

**APPROVED**  
**JUNE 3, 2014**

Item #IV-10  
June 3, 2014

**Illinois Board of Higher Education Board Resolution  
Encouraging Illinois Colleges and Universities to Implement  
Guided Pathways to Success**

WHEREAS, every student deserves the opportunity to enroll and succeed in higher education;  
and

WHEREAS, Illinois' colleges and universities share a common mission and responsibility to guide students accepted to their institutions toward successful outcomes in their chosen fields; and

WHEREAS, students making poor or uninformed degree or credit choices are more likely to leave school with debt and without meaningful credentials; and

WHEREAS, Illinois' ten year master plan for guiding education policy – from pre-school to graduate school – in Illinois from 2008 until 2018, the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*, describes goals and strategies to enable all Illinoisans to have affordable access to high-quality educational opportunities that prepare them for the workforce, and a mid-point report on the *Public Agenda's* progress has identified increasing gaps in postsecondary achievement between underserved groups and whites, and a higher escalation of cost of attendance at higher education institutions relative to the US average; and

WHEREAS, Illinois, through leadership from the Governor, state education agencies, and the Illinois P-20 Council have adopted a common goal that 60 percent of Illinois adults have a postsecondary credential or degree by the year 2025 (60% by 2025 Goal); and

WHEREAS, Illinois, as a member of Complete College America's Alliance of States, has had access to national experts and consultations on Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) strategies to establish innovative course scheduling, structured academic maps, improved academic advising, and career counseling and guidance towards successful degree completions; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Longitudinal Data System continues to develop and improve to allow stakeholders to understand the impact of students in pathway systems with their education and employment outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) strategies are consistent with the current and ongoing efforts of Illinois' colleges and universities to improve retention and completion rates, especially for underserved students, and reduce student and institutional costs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Illinois Board of Higher Education, joins the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, urging all Illinois' colleges and universities to examine and consider the implementation of Guided Pathway to Success (GPS) strategies insofar as these efforts are consistent with the *Illinois Public Agenda* and the 60% by 2025 goals; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Illinois' colleges and universities should join the Complete College Compact to receive guidance and support from state and national partners as they pursue implementation of Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) strategies; and be it further

RESOLVED, that these efforts be focused on continuing to provide affordable access to college students, and be it further

RESOLVED, that these efforts guide more students toward successful college completion in each student's chosen field, and be it further

RESOLVED, a copy of this resolution shall be disseminated to all Illinois colleges and universities, and higher education stakeholders and partners throughout the State of Illinois as evidence of our intent.