

APPROVED
JUNE 8, 2021

June 8, 2021

**DIVERSIFYING HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY IN ILLINOIS PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2022 GRANT ALLOCATION**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item recommends the allocation of anticipated Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations 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 Strategic Planning process that focus on 1) increasing postsecondary credential and degree attainment to develop the talent that drives Illinois' economy; 2) closing equity gaps for students; 3) improving affordability; 4) increasing access; and 5) assisting with the educational expenses of students.

The \$1.456 million grant will support approximately 103 DFI Fellow awards in Fiscal Year 2022, including 59 continuing awards, and 44 new awards. 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: The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the Fiscal Year 2022 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 2022 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 member 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 2022 was opened to students in December 2020. There was a total of approximately 150 application requests for this year. On March 31, 2021, the DFI Board approved recommendations for Fiscal Year 2022 funding of approximately \$1.456 million for the DFI fellowship awards. The DFI Board recommends funding for 103 DFI fellows. The distribution of fellowships awarded is for 59 continuing students at \$15,000 and 44 new students at \$12,500. Table 1 lists the distribution of students and the participating institutions.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriation for the DFI institutional grant awards (see Table 1) as specified by the statute and recommended by the DFI Program Board.

TABLE 1
 Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Act
 Distribution of Fiscal Year 2022 Awards
 Pending Fellow Acceptance

<u>Institution</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Renewal</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Masters</u>	<u>Doctoral</u>
Adler University	2	2	4	0	4
Aurora University	0	1	1	0	1
DePaul University	2	2	4	2	2
Eastern Illinois University	2	0	2	2	0
Governors State University	2	1	3	1	2
Illinois State University	1	8	9	2	7
Loyola University	3	0	3	0	3
National Louis University	1	3	4	0	4
Northeastern Illinois University	4	0	4	4	0
Northern Illinois University	2	6	8	2	6
Northwestern University	1	0	1	0	1
Roosevelt University	3	3	6	5	1
Southern Illinois University Carbondale	6	1	7	2	5
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	1	0	1	0	1
University of Chicago	2	2	4	1	3
University of Illinois at Chicago	9	17	26	3	23
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	3	13	16	1	15
Totals	44	59	103	25	78