

APPROVED

AUGUST 10, 2021

Item #C-8
August 10, 2021

ILLINOIS TUTORING INITIATIVE

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: In partnership with the Illinois State Board of Education and the Office of the Governor, the Illinois Board of Higher Education will enter into intergovernmental agreements with institutions of higher education and the Illinois Community College Board to provide high-impact tutoring to Illinois students in public schools. The “Illinois Tutoring Initiative” is funded through federal Elementary and Secondary Education Relief (ESSER) II monies as part of the State’s efforts to support K-12 students with academic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education authorize the Executive Director to allocate funds to implement the Illinois Tutoring Initiative. The Board additionally authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) Enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education for the Illinois Tutoring Initiative;
- 2) Enter into intergovernmental agreements with public institutions of higher education and the Illinois Community College Board to implement tutoring;
- 3) Issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the (a) independent evaluation of the Illinois Tutoring Initiative, (b) review and evaluate submissions to such RFP, (c) select an entity to conduct the evaluation, and (d) enter into a related agreement for such service; and
- 4) Use funds, in accordance with provisions of an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education, to hire temporary staff at the IBHE for implementation of the Illinois Tutoring Initiative.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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The Illinois Tutoring Initiative is one of four statewide strategies for educational recovery from COVID-19 contained in the [P-20 Council's Learning Renewal Resource Guide](#) which highlights studies that document the effectiveness of high-impact tutoring as a strategy for promoting learning recovery. It is also referenced in strategies to promote equity in *A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Paths to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth*. The Illinois Tutoring Initiative will involve collaborative partnerships between public universities, community colleges, and school districts of need in six regions across the state to provide high-impact tutoring to elementary and middle school students. Some tutoring may also be provided in other areas of need such as high school STEM subjects. Teacher education candidates, higher education students, and other community partners will be recruited, trained, and supported to provide tutoring in dosages of three hours per week to individual students and small groups of no more than three students. Tutoring will be provided in a combination of face-to-face and online formats.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has budgeted \$25 million over the course of two years to support the Illinois Tutoring Initiative. The IBHE will receive \$15 million for Fiscal Year 2022 (which is included in the agency's appropriation) and \$10 million for Fiscal Year 2023 to implement the program. The IBHE has identified Illinois State University as the coordinating partner, to develop and manage tutor recruitment and training tools, create an online platform for tutor matching, develop supporting resources for school district involvement, collect and analyze evidence of program impact, and coordinate with a combination of at least five other public universities and community colleges to provide high-impact tutoring.

The IBHE intends to enter into intergovernmental agreements with public institutions of higher education and the Illinois Community College Board. Additionally, the IBHE will issue a request for proposals to conduct an independent evaluation in Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023. Reports on the Illinois Tutoring Initiative and related outcomes will be provided to the Board throughout the course of the project.

Recommendation

The staff recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate funds to implement the Illinois Tutoring Initiative. The Board additionally authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) *Enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education for the Illinois Tutoring Initiative;*
- 2) *Enter into intergovernmental agreements with public institutions of higher education and the Illinois Community College Board to implement tutoring;*

- 3) *Issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the (a) independent evaluation of the Illinois Tutoring Initiative, (b) review and evaluate submissions to such RFP, (c) select an entity to conduct the evaluation, and (d) enter into a related agreement for such service; and*
- 4) *Use funds, in accordance with provisions of an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education, to hire temporary staff at the IBHE for implementation of the Illinois Tutoring Initiative.*