \$40,000, we have funded 29 interns at 11 community partners. With the increase in funding requested from the IBHE for 2013-14, we propose to fund 42 internships with up to 16 community partners. The award will provide comprehensive 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, completing projects 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 Internships & Careers Office as well as by a member of faculty. Interns are required to complete reflective assignments, in which they discuss the value of the internship work, from the perspective of their personal growth and the benefits to our community. At the end of the grant period, interns are 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, private 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 Professionals interns the opportunity to earn over \$100,000 in wages to offset the costs of college and be less dependent on student loans for 42 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
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Carlinville, IL 62626
(217) 854-3231, ext. 4291
rfent@blackburn.edu

Recommended Amount: \$7,748

Project Synopsis: The primary goals of the Blackburn 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 academic study and/or possible career paths; (2) increased opportunities for students to earn additional income toward meeting educational expenses, and therefore less reliance on loans; and (3) additional opportunities for educational partnerships between the college and area business, education, government and social service agencies.

Institution: Bradley University

Project Title: Fiscal Year 2013 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Dawn M. Koeltzow
Interim Director, Springer Center for Excellence in Internships
Smith Career Center/Bradley University
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Peoria, IL 61625
(309) 677-2510
Dkoeltzow@bradley.edu

Recommended Amount: \$46,241

Project Synopsis: The proposed Bradley University Fiscal Year 2013 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 2013 Work Study Program will support a total of 53 Co-op/Internship placements for Bradley University students. These outstanding opportunities—with Illinois employers—will benefit students academically, professionally, and financially. Students will complement their academic programs by gaining invaluable, career-related work experience, establish networking contacts, and become more familiar with full-time career options in Illinois. Bradley's post-destination Graduate Report will track the success of graduates accepting employment in Illinois. Bradley students will have opportunities to earn \$97,000 in wages, enabling them to offset the cost of college expenses and to be less dependent on loans. 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-five Illinois employers have submitted letters of intent indicating their interest in offering career-related opportunities to students in various academic programs. The proposed budget will maximize the use of matching contributions from these employers. Work experiences will be reviewed by faculty/career advisors to ensure that placements are linked to students' academic progress.

Institution: CCC - Harold Washington College

Project Title: HWC-COOP Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Kim M. Bowens
Project Coordinator, Career Planning and Placement
Harold Washington College
30 East Lake Street, Room 1136
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 553-5666
kbowens3@ccc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$11,843

Project Synopsis: Harold Washington College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago, is requesting funding to continue the fiscal year 2013 HWC COOP Internship Program. The program will benefit students academically and financially by participating in a work based learning opportunity. 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 COOP 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, 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 COOP 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: CNC Internships for High-Demand Advanced Manufacturing Jobs

Project Director: Ms. Madeline Roman-Vargas
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Wilbur Wright College
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Recommended Amount: \$9,297

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) program. HPVEC's CNC program is one of only three programs in the state that has achieved National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) accreditation.

The CNC enrollment has skyrocketed from 33 students last year to 74 students this year. The program addresses community workforce and economic development needs and the mismatch between available jobs in advanced manufacturing and the skills of local job seekers. The CNC program provides 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 students with limited work histories.

Project Goals include:

- Providing students with supported work study experiences in advanced manufacturing 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 12 students from the CNC program into cooperative internships using employer matching contributions to the maximum extent possible;
2. Refining a career development course integrated into the CNC program to prepare at least 12 disadvantaged students for internships;
3. Continuing 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. Continuing 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.

The HPVEC programs are developed in partnership with local employers who are members of HPVEC's Committee of Business Partners (CBP). They assist in all aspects of curriculum development, program design, exit competency testing and continuous improvement. The HPVEC's continuous outreach and engagement with private sector has recently resulted in the award of a new Computerized Numeric Control machine to our CNC program by Hyundai automotive. It will be delivered in February 2013.

The evaluation plan for the project is based on research on Cooperative Education (Cates & Cedercreutz, 2008) funded by the U.S. Dept. of Education under the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education Program. The evaluation facilitates evidence-based curricular reform for cooperative education projects using employer feedback.

Institution: Chicago State University

Project Title: Chicago State University 2013 ICWS Program

Project Director: Ms. Renee D. Mitchell
Director, Human Resources and Career Development
Chicago State University
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Chicago, IL 60422
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rmitch26@csu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$9,522

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 Lake County

Project Title: College of Lake County Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Sylvia M. Johnson
Executive Director, Career and Placement Services
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Recommended Amount: \$21,601

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 at least 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, health and physical sciences, and business;
- Encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois; and
- Provide students with relevant work experience for current and future jobs.

The program will supplement the college's existing Cooperative Education Program, which has provided work-study experiences for many students for more than 25 years. Eligible students will be matched with appropriate businesses, based on interviews and academic considerations, and work with an assigned faculty sponsor as a mentor. The mentors have master's degrees and are experts in their fields; they will measure specific work-related objectives and outcomes for students in the workplace. The college will provide ongoing evaluation and track student job placement to ensure that the objectives of the Cooperative Work Study Program are met.

Institution: College of DuPage

Project Title: College of DuPage Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms Dominique Steward
Grants Coordinator, Grants Office
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Boulevard
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 942-3021
steward@cod.edu

Recommended Amount: \$20,770

Project Synopsis: The College of DuPage (COD) in Glen Ellyn, proposes the creation of cooperative work-study positions for a minimum of 26 students in the Physical Sciences, Computer/Information, Manufacturing and Horticulture 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.

Seven established employer-partners have committed to hire, supervise, and evaluate COD students from the following programs: Physical Sciences, Computer/Information, Manufacturing, and Horticulture. 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 26 students will complete cooperative work-study experiences; (2) an estimated seven 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) one hundred 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) one hundred 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, and 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: 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: \$32,166

Project Synopsis: Concordia University Chicago is seeking to partially support internship opportunities for as many as 65 students. Student participation will come largely from the School of Education, as well as the College of Business and College of Health Sciences. These majors represent labor shortages and still healthy career outlook possibilities. The primary focus is on Early Childhood and Primary level opportunities. We also are addressing a significant need of Health Care and Exercise Science majors as well as business management. The program at Concordia University is designed to promote and encourage Illinois residents to develop an active learning relationship in their chosen industry. The program also has enabled students to pursue opportunities with private entities, government and non profit agencies, with the ultimate goal of finding full and meaningful employment.

This practical experience supports our ultimate goal of securing full and meaningful employment. Taking part in this grant allows institutions with limited resources to serve students more fully, which is not easily accomplished at a small private institution. We provide the student with unlimited access to a wide variety of learning experiences and professional networking opportunities. This access is due largely to the existence of the grant and would not really happen without it. This incentive has the largest effect obviously at smaller institutions like ours. The generous support of the State allows faculty and staff here at Concordia to better educate and prepare our students in their overall career search process. We have begun to establish 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 meaningful employment, combining current shortages and future growth projections. We are not going to use limited State funds on majors in areas with dismal opportunities, focusing instead on those with a positive growth in employment outlook. As a result of the 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 has fueled creation of programs and systems tailored to serve our students better. We are now better equipped to proactively address employment related issues in the context of student development. Participation in this program has improved our students ability to integrate classroom knowledge and practical workplace 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: Ms. Carla M. Boyd
Director, Career and Employment Services
Danville Area Community College
2000 East Main Street
Danville, IL 61832
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cboyd@dacc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$9,335

Project Synopsis: Vermilion County continues to experience signs of economic growth throughout the community. Economic development continues to attract new businesses to the area. Current employers are increasing their current workforce. In an effort to address the local workforce needs, Danville Area Community College's SHARE project will partner with local businesses to provide hands-on training for students. Through SHARE project funding, students who are Illinois residents with an interest in hands-on learning and a desire to work in the community will have the opportunity to gain valuable work experience at a local business.

Fiscal Year 2013 project goals include: (1) expand internship opportunities for students by creating, promoting, and strengthening partnerships between higher education, business, industry, and governmental agencies; (2) enhance student academic performance and retention by matching students with employment opportunities in their chosen career; (3) increase student awareness of local employment opportunities thus encouraging students to seek jobs within the State while making them 'labor-ready'; and (4) increase students' overall earning potential while decreasing student loan dependency. To participate in the program, students are referred by Faculty/Staff and Employers. Students are placed with businesses 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, which in turn increase the likelihood of degree/certificate completion. The SHARE program funding helps provide the vital link between businesses in Vermilion County and Danville Area Community College students.

Institution: DeVry University-Illinois

Project Title: FY 2013 ICWS

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: \$21,244

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. Objectives of the program are as to: (1) increase the retention and marketability of business and technology students by providing relevant, real-world experience in business and industry; (2) reduce the students' reliance on loans by providing a source of financial aid through paid education-related work experience; (3) promote future full-time employment opportunities within Illinois via strong cooperative education relationships with business, industry and local government; and (4) expand this successful program to DeVry University's West and South Suburban Campuses, thereby increasing the student and employer participation.

Institution: Dominican University

Project Title: CareerNet2013

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

Recommended Amount: \$44,808

Project Synopsis: This year marks the 19th 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 civic engagement and service learning, 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 and practical experience outside of the traditional classroom. 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: \$42,007

Project Synopsis: Through the use of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study program instituted by the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Eastern Illinois University will be able to enhance the work readiness skills and employability of its Illinois residency students. This grant offered to students is 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.

Representing a variety of industries throughout the State of Illinois, employers 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 and professional development; build relevant 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 a work study student 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: V.O.I.C.E.

Project Director: Ms. Lori L. Grove
Grants Specialist, Development and University Relations
East-West University
816 South Michigan
Chicago, IL 60605
(312) 939-0111, ext. 1817
lori@eastwest.edu

Recommended Amount: \$28,041

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 local businesses, community organizations, city government offices, and cultural institutions with 53 students who will have the opportunity for professional work experience through ICWS funds in the fiscal year 2013 grant period.

East-West University will partner with at least 16 employers in Chicagoland to provide students with valuable industry experience while attending college. Goals of the program include:

- Increased opportunities for full-time employment in Illinois;
- Increased student awareness of job skills needed to compete in today's global, competitive workplace;
- Increased workplace preparation skills, leading to a greater opportunity for full-time employment upon graduation;
- Improved university-community relationships;
- Increased involvement and service to the community for current college students; and
- Exposure of disadvantaged and first generation college students to the professional world of work.

Institution: Elgin Community College

Project Title: ECC Career Connect

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

Recommended Amount: \$7,101

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 student's majoring in all of Elgin Community College's career and transfer programs. Work-study opportunities support and enhance the classroom experience. Through work-study experiences, students are supported and encouraged to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation.

In addition, Elgin Community College, through participation in the 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, Center for Professional Excellence
Elmhurst College
190 Prospect Avenue
Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 617-6457
hollyc@elmhurst.edu

Recommended Amount: \$33,858

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 21 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 Grant

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

Recommended Amount: \$28,649

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 2013 Illinois College Work Study Program are to:

- Provide 33 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, health sciences, and public relations/media.
- Facilitate a learning experience directly related to the students' academic curriculum/discipline by assisting them in job placement at a company or organization where they will gain work experience within their profession and have the opportunity to develop professional work habits, work ethics, skills, and professional attitude and dress. The integration of academic requirements and work experience will help students to develop an awareness of job tasks and duties associated with their academic major.
- Develop partnerships with companies to promote community service and instill in students a sense of community. Paid internships will reduce reliance on financial aid/loans and encourage students to work in areas related to their academic majors.
- Incorporate current job trends reflective of the work environment through internship opportunities, cooperative programs, and/or clinical placements within public/private industry and government.

Institution: Greenville College

Project Title: FY 2013 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

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

Recommended Amount: \$26,544

Project Synopsis: Greenville College is requesting funds for our nineteenth year of funding to continue the IBHE Cooperative Work Study Program for undergraduate students. The co-op program operates independently from other campus employment opportunities and student work study programs. Below are the goals and objectives of the co-op work study program.

- Enhance student' academic experiences by providing opportunities for students to directly apply their academic learning experiences to real work situations;
- Develop employer partnerships with not-for-profit organizations which provide social and community services;
- Encourage students to obtain permanent employment in the state of Illinois; and
- 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 grand funds and are paid by submitting a timecard to the Associate Dean for Leadership & Life Calling or designee, signed by the on-site supervisor. 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 wider variety of organizations and agencies by providing qualified student workers who possess genuine interest in serving their communities throughout the state.

Institution: Heartland Community College

Project Title: Heartland Community College Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Sara L. Baker
Coordinator of Career Services
Heartland Community College
1500 West Raab Road
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 268-8035
sara.baker@heartland.edu

Recommended Amount: \$8,308

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

During the 2013 grant period, the HCC Internship Program proposes to partner with five internship sponsors to provide eight 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 and Fine Arts, Digital Media, Science/Math, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Technology. A majority of the internships are anticipated to be in Technology and Digital Media.

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: Ms. Susie K. Drake
Director, Office of 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, is a four-year, private institution committed to the highest standards of scholarship and integrity in the liberal arts. Illinois College (IC) will utilize \$21,830 in grant funds for its IC Explorers program. Twenty-seven students will be awarded paid internships (clinical placements and cooperative work study positions) sponsored by ten employers in state government, private enterprise, health-related higher education and the non-profit sector. The IC Explorers internships encourage students to think critically, solve problems through teamwork, conduct independent research, develop an understanding of workplace dynamics, and prepare for fulfilling lives of leadership and service.

The application process for IC Explorers internships is highly competitive because students understand how important the internship can be to their future. The IC Explorers internships are valued by future employers and graduate schools for being academically rigorous and for connecting the interns' education with real-world workplace experience. Internships provide a stipend to reduce students' reliance on student loans, as well as free housing and free tuition credit, with direct supervision by faculty members and Career Services staff. In all, each internship is valued at more than \$6,000. Therefore, the grant will be matched by employer cash contributions (\$46,385) as well as institutional cash and in-kind support provided by the College (\$101,463).

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

Institution: Illinois Eastern - Lincoln Trail

Project Title: Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program

Project Director: Mr. Chris Teague
Lead Instructor, Telecom/Telecommunications Training
Illinois Eastern - Lincoln Trail
233 East Chestnut Street
Olney, IL 62450-5707
(618) 544-8252, ext. 1926
teaguec@iecc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$12,673

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. Over 25 cooperating employers have participated in IECC's Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program over the past nine summers and we have received 12 letters of intent from cooperating employers who are interested in participating during fiscal year 2013 and who are committed to this very worthwhile program next summer.

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

Institution: Illinois Institute of Technology

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program at IIT's University Technology

Project Director: Mr. Robert J. Lapointe
Deputy Director, Sponsored Research and Programs
Illinois Institute of Technology
10 West 35th Street
IIT Tower 7th Floor (STE 7D7-1)
Chicago, IL 60616-3717
(312) 567-7135
lapointe@iit.edu

Recommended Amount: \$18,277

Project Synopsis: The Illinois Institute of Technology is a private Ph.D. granting university with over 7,700 students studying engineering, science, architecture, business, math, and liberal arts. If Illinois Tech is selected to take part in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study program we will provide students with opportunities and unprecedented access to science and technology companies located in our state-of-the-art University Technology Park (UTP). There are 29 companies and 13 academic centers located on campus in the University Technology Park (UTP). Illinois Tech's top biomedical and engineering faculty members have labs in the UTP; they are hiring students and doing research that has led to innovations and successful startup businesses.

Our goal is two-fold. We will financially support Illinois resident undergraduate students while enriching their overall academic experience and we will support Illinois based businesses located in the UTP by providing outstanding student workers. We propose that the Cooperative Work Study program be administered by the Idea Shop. Located in the UTP, the Idea Shop is a 13,000 square foot innovation center that houses a rapid prototyping lab and a collaborative learning center. In the Idea Shop students are provided with the resources needed to bring ideas to life and to launch entrepreneurial endeavors. In addition to administering a co-op program that gives students the opportunity to work with companies in the UTP, the Idea Shop is also uniquely situated to hire student workers and help them learn skills in the high demand fields of application development and 3D fabrication/rapid prototyping. The Idea Shop could serve as a central starting point for students looking to gain real world experience by working for one of the companies or labs located in the UTP.

The Idea Shop will be able to help students reduce their reliance on student loans by working closely with the Illinois Tech director of financial aid and the office of institutional research. At Illinois Tech we have systems in place that allows us to identify and reach out to Illinois resident undergraduate students who have financial aid packages. We would use the co-op funds to set up 12-week internship experiences with students working up to 20 hours a week. 50 percent of the cost would be covered by the business or center and 50 percent of the cost would be covered by the Illinois Cooperative Work Study grant. For testimonials and more information on the Idea Shop's role in the UTP please visit:

http://www.universitytechnologypark.com/student_work_force.shtml.

Institution: Illinois State University

Project Title: ICWSP Grant - Fiscal Year 2013

Project Director: Mrs Pamela Jean Cooper
Assistant Director, Professional Practice & Employer Relations,
Career Center
Illinois State University
Campus Box 3040
Normal, IL 61790-3040
(309) 438-3245
pjcoope@ilstu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$42,007

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. Carlo S. Robustelli
Director of Grants and Foundation Relations
Illinois Wesleyan University
1312 Park Street
Bloomington, IL 61702
(309)556-3085
crobuste@iwu.edu; diekhoff@iwu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$30,005

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 find an entry into the work force, but work-study internships also help students meet their educational expenses. Additionally, our program sets out to encourage and facilitate the permanent employment of IWU students in Illinois, ultimately keeping many of our bright and well-prepared young adults in our state.

Given the growing cost of higher education and the competitive job market, we have seen more and more of our students gravitate toward internship positions that will both give them work experience they seek and help them pay their educational bills. In fact, over the past six years we have experienced a 53 percent increase in the number of students participating in internships. The demand for internship opportunities by our students and our community partners rises annually. The unfortunate offshoot of the financial pressures students face is that positions with social agencies and nonprofit organizations—positions that have as much (if not more) to offer students in the way of practical and professional experience—can too often go unfilled. To address these needs, the IWU ICWS program seeks not only to create more opportunities for students to link their course-work with their internship opportunities, and in so doing to ease the financial burden imposed by tuition and student loans, but also to encourage social and community service on the part of our students, thus making them better citizens by helping to make it financially possible for students to accept internship positions with nonprofit organizations and social service agencies unable to offer competitive wages on their own.

Bridging the community and university is of strategic importance at Illinois Wesleyan University. Over the years our incoming students arrive on campus wanting experience working in the “real world,” and more and more of these students are focusing their attention on using their talent and skills to address economic and community building projects. Our goal is to provide opportunities for our students to develop connections with the local community, and our program focuses on such efforts. We believe expanding the “classroom” to include “off-campus learning” is a valuable component of the undergraduate experience. However, our interests are not merely academic, as we have seen the incredible impact our students can make in the community when we combine resources, talent, and time.

We value our strong connection and partnership with the IBHE, as we share a mutual interest in creating a highly educated and talented workforce that supports the State of Illinois.

Institution: John A. Logan College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

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: \$16,803

Project Synopsis: The John A. Logan College Fiscal Year 2013 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will use grant funds to encourage new and established employers to provide work experiences for John A. Logan College students. Students will have the opportunity to integrate classroom studies with learning through work experiences in the field related to the students' career goals. Eighteen southern Illinois employers will submit letters of intent to provide Education/Internship opportunities for students who are Illinois residents.

The goals of the project are to enable approximately 30 students to pursue career-related work experience, create new opportunities and strengthen existing relationships between John A. Logan College and participating organizations. It is further hoped that the grant will 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, are enrolled in a program related to the work experience 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: FY013 IL Cooperative Work Study Program at JWCC

Project Director: Ms. Marcia L. 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: \$24,924

Project Synopsis: The goal of the John Wood Community College-Illinois Higher Education Cooperative Work Study Grant program is to provide a workforce education link between classroom studies and actual on-the-job work experience in a manner that advances the student's education and provides our community businesses with a stronger, more knowledgeable workforce. Salaries for internships established through the program are partially funded by the grant, helping employers save a bit of money while they train the student. Internships take place in careers areas such as culinary arts, agriculture and early childhood education. New internships are developed as local business need and student's interest dictate.

The program also provides students with financial benefits that are coordinated with other college financial aid opportunities. The program heightens self-esteem of participants because they can take an active role in financing their education by means of utilizing and enhancing skills in their chosen field of study.

Because this workforce education program takes place within the local business community it strengthens the local economy by assuring businesses can train and retain quality employees to provide a superior product to its customers. Participants in the program are introduced to workforce opportunities within the communities in which they live and businesses are introduced to new employees interested in their business field.

Institution: Joliet Junior College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study

Project Director: Ms. Bridgett Larkin-Beene
Director of Career Services
Joliet Junior College
1215 Houbolt Road
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 Center 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 fiscal year 2013, JJC would like to target students for internships in the fields of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education, Construction, Web Design, Business, Computer/Information and Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD). Grant funds will provide opportunities for nineteen 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 62801-9285
(618) 545-3073
wblythe@kaskaskia.edu

Recommended Amount: \$8,681

Project Synopsis: Kaskaskia College's Work Study (CWS) Partnership program provides financial assistance that benefits students academically, reduces their reliance upon loans to fulfill their educational 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 assists district employers in defraying the cost of recruiting the training qualified individuals for employment. Six employers have agreed to offer opportunities for as many as 10 students in the coming year.

The principal goal 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 businesses, 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: FY13 Lake Land College Cooperative Work Study Grant

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: \$25,572

Project Synopsis: Lake Land College's Fiscal Year 2013 Cooperative Work Study Program (CWSP) will provide opportunities for pre-baccalaureate and technical program students to pursue paid work experience related to their academic majors. The College's long-term goal is to provide cooperative education employment to all qualified students who desire it. In fiscal year 2013, a participation level of approximately 26 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 CWSP is strengthening collaboration between higher education, business, industry, and local government. Eight employers, including a local school district and two county highway departments, have committed their participation for 2013. 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 at least 50 percent of students' wages. Students are required to complete three learning objectives and to research Illinois job opportunities in their career field.

Lake Land understands the CWSP is designed to create new employers/college partnerships and to encourage many existing internship employers to join the CWSP. For fiscal year 2013, the eight participating employers expressed interest in placing a total of 65 interns; however, the maximum funding available to the project will support approximately 26 paid internships. With a greater number of potential positions available, these 26 CWSP students should be successful in securing an internship 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 C. Bunjan
Manager, Career Services, Career and Employment Services
Lewis & Clark Community College
5800 Godfrey Road
2418 Baldwin
Godfrey, IL 62035-2466
(618) 468-5500
abunjan@lc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$19,603

Project Synopsis: Lewis and Clark Community College (L&C), with the assistance of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, will place approximately 24 students from career fields in cooperative/internship/field experiences in order to achieve the following objectives: (1) to strengthen L&C's career programs through enhanced guided practical experiences in the field; (2) to respond to the workforce needs of the wider community of southwest Illinois through experientially strengthened career programs in high-demand, high paying fields; and (3) to improve the preparation of its students in career fields through meaningful, guided practical experiences in their fields. Career fields to be included in these placements are: Nursing, Engineering Technology-GIS, Process Operations Technology-oil and chemical refining, Business, Drafting/CAD, Office Technology, Paralegal, Exercise Science, and Computer Information Technology. Restorative Ecology and Environmental Lab Technician are new, emerging areas that are also being targeted to place students finishing in L&C's newer "green" programs. Employers included in partnerships are: Carlinville Area Hospital, Jersey Community Hospital, Madison County Circuit Clerk's Office, Jersey County Code Administration, Perica and Hepler Broom Law Firms, ReMax Express Realty, D&R Machine, Metro Sports and Senior Services Plus, Hanley Industries, and Solutia.

Institution: Lewis University

Project Title: Intertrak: Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Kristi Kelly
Director, Career Services
Lewis University
One University Parkway
Romeoville, IL 60446-2298
(815) 836-5332
kellykj@lewisu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$9.969

Project Synopsis: The Lewis University's Illinois Cooperative Work Study program called Intertrak complements the institution's formal internship program. Located in the southwestern suburbs of the Chicago metropolitan region, the University serves just over 6,500 students, the largest enrollment in University history. At Lewis University, 84 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. During the previous year, the average amount earned per hour was \$11.44 per hour. This varies slightly from year to year. Students are employed within the areas accounting, environmental science, human resources, print journalism, music merchandising, and sport management.

Students, employers, and University faculty and staff report positive benefits from the program in aligning subject-area coursework with applied work experience. Intertrak provides a valuable resource that enhances success in academic programs, reduces reliance on loans, and strongly encourages students to remain with Illinois-based employers.

Institution: Lexington College

Project Title: Experiential Learning Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Kathy Dornhecker
Director of Career Services
Lexington College
310 South Peoria Street, Suite 512
Chicago, IL 60607-3534
(312) 226-6294, ext. 234
carserv@lexingtoncollege.edu

Recommended Amount: \$13,603

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 25-28 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 promoteable 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 better prepare these students who will enter the workforce. All candidates for Lexington's degree programs complete two experiential work internships before receiving their BAS degree. At the end of the internship experience, this diverse group of women will have developed skills and a stronger understanding of the work ethic and skills needed to thrive in Illinois' hospitality and service industries.

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

Institution: Lincoln Land Community College

Project Title: Lincoln Land Community College Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Mary Beth Ray
Director, Career Development Services, Student Services
Lincoln Land Community College
5250 Shepherd Road, P.O. Box 19256
Springfield, IL 62794-9256
(217) 786-2472
marybeth.ray@lcc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$20,835

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

Participation in the Co-op program benefits students academically and financially by placing them in relevant paid positions whereby they can apply what they have learned through traditional classroom instruction to actual work related problems and situations. Students receive payment for their hours worked, gain valuable insight into their particular industry, and can earn up to 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: MacMurray College

Project Title: MacMurray College Work Cooperative Program

Project Director: Ms. Laci Engelbrecht
Director of Financial Aid
MacMurray College
447 East College Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(217) 479-7041
laci.engelbrecht@mac.edu

Recommended Amount: \$8,101

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 its surrounding area 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; and (4) allow potential employers the opportunity to train students as prospective employees.

Institution: McHenry County College

Project Title: Working for the Future

Project Director: Mr. James Falco
Executive Dean, Department of 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: \$13,946

Project Synopsis: Partnerships between the Academic and Student Services departments and outside businesses continue to build the McHenry County College (MCC) Cooperative Work Study Program. To continue developing our internship program, MCC requests funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program to place 18 students in internships within the region.

Departments work as a team to coordinate the work-study programs within the institution while expanding and strengthening 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.

The Education, Career, and Technical Education and Health Sciences Divisions at MCC plan to place 18 students in local businesses, schools, and government entities. 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. Faculty members will recruit six new business partners willing to reimburse 50 percent of students' wages while retaining excellent partnerships already developed.

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: The Millikin University Illinois College Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Sharon T. Alpi
Director, Center for Entrepreneurship
Coleman Foundation Professor in Entrepreneurship
Millikin University
1184 West Main Street
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salpi@millikin.edu

Recommended Amount: \$12,890

Project Synopsis: In fiscal year 2013, the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (ICWS) at Millikin University will mark its tenth year as a successful partnership among the university, its students, internship sites representing small businesses and agencies, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Funding is sought for 16 students to serve 15 sites representing fields from early childhood education to finance to the fine arts.

Through a comprehensive program of intern preparation, oversight, and evaluation by faculty ICWS Program Advisors, the Millikin University ICWS Program guides interns through an experience that integrates their classroom learning into their new professional roles, resulting in quantifiable academic benefits that will enhance their preparation for permanent employment upon graduation. By exposing these interns to dynamic, growing organizations that make a real difference, this program also encourages them to seek employment with small businesses and organizations in Illinois.

The Millikin University ICWS Program also is dedicated to providing internship site partners with highly qualified interns that will advance organizations' important work. In so doing, this program helps the businesses and agencies to succeed, thus helping fulfill important IBHE and state economic goals.

For fiscal year 2013, our internship partner sites represent a blend of businesses and organizations that have long participated in the program and sites that are new to the program. Sites are selected with consideration for their ability to provide interns with an outstanding near-professional experience, their need for qualified interns at a reduced cost, and their fit with state economic goals and priorities. Interns are selected by considering students whose academic progress would be uniquely enhanced by these internships as well as those who would most benefit from the financial assistance. The effective partnerships formed among university, students, and sites advance the goals of all partners involved and, in so doing, also advance the ICWS program's important goals.

Institution: North Central College

Project Title: North Central College CareerLinc FY13

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: \$18,803

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. Due, in large part, to participation in the fiscal year 2011 ICWS grant program, our internship numbers surged past the 200 mark for the first time. In fact, the academic year 2011-2012 saw a 20 percent increase in internship participation over the previous year.

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

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

Institution: Northeastern Illinois University

Project Title: Illinois CWSP FY2013

Project Director: Ms. Robin Wagner
Employer Relations Coordinator, Academic and Career Advising
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 North St. Louis Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625
(773) 442-4681
r-wagner@neiu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$28,005

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 fiscal year 2013 are: Accounting, Business, Computer Science, Communications, Education, English, Finance, History, Human Resources, Information Science, Journalism, Justice Studies, Liberal Arts, Marketing, Management, Political Science, Psychology, Public Relations, and Social Work.

Specific commitments from 10 employers to hire 34 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, three of the 10 employers (30 percent) who have provided commitments for fiscal year 2013 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: \$39,066

Project Synopsis: The Northern Illinois University 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 complement what is offered in the formal classroom. Career Services proposes this cooperative experience with ten 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 and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and 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: \$30,385

Project Synopsis: Since 2000, Oakton Community College's Internship Program, funded by the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, has provided 373 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 \$10.00 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 fiscal year 2013, Oakton's Internship Program proposes to place 35 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 M. Schleppenbach
Professor of Communication
Quincy University
1800 College Avenue
Quincy, IL 62301
(217) 228-5439
jschlepp@quincy.edu

Recommended Amount: \$33,172

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

Fourteen organizations have agreed to provide a 50 percent match for student wages for 25 interns based on an average rate of \$9.00 per hour for an average of ten 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, Community and Corporate Education
Rend Lake College
468 North Ken Gray Parkway
Ina, IL 62846-9740
(618) 437-5321, ext. 1380
myers@rlc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$21,601

Project Synopsis: Rend Lake College requests funding in the 2013 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program grant 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. Nine 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.

Institution: Richland Community College

Project Title: Richland College Cooperative Work Study Grant

Project Director: Mr. Michael Gary 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: \$18,670

Project Synopsis: Richland Community College will provide a Cooperative Work Study Program for approximately 20 students during the 2013-2014 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 grant 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 employers maintain a collaborative partnership and encourage students to obtain employment in their field of study and stay employed in the State of Illinois.

Institution: Roosevelt University

Project Title: Roosevelt University 2013 Grant Proposal

Project Director: Mr. Christopher J. Willis
Assistant Director, Employer Relations & Internships
Office of Career Development
Roosevelt University
425 South Wabash Avenue, Room 324
Chicago, IL 60605-1315
(312) 341-3674
cwillis@roosevelt.edu

Recommended Amount: \$21,703

Project Synopsis: Roosevelt University, a private, urban, non-sectarian institution of higher learning is requesting Illinois Cooperative Work Study (ICWS) program grant funds to assist in the placement of 12 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: Coop Grant

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

Recommended Amount: \$18,236

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 19 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) and Introduction to Educational Technology (EDU 119). 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:

1. To 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: South Suburban College of Cook County

Project Title: SSC Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mr. Jose I. Regalado
Resource Development Liaison, Administration
South Suburban College of Cook County
15800 South State Street
South Holland, IL 60473-1262
(708) 210-6765
Jregalado@ssc.edu

Recommended Amount: \$4,648

Project Synopsis: South Suburban College (SSC) will use IBHE Program funds to establish an Employer Based Internship program that will provide SSC students the opportunity to put acquire real world experience in workplaces directly related to their courses of study.

Regular Title IV funded Work study programs provide valuable financial resources to participating students and the college departments where they work, but the correlation to all but a few curricula is limited. The SSC proposal is different from in that these assignments will have detailed Work Site Agreements that identify work assignments and along with performance benchmarks.

Participating employers include three Police Departments, Thornton Township, and Dream Bags, Inc., a new textiles manufacturing company. Participating employers will designate supervisory staff that will evaluate student s on a monthly basis to make sure that the ensure adherence to the Work Site Agreement and to monitor their acquisition of workplace skills at the respective sponsoring sites. SSC staff will document and confirm participants' status.

Internships will be generally limited to students that are in their final semester or term of instruction. Sponsoring employers will be encouraged to retain the Interns as regular staff after graduation. Students will be tracked for one year after graduation to document employment history, wage levels, and participation in additional educational programs.

The internship program will be run by the South Suburban College Job Training Department. The program will include elements of Work Force Investment Act (WIA) and SSC Financial Aid services. Interns will be paid a stipend of \$10.00 per hour, in order to accommodate the anticipated additional costs involved with off-campus employment such as transportation and other worksite related expenses.

Institution: Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Project Title: ICWSP - FY13 - SIU Carbondale

Project Director: Ms. Michelle Renee Garrett
Recruitment Coordinator, Career Services
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Wood Hall B204, Mail Code 4703
900 South Normal Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 453-7115
michelle.garrett@siu.edu

Recommended Amount: \$12,622

Project Synopsis: Participation in the program will allow Southern Illinois University 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 students' academic fields of study. This will allow students to reinforce the knowledge gained in the classroom and incorporate emerging trends within the industry to better prepare them for employment in Illinois after graduation. It also will provide students with an opportunity to reduce their reliance on student loans by increasing their earnings while gaining related work experience.

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

Twenty-one employers, including nine new sites, have submitted letters of interest, to participate and project hiring approximately 60 students from the following colleges within the University: Agricultural Sciences, Applied Sciences and Arts Science, Business, Education and Human Services, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Mass Communication and Media Arts, and Science.

Students participating in the program will earn an between \$9.00 to \$20.00 per hour and work an average of 20 hours per week during Fall and/or Spring Semester (16 weeks each semester) and 40 hours per week during Summer Semester (12-14 weeks).

Institution: Southwestern Illinois College

Project Title: 2013 ICWS

Project Director: Mr. David Paeth
Director, College Activities
Southwestern Illinois College
2500 Carlyle Avenue
Belleville, IL 62221-5899
(618) 235-2700, ext. 5324
David.paeth@swic.edu

Recommended Amount: \$14,936

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, 13 area employers/organizations, and the Southwestern Illinois College Career Activities and Employment Center. 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 Auto Collision and Repair Technology internship will give the student experience in the auto collision repair industry; one Computer Information Systems internship will be offered where the intern will gain knowledge in the technical support and help desk areas; two Culinary Arts internships will be offered allowing the students to apply classroom theories to actual situations; one Electronic Technology internship will offer a wide range of work with technology utilizing electronic components; one Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration intern will gain a variety of experience servicing heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment; two internships will be provided in Network Design and Administration working in the telecommunications and computer field; one Paralegal Internship will be offered where the intern will gain valuable experience in the legal field; and one Web Design and Administration internship will give a range experience in maintaining and developing web sites. 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 and special needs 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: St. Xavier University

Project Title: Saint Xavier University ICWS Program

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

Recommended Amount: \$10,202

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 20 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 nine employers will participate in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study program. Six 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 2011 SXU Graduate Survey, of the respondents employed, 97 percent accepted positions in Illinois.

Institution: Trinity Christian College

Project Title: Trinity@Work

Project Director: Ms. Jackie Medenblik
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Trinity Christian College
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(708) 239-4821
jackie.medenblik@trnty.edu

Recommended Amount: \$13,171

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 17 placements with six 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 for Students Today -- Triton College

Project Director: Mr. Rich Williams
Director, Career Services/Cooperative Education
Triton College
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(708) 456-0300, ext. 3805
rwillia4@triton.edu

Recommended Amount: \$20,239

Project Synopsis: “Right Path for Students Today,” Triton College’s Cooperative Education Program, proposes to offer exciting new directions and commitments that will better serve students, employers and communities, while bolstering the school’s traditional offerings. First, Triton College will commit to reach out to industries and employers that offer high-growth occupations, helping students secure strong starts in fields that will continue to be active and robust over the next few years, perhaps even decades. Triton College staff has identified specific high-growth opportunities, based on key criteria: (a) intensity of growth; (b) strong salaries for students; and (c) good fit with the curriculum, teaching expertise, and overall approach and culture offered at Triton. This approach helps identify high-growth, high-demand opportunities in robust, local industry sectors, such as Hospitality, Business, Engineering, Manufacturing and Information Technology. Second, “Right Path” will commit to serving even more multiple smaller, hometown businesses, some of which have faced significant hurdles in these tough economic times. By committing to local companies and nearby neighborhood interests, the “Right Path” program can make a difference in the community, while reaching out, supporting and including organizations that may not have been able to participate in standard cooperative education programs.

Last year, Triton College created a “Business Buddies” employer service model, where Career Services and Cooperative Education staff members maintain a specific list of businesses for contact and follow-up on a routine basis. Through this model, Triton keeps close ties with local employers in the fast-expanding industries. This contact often leads to new opportunities before they are broadcast to traditional channels, providing a bonus to students in the program. This model is Triton’s approach to learning about current and future employer service needs so that our efforts can be targeted, proactive and fruitful to young students. Rounding out our overall philosophy, Triton incorporates a new strategy called 360 Success, which intends to surround and help each student and employer through multiple touchpoints—in fact, 360 degrees of support. This overall strategy provides systemized, individualized, wrap-around (360 degrees) services to all the students and employers participating in the program, identifying ideal “fits” between them, while working hard to provide the highest level of service.

Institution: Universty of Illinois at Chicago

Project Title: UIC Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Judith K. De Jong
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Recommended Amount: \$11,138

Project Synopsis: Through the Cooperative Work Study Program at the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago, 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 and cultural institutions. 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 at Urbana-Champaign

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program - UIUC

Project Director: Ms. Gail Rooney
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Recommended Amount: \$24,837

Project Synopsis: The University of Illinois welcomes the opportunity to expand the reach of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program if awarded an increase in funds. At this time, we have received commitment from 16 organizations to hire up to 70 students for internships. If our proposal is funded in full, it will support up to 25 of these students. The marked increase in employer participation is due to new partnerships developed with high-tech, STEM companies located in the Illinois Research Park and elsewhere in east central Illinois. These companies are hungry for talented students majoring in high demand STEM fields, such as engineering, computer science, math, biology and other life sciences.

Internships and other experiential learning opportunities are an important component of the undergraduate educational experience. They allow students to put into practice what has been taught in the classroom; provide a glimpse into the world of work; and offset the increasing costs of higher education. Plus, students who have these experiences are more competitive in the labor market. As indicated in the annual Job Outlook Survey, 70 percent of employers prefer new college graduates that have relevant work experience (National Association of Colleges and Employers, Job Outlook, 2013).

Specifically, the goals of the University of Illinois ICWS Program in fiscal year 2013 are: (1) increase the availability of high quality internships, especially in STEM fields; (2) expand and strengthen relationships with employers in the State of Illinois, especially small- to mid-sized organizations in east central 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.

Given increased interest in the ICWS program, funds will be competitively awarded. Employers will complete an application that describes their internship. Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria: (1) expectations and learning outcomes are clearly defined and linked to students' academic major; (2) contribution to or completion of a meaningful project that allows students to put into practice classroom learning; and (3) exposure to career paths within their discipline. Preference will be given to internships related to STEM. Employers are required to provide at least 60 percent of student earnings while grant funds will support no more than 40 percent of student earnings, up to \$2,000 per student. By employers bearing a larger proportion of student earnings and capping grant funding at \$2,000 per student, we are able to maximize the impact of this program.

Institution: Waubonsee Community College

Project Title: Waubonsee Community College Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Teri L. Cullen
Career Services Manager
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Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive
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Recommended Amount: \$14,002

Project Synopsis: Waubonsee Community College's student cooperative work study program's goal is to complement and enhance its students' academic experiences with work experiences directly related to their disciplines. Five of the college's academic divisions offer advanced and qualified students the opportunity to earn up to six credit hours toward an associate's degree, and for each discipline with a for-credit option, there is a designated faculty advisor.

The college's internship program is coordinated by its Career Services Center, and its participation in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program helps its students, many of whom are career changers and must work, benefit academically and financially and reduce reliance on student loans. The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program also helps enhance public-private sector partnerships between the college and businesses and industries within its district, and the resultant opportunities encourage its students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program's past and present support has enabled the college's internship program to withstand the effects of a recession and expand opportunities for students to pursue internships. Since first participating in fiscal year 2007, its number of students registering for an internship has grown by 311 percent and renewed funding in fiscal year 2013 will increase the pool of funds for job training and the likelihood of its students obtaining full-time employment in high-demand fields after graduation.

