

APPROVED
AUGUST 5, 2014

Item #VI-16
August 5, 2014

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

GENERAL GRANTS
FISCAL YEAR 2015 ALLOCATION

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item recommends funding for seven general grants as appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2015 budget signed by the Governor (Public Act 98-0678). Recipients of these grants are required to provide a budget, an annual audit report, a project evaluation, and a completed statement of certification specifying their compliance with terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
University Center of Lake County	\$1,200,000
Chicago Area Health and Medical Careers Program (CAHMCP)	\$1,466,600
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, IMSA Fusion: Igniting Teaching and Learning	\$109,000
Quad-Cities Graduate Center	\$83,900
MyCreditsTransfer Project (formerly u.select Illinois)	\$208,400
Illinois Longitudinal Data System	\$434,000
Washington Center Internship	\$100,000
Total:	<u>\$3,601,900</u>

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) approve seven General Grants for Fiscal Year 2015 totaling \$3,601,900.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**GENERAL GRANTS
FISCAL YEAR 2015 ALLOCATION**

This item recommends funding for seven general grants as appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2015 budget signed by the Governor (Public Act 98-0678). Recipients of these grants are required to provide a budget, an annual audit report, a project evaluation, and a completed statement of certification specifying their compliance with terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

<u>Project/Institution</u>	<u>IBHE Recommendation</u>
University Center of Lake County	\$1,200,000

Established by the IBHE in 1998, the University Center of Lake County (Center) is a consortium of 19 public and private colleges and universities that deliver bachelor completion, master's degrees, and certificate and workforce development programs to an underserved northeast suburban Chicago. Nearly, \$25 million in county, state, and federal funds were used to construct and open permanent facilities in Waukegan and Grayslake in 2004 and 2005 respectively. Today, over 1,300 students are enrolled in over 800 classes and the Center hosts or holds over 900 educational conferences and meetings serving over 25,000 citizens annually.

The creation of the University Center was an intentional decision made by IBHE after much research. In early studies and through 15 years of experience, the University Center delivery model has shown that it allows the most opportunity and the greatest access to high-quality higher education programs at the lowest cost. Representatives from over 20 states and two foreign countries have visited to learn more about this successful national model. The Center serves as a real success story for IBHE in that it supports and delivers on all four goals of the Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success – increased educational attainment, improved college affordability, attention to workforce needs, and support of economic growth.

Chicago Area Health and Medical Careers Program	\$1,466,600
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The Chicago Area Health and Medical Careers Program (CAHMCP) pursues an intervention strategy for the provision of enhanced academic and counseling supports to minorities seeking to be professionals in medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary science, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, and public health. The CAHMCP provides continual academic reinforcement in mathematics and science; standardized test preparation; focused clinical, research, and public policy internships; and highly-individualized career counseling for all program participants at grade levels extending from middle school through the post-baccalaureate years.

Since the summer of 2007, CAHMCP has required all participants to obtain health and safety certification through its Good Health Place (GHP) project. The GHP was instituted as a community service initiative to provide Basic Life Support (BLS) certifications to all CAHMCP participants: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillation (AED),

Basic First Aid, Bloodborne Pathogens, Childcare and Babysitting Safety (CABS), and Vital Signs Assessment. The GHP has expanded beyond the walls of CAHMCP to include nearly 2,000 Chicago and suburban area citizens who have received one or more BLS certifications, including approximately 200 certifications issued to senior citizens and disabled individuals. The Good Health Place project has given CAHMCP participants an opportunity to deliver meaningful community service to their communities, as well as having access to the more traditional forms of academic support required to prepare them for future entry into the major health profession.

IMSA Fusion: Igniting Teaching and Learning

\$109,000

IMSA Fusion is an after-school enrichment program for Illinois students in late elementary (grades 4-5) and middle school (grades 6-7-8) that are talented, interested and motivated in mathematics and science, with a special focus on students historically underrepresented and under-served in mathematics and science. Fusion also serves as a professional development program for participating Illinois teachers.

IMSA Fusion has four major goals:

- to maintain or increase students' interest, involvement and literacy in science and mathematics;
- to enhance the knowledge and skills of middle school science and mathematics teachers;
- to stimulate excellence in middle schools' science and mathematics programs; and
- to help increase access to programming for students who are historically underrepresented in mathematics and science, and for all areas of the state.

Quad-Cities Graduate Center

\$83,900

The Quad Cities Graduate Study Center (GradCenter) is an academic consortium that was founded in 1969 by members of the business, government, and education communities to increase access to high quality graduate-level programming and foster local economic growth. The mission of the GradCenter is expanding this year to include undergraduate programs offered by colleges and universities in the Quad Cities in addition to graduate programs already offered.

In 2015, the GradCenter will play an expanded role in aligning activities and efforts with the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce focusing on job creation, attracting new employers to the Quad Cities, and in supporting area economic growth. Through a partnership with the Lumina Foundation, the GradCenter will be working with community representatives to increase higher education attainment in the community.

MyCreditsTransfer Project (formerly u.select Illinois)**\$208,400**

MyCreditsTransfer (formerly u.select Illinois) is a statewide initiative designed to facilitate transfer within Illinois using the nationally available tool, Transferology. Within Transferology students can find out how courses transfer between institutions, how courses satisfy degree requirements, and the different majors institutions offer.

In 2014, the MyCreditsTransfer project expanded to include the Illinois Institute of Technology. In addition, several Illinois institutions increased their participation level from sending-only status to fully-licensed, sending and receiving institutions: the College of Lake County, Moraine Valley Community College, Southwestern Illinois College, William Rainey Harper College, and the City Colleges of Chicago. The addition of the City Colleges of Chicago is important as it is the nation's third largest community college district and the largest in Illinois.

MyCreditsTransfer Project staff are actively engaged in a pilot initiative called, "Military Training Counts" (MTC). Through this pilot the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), and the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) are working together with MyCreditsTransfer and several Illinois colleges and universities to ensure that veteran and military students are granted appropriate academic credit (amount and type) for the education, skills, and experience they have earned in the military services. A primary focus of this initiative is to evaluate military training against certificate and licensing requirements for vocational/technical programs selected by the participating colleges. Several of the participating institutions have now mapped their coursework to military training programs, and the staff of MyCreditsTransfer will work with those institutions to promote that alignment.

In addition to the IBHE grant, MyCreditsTransfer is supported by the University of Illinois, the iTransfer.org project, and the participating institutions.

Illinois Longitudinal Data System**\$434,000**

The Illinois General Assembly appropriated and the Governor signed into law an appropriation of \$434,000 (Public Act 98-0678, Article 1, Section 10) to the IBHE to support the administration and enforcement associated with the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act. A portion of the funds, \$40,700 will be used to support the work of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) to warehouse and monitor the IBHE ILDS Database.

Washington Center Internship**\$100,000**

The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars (TWC) is the largest, independent, nonprofit experiential education organization in the United States and has more than 50,000 alumni. For more than 35 years, The Washington Center has played a crucial role in preparing young people for leadership and promoting civic participation by connecting motivated students with companies, organizations, congressional offices, and federal agencies that exemplify the values of leadership and community service. Through The Washington Center's program, students work as full-time interns, complete an academic course, and participate in a structured set of activities designed to build leadership skills and civic awareness.

The Washington Center’s program offers workforce development opportunities for students. Recognizing this, more than 20 states have partnered with TWC since 1995 to provide necessary financial aid for qualified students to enroll. States typically provide \$5,000 to \$7,000 for each student. In Illinois, the \$100,000 Fiscal Year 2015 appropriation will be divided into 17 scholarships. In addition, The Washington Center has decided to offer a \$1,000 match to each student, giving leverage to the state’s money. Students at the state’s public colleges and universities will be eligible for scholarships.

Nearly all students who participate in The Washington Center’s program receive academic credit for their semester or summer term in Washington D.C., thanks to arrangements with more than 500 universities throughout the United States. The Washington Center began rebuilding its relationships with Illinois universities after receiving state funding last year for the first time in more than five years. The Washington Center has successfully established campus “liaisons” – faculty and staff members who promote the program on campus and recommend students to apply – at Eastern Illinois University, Governors State University, Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University, and SIU Carbondale. They also have contacts at the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Illinois at Springfield that should lead to continuing relationships. The Washington Center will continue to build on our relationships at these universities and work on others in the coming year.

TOTAL **\$3,601,900**

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the Fiscal Year 2015 General Grants described above. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to make adjustments to the grant awards in the event that appropriated funds are reduced or unavailable and allocate any remaining funds at the end of the fiscal year.