

APPROVED
JUNE 9, 2020

Item #G-8
June 9, 2020

**DIVERSIFYING HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY IN ILLINOIS PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2021 GRANT ALLOCATION**

Submitted for: Action

Summary: This item recommends the allocation of anticipated Fiscal Year 2021 appropriation for grants authorized by the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Program (DFI). The DFI Program provides financial assistance to underrepresented students pursuing graduate and professional degrees at Illinois public and private institutions.

The DFI Program supports the goals of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*. The \$1.456 million will support approximately 105 DFI awards in Fiscal Year 2021, including awards for 71 continuing and 34 new recipients. In the event of DFI Program funding reductions, the award amounts to recipients will be adjusted to meet the level of available funds.

Action Required: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriation for grants authorized by the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Act and recommended by the DFI Program Board.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**DIVERSIFYING HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY IN ILLINOIS PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2021 GRANT ALLOCATION**

The Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Program (DFI) provides financial awards to eligible underrepresented students pursuing graduate and professional degrees at Illinois public and private institutions of higher education. As a condition of the award, recipients agree to accept a teaching or staff position in an Illinois higher education institution or governing board, or an education-related position in a state agency, equal to the number of years the student was a participant in the program. The DFI Act authorized the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to appoint a DFI program board to establish policies and procedures to administer the program. The IBHE also provides the DFI program leadership and administrative program support.

The application process for Fiscal Year 2021 was opened to students in December of 2019. There were approximately 175 application requests for this year. In March of 2020, the DFI Board approved recommendations for Fiscal Year 2021, with funding of \$1.456 million for the DFI fellowship awards. The DFI Board recommends funding for 105 DFI fellows for Fiscal Year 2021. The distribution of fellowships awarded is for 71 continuing students at \$15,000 and 34 new students at \$11,000.

Table 1 lists the distribution of students and the participating institutions.

Recommendation

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriation for the DFI institutional grant awards (see Table 1) as specified by the statute and recommended by the DFI Program Board. 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
Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Act
Distribution of Fiscal Year 2021 Awards
Pending Fellow Acceptance

FY2021 DFI Fellow Breakdown					
<u>Institution</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Renewal</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Masters</u>	<u>Doctoral</u>
Adler University	1	3	4	0	4
Aurora University	0	2	2	0	2
Chicago State University	0	1	1	0	1
DePaul University	2	3	5	2	3
Governors State University	0	3	3	0	3
Illinois State University	3	7	10	2	8
Loyola University	0	1	1	0	1
National Louis University	1	0	1	0	1
Northeastern Illinois University	3	0	3	3	0
Northern Illinois University	2	6	8	1	7
Roosevelt University	6	0	6	4	2
Southern Illinois University Carbondale	2	2	4	1	3
University of Chicago	0	7	7	0	7
University of Illinois at Chicago	9	19	28	0	28
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	5	17	22	1	21
Totals	34	71	105	14	91