

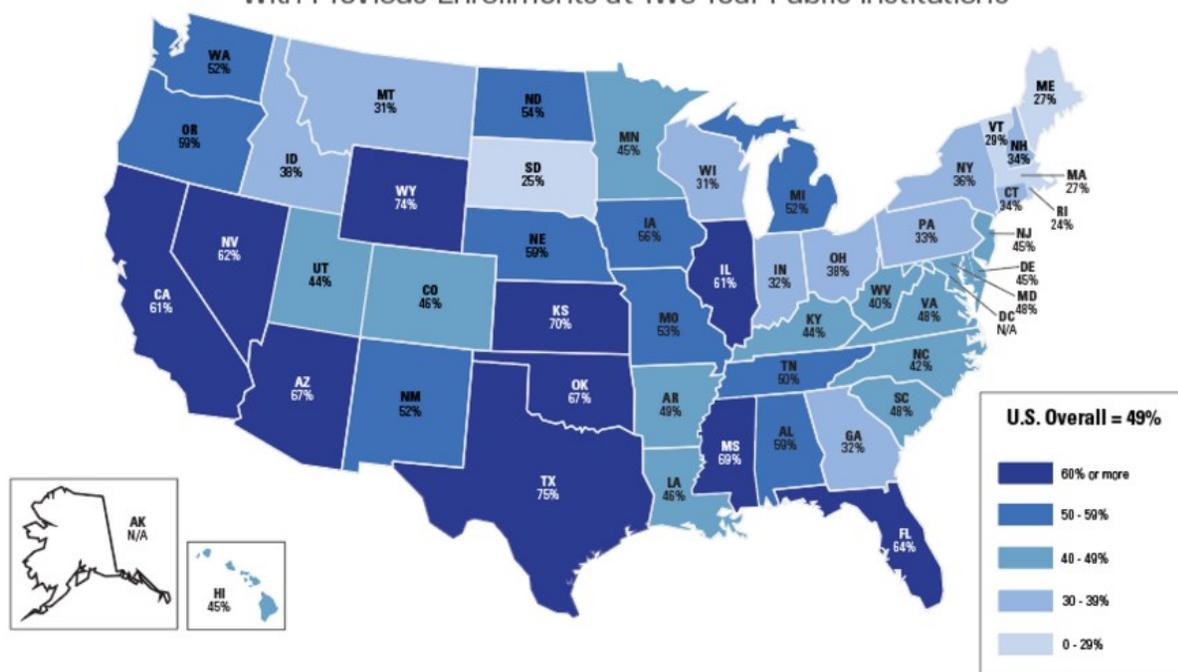
60 x 2025

The Role of Two-Year Institutions in Bachelor's Attainment

According to a recent [National Student Clearinghouse Research Center report](#), in the 2015-16 academic year, 49 percent of all students who completed a bachelor's degree at a four-year institution had been enrolled at a two-year public institution at some point in the previous 10 years. The prior enrollment at a two-year public institution may have been brief, for as little as a single course, and the two-year institution may or may not have been the first institution the student attended. As shown on the third page of this snapshot, 22 percent were enrolled in two-year public institutions for only one term. In 20 states, more than half of the 2015-16 bachelor's degree earners at four-year institutions had been enrolled at a two-year public institution in the previous ten years.

Looking at the percentage of baccalaureate degree completers who are applying credits earned at community colleges to their degrees, Illinois has 61% of its most recent bachelor's degree earners having been enrolled at community colleges. As the map shows, Illinois is in the top category, with an increase of 7% from the last Clearinghouse Report. This indicates that work done in Illinois by groups like Transfer Coordinators and through programs like the Illinois Articulation Initiative, MyCreditsTransfer, and iTransfer.org, as well all the institution-to-institution agreements, is helping students. Students can and do earn baccalaureate degrees in Illinois with applied credits earned at public community colleges, and those numbers are increasing.

Percentage of 2015-16 Bachelor's Degree Earners with Previous Enrollments at Two-Year Public Institutions



The states in the map represent the states in which bachelor's degrees were awarded. In this analysis, baccalaureate-granting institutions that predominately award associate degrees (at least 55 percent of the undergraduate degrees awarded are associate degrees) are classified as two-year institutions. As such, enrollments at these institutions count in the numerator but bachelor's degrees awarded by them do not count in the denominator. Alaska and D.C. are labeled N/A on this map because the two-year public institutions in those two areas report data to the Clearinghouse under the same institutional profile as four-year public institutions.

Increasing Affordability



Illinois Student Assistance Commission

ISAC encourages students to take control of their finances by participating in Money Smart Week

In a [press release](#) this week, the [Illinois Student Assistance Commission](#) (ISAC) encouraged students to take advantage of free **Money Smart Week** events throughout the state from April 22-29. In addition to free workshops and the host of resources available on the [Money Smart Week site](#), ISAC has created a special [Financial Literacy](#) page on its [Student Portal](#) where students can find easy-to-use online tools to help them better manage their money and limit student loan debt.

The extended budget delay in Illinois has left funding for state grant and scholarship programs in limbo, making financial uncertainty a daily obstacle for many students across the state.

"In this environment, students unfortunately have to make increasingly difficult financial choices, so being more informed – both about options and about the consequences of their decisions – is more important than ever," said Eric Zarnikow, executive director of ISAC. "Becoming more financially literate won't solve the problem of lack of funding, but it can help students limit long term debt and manage their money to address expenses that may have temporarily increased during the budget delay."

ISAC partners with mobile app Knack for student success

ISAC recently announced a partnership with [Knack](#), a unique mobile app that allows students to play video games to discover skill sets that will assist them in achieving academic success, and then matches those skills to education and career paths.

ISAC will use the application in two ways. First, similar to many companies using the app, ISAC will use it to help identify future [ISACorps](#) members – the recent college graduates ISAC trains as near peer mentors to assist high school students in navigating the college-going and financial aid process. But it will also use the app to help level the playing field for low income and first generation students by improving the high school to college transition for all Illinois students.

"Much of ISAC's statewide college access and outreach work focuses on lower income high school students from homes where there might not be any college-going experience – students who may not have the support and services that help them identify and build the skill sets that will improve their success in college and the workforce," said **Eric Zarnikow**, executive director of ISAC. "ISAC is pleased to be the first state agency to lead the way in utilizing this innovative mobile technology to assist high school students to discover their strongest talents, uncover areas that need work, and help them and their counselors design a successful educational path to future employment."

Increasing Adult Degree Completion

Representatives of the **Student Veterans of America** (SVA) have agreed to collaborate with **Midwestern Higher Education Compact's** (MHEC) Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit (MCMC) for an upcoming webinar on April 25, at 1:00 p.m. Register for: [Data Capture and Tracking for Student Veterans – Considerations from Student Veterans of America](#).

This webinar will help institutional researchers, enrollment managers, and other campus personnel involved in data collection and tracking efforts to consider tangible strategies they can utilize in improving their ability to count and track student veterans to the benefit of ensuring veteran student success. SVA recently completed several momentous research studies on student veterans that add much value to the national landscape of data available on student veteran persistence and success, including 2014's **Million Records Project** and 2017's **National Veteran Education Tracker** (NVEST).

For more information about the MCMC contact project coordinator [Sara Appel](#).

Check it Out! **IBHE** makes available [Institution Profiles](#), a free, comprehensive data source for learning about and comparing institutions of higher education in Illinois. **Institution Profiles** is a regularly updated, online tool showing data about colleges and universities, including student demographics, academic programs, enrollment figures, and graduation rates. Illinoisans looking for information on Illinois colleges. As well as students, policymakers, higher education staff and faculty, and researchers can also use the interactive "compare" feature to see how institutions are performing relative to similar colleges and universities in the state.

GENDER EQUITY IN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS REPORT



The ninth report on [Gender Equity in Intercollegiate Athletics](#), prepared as specified by Illinois statute 110 ILCS 205/9.24, was sent to **Governor Bruce Rauner** and the **General Assembly** on April 13. Prepared by **IBHE**, it is based upon Gender Equity Reports submitted to IBHE from Illinois' public universities.

The conclusions made about this year's report include: "The use of gender equity tuition waivers has helped Illinois public universities address federal Title IX requirements by providing opportunities for male and female athletes and by assisting with the equitable distribution of resources among genders. Comparisons to Fiscal Year 1995, the year prior to the authorization of gender equity waivers, show progress has been made in both the number of females participating in athletic programs (an increase of 86.1 percent) and the resources dedicated to female athletic programs (a three-fold increase in expenditures). While progress has been made in addressing the issues of gender equity, that progress has slowed in recent years, and there is room for continued improvement. In Fiscal Year 2016, female students comprised 50.3 percent of full-time undergraduate enrollments. At the same time, expenditures for female athletic programs represented just 36.3 percent of total athletic expenditures, and only 44.5 percent of athletic financial aid was awarded to female student athletes."

People in the News

Justin Provo, **IBHE's** Nontraditional Student Member, received the **Roosevelt University** Student Leader of the Year Award. This award is the highest honor given to a student leader at Roosevelt University. Through their leadership skills and initiative, nominees have made a significant impact on the Roosevelt University community throughout the past academic year. The award to Provo will also be commemorated on a plaque hanging outside of the Center for Student Involvement.



The **Chicago State University** Board of Trustees announced the appointment of **Dr. Rachel W. Lindsey** as Interim President of the university. **Cecil B. Lucy**, the University's former interim president, will return to his position as Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration. Dr. Lindsey has more than 30 years of experience in higher education teaching and administration. She earned her Ed.D. and master's degree from the University of Chicago and her bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.

"Everything we're doing is for our students and their families", said Chairman Marshall Hatch. "And despite the Illinois budget crisis we will continue to work hard in support of our students and this community."

[Barbara Bowman Leadership Fellows Program](#)

This program is designed to enrich the perspective and enhance the capacity of diverse child advocates with a commitment to racial equity who want to influence early childhood policy. The program will equip program and policy leaders with content knowledge, tools for assessing public policy levers, and hands-on practice to make a difference in early childhood policy.

Nominees should:

- Be a full-time employee of a nonprofit organization or government agency with an interest in early childhood;
- Have at least three years professional experience in a position with influence within their organization;
- Demonstrate a strong track record of leadership, innovation, and high performance; and
- Obtain approval by their supervisors for release time to fully participate in program components.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, April 28, 2017, and should be [submitted online here](#).

[McCormick Foundation Executive Fellows Program:](#)

This program is for Illinois elected officials, judges, high ranking police officials, heads of state agencies, school board members, superintendents, and community leaders to provide a deeper understanding of the policy opportunities to support young children and child development based on the most up-to-date research from national experts. We are hoping that you can assist in identifying and nominating outstanding candidates for our inaugural leadership class.

Ideal candidates should be influential professionals responsible for one or more of the following:

- Improving the effectiveness of juvenile courts;
- Making decisions about funding of programs that serve children and families;
- Making recommendations for changes in policies, programs and practices;
- Protecting public safety of children and families; and
- Improving student outcomes.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, April 28, 2017, and should be [submitted online with the candidate's resume or CV here](#).

[Illinois Community College System Foundation President and CEO](#)

The Board of Directors of the **Illinois Community College System Foundation (ICCSF)** invites nominations and applications for President (Chief Executive Officer) of the Illinois Community College System Foundation. The Foundation is an Illinois 501(C) 3, not-for-profit Illinois corporation that currently has total assets of over \$7.5 M that includes an investment portfolio of over \$2.2 M. The Foundation has presented as much as \$250,000.00 per year in scholarships to the 48 Illinois community colleges. Pre-application inquiries are encouraged and should be directed to ICCSF Board member [Dr. Ray Hancock](#).

All applicants should provide a letter of interest with an explanation of why the position is desirable to them, a complete resume, and a minimum of three references that may be contacted immediately. Deadline for applications is May 1, 2017 and all applications should be [e-mailed with attachments](#) or mailed to:

Illinois Community College System Foundation, c/o Dr. Ray Hancock
401 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62701
The envelope should be marked Personal and Confidential.

Other News

Joliet Junior College (JJC) in Joliet was recognized by the **Illinois Emergency Management Agency** (IEMA) [for achieving the Ready to Respond Campus designation](#) after completing the program's rigorous campus safety criteria.

The Ready to Respond Campus program aims to enhance campus safety through a comprehensive, community-based preparedness and response effort, including public safety, campus administration, faculty and students. "All campuses have emergency response plans. Ready to Respond campuses take preparedness and response to a higher level by meeting the program's rigorous criteria," said IEMA Director James K. Joseph. "I applaud Joliet Junior College officials for tackling these challenging standards and becoming only the sixth campus in Illinois to achieve this designation."

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Richland Community College, Parkland College, Augustana College and Elgin Community College also have received the Ready to Respond Campus designation. Additional information about the IEMA Ready to Respond program is available at www.Ready.Illinois.gov.

IBHE Student Art Exhibition

Tom Lynch

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



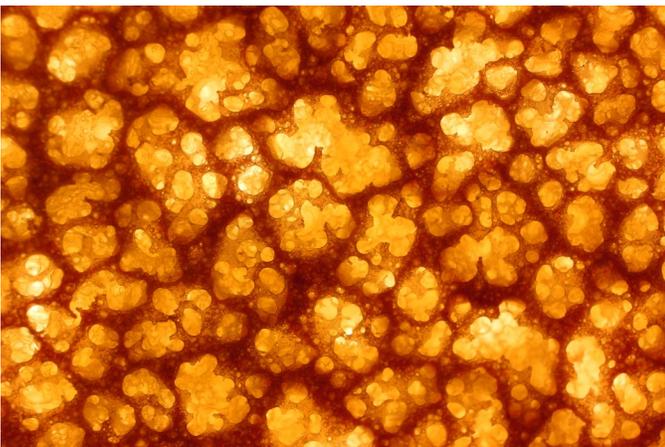
Sunset over a Mexican Desert

Elizabeth Simon

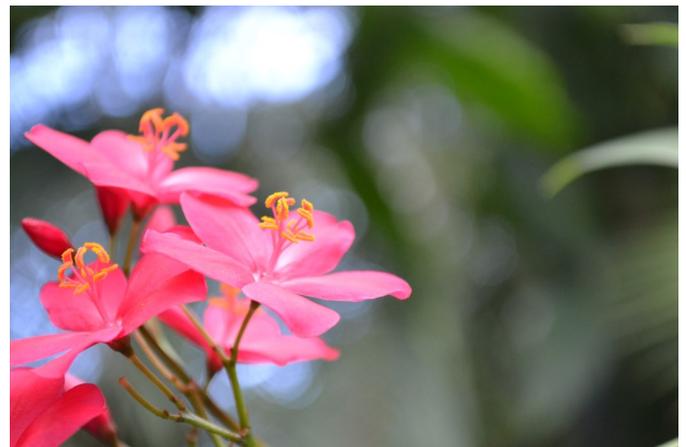
Moraine Valley Community College



Butterfly



Transmission of Light through a Pancake



Flower

Student Laureates

Millikin University



Philip Ganley
Decatur, IL
Sociology

Monmouth College



Emma Vanderpool
Frankfort, IL
Classics and History
Philosophy

National Louis University



Nancy Zhu
Elk Grove, IL
Education

North Central College



Luis Tello
Ramona, CA
Sociology
Urban and Suburban
Studies

Northeastern Illinois University



Alicia Ozier
Chicago, IL
Interdisciplinary
Studies
Inner City Careers

Photo unavailable: North Park University, Anais Bakayoko, Chicago, IL, History and Secondary Education.

The Lincoln Academy wants to know what past Laureates have been up to since being named [the Lincoln Academy of Illinois](#) Student Laureate. Please call 217.785.5030 or e-mail [Julie Kellner](#) to share your story!

In Case You Missed It

A few articles and reports worth the read:

[Western Illinois University](#): Enhanced international partnership adding to student experiences, April 11, 2017.

[Journal Gazette & Times-Courier](#): Lake Land College may offer medical assistant program, April 11, 2017.

[University of Illinois](#): How might President Trump's proposed education budget affect college access, April 12, 2017.

[Market Watch](#): American Health Council Names Mary Zerlan, DNP, CRNA to Nursing Board, April 13, 2017.

[Eastern Illinois University](#): Criminology/criminal justice major to debut at EIU in the fall, April 14, 2017.

[Western Illinois University](#): WIU selected as preferred education provider for Bahamian students, April 17, 2017.

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