
ILLINOIS COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE PUBLIC UNIVERSITY FUNDING

Draft Final Report Feedback

Instructions

1. Complete the following two sections accordingly:
 - a. The General Comments section addresses issues that may apply to more than one section of the report or to issues not currently covered in the report.
 - b. The Specific Comments section should include comments directed at a particular section or wording of the report. These might be suggested line edits or new language, for example.
2. In the specific comments section, indicate any page numbers and/or sections related to the comment.
3. In both sections, describe in a few words the topic your comment addresses in the "Topic of Comment" field.
4. Record your comment/feedback in the "Comment" field.
5. If additional comment space is needed, right click in any row and select "insert" > "insert rows" to add an additional row(s). Additional rows can be added at the bottom of the table or in between rows.
6. Save your document and email to **Katie Lynne at katie_lynne_morton@hcmstrategists.com**. **All final comments are due by 5pm CT on February 20, 2024.**

General Comments

Topic of Comment	Comment
Need to endorse and approve the work of the Illinois Commission on Equitable Public University Funding	Seventy years after the 1954 Brown vs the Board of Education decision to integrate the public school system in America, we still have a daily reality that promotes very different realities for students classified by race, ethnicity, social economic status and geographic region. In essence while the law was enacted to eliminate disparate outcomes, we still see evidence of segregated student success outcomes. Black and brown students, students from lower income and rural areas are not matriculating at the same rate as their white counterparts. The Equity Funding Commission was charged to examining the process of state funding to higher and to develop a set of recommendations to advance equity, justice and achievement for all students. While this has been a difficulty task. The work of the Commission is imperative.

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Specific Comments

Page Number, Paragraph, Section, etc.	Topic of Comment	Comment
P 45	“incorporating student parents, students with disabilities, and first-generation students into the equity adjustments of the Adequacy Target and ESS”	I fully agree with the intent to include additional populations of students into the formula when additional data is made available. These special populations of student parents (GSU has a high percentage of these, over 15.9%,) students with disabilities who have the ability to learn and thrive, and first-generation students, are all students who will also be needed to help the IHEs meet their enrollment demands in the near future. More importantly, they deserve an education and the opportunities that come along with earning a college degree.

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P 44	"including a cost in the Adequacy Target intended to support the recruitment and retention of a diverse faculty and staff.	Research has shown that students of color achieve greater retention, persistence, and a sense of belonging when they attend schools with cultural climates that promote a sense of belonging. One of the strongest measures and best practices to facilitate this outcome is to increase the level of diversity of faculty and staff(Education Trust, 2022).

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