

**APPROVED**  
**JUNE 8, 2021**

June 8, 2021

**GENERAL GRANTS  
FISCAL YEAR 2022 GRANT ALLOCATIONS**

**Submitted for:** Action.

**Summary:** This item requests approval for the Executive Director to award six General Grants, pending further action by the General Assembly and the Governor. Recipients of these grants are required to provide a budget, a project closeout report, and a completed statement of certification specifying their compliance with terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

<u>General Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Creating Pathways and Access for Student Success (CPASS)	\$ 1,433,600
Grow Your Own (GYO) Teacher Education Initiative	2,466,300
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA) Fusion Program	95,900
MyCreditsTransfer Project	183,300
Quad-Cities Graduate Study Center	73,800
University Center of Lake County	1,055,700
Total:	<u>\$ 5,308,600</u>

**Action Requested:** That the Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to award the Fiscal Year 2022 General Grants, pending further action by the General Assembly and the Governor.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**GENERAL GRANTS  
FISCAL YEAR 2022 GRANT ALLOCATIONS**

This item details the funding for the General Grants, pending further action by the General Assembly and Governor. A General Grant is an appropriation of funds to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) by the General Assembly for the purpose of making grants to named entities or classes of entities. These appropriations are independent of any existing authorization for IBHE to administer the grants. The Board has written procedures for the administration and allocation of such appropriations, to give notice to potential recipients of these procedures, and to require accountability for the expenditure of these funds.

Recipients of these grants are required to provide a budget, a project closeout report, and a completed statement of certification specifying their compliance with terms and conditions of the grant agreement, pursuant to the Grants Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA).

Creating Pathways and Access for Student Success (CPASS), \$1,433,600

The Creating Pathways and Access for Student Success (CPASS) is run within the Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago.

CPASS is an intervention strategy to provide enhanced academic and counseling support to underrepresented students seeking to be professionals in medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary science, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, and public health. The program 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. In Fiscal Year 2021 the program anticipates serving over 900 students.

Grow Your Own (GYO) Teacher Education Initiative, \$2,466,300

The intent of the GYO initiative is to create a statewide pipeline of teachers who are likely to become effective teachers in hard-to-staff schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income students and hard-to-staff teaching positions in schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income students. Further, the initiative is to increase the diversity of teachers, including diversity based on race and ethnicity. The initiative will ensure educational rigor by effectively preparing candidates in accredited bachelor's degree programs in teaching, through which graduates shall meet the requirements to secure an Illinois initial teaching license.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2020 the administration and oversight of the program was transferred to GYO-Illinois, a not-for-profit organization. GYO-Illinois is responsible for all grant operational activity and expenditures along with the grant application and management process. IBHE will maintain the responsibility for the contracting of the independent evaluator of the

grant funds. IBHE will hold back five percent or approximately \$123,000 for the contracting of the independent evaluator and Grant Accountability and Transparency Act related expenses. The remaining \$2,343,300 will be sent to Grow Your Own Illinois for funding of the grant activities.

#### Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy Fusion Program, \$95,900

IMSA Fusion is an after-school enrichment program for Illinois students in late elementary (grades four and five) and middle school (grades six through eight) 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:

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

#### MyCreditsTransfer Project at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, \$183,300

The MyCreditsTransfer Project is a statewide initiative that makes information available to students via a free web-based tool (Transferology). The MyCreditsTransfer Project seeks to aid all students who intend to transfer credits among Illinois higher education institutions. Students can create personal accounts through which they can track their progress toward specific degrees at institutions where they have not yet matriculated. The information made available to transfer students through Transferology helps enable them to make the most of their time and money as they work toward degree completion.

One of the intended outcomes of the MyCreditsTransfer Project is to provide students who are underrepresented in higher education access to information about how they can most efficiently transfer to baccalaureate-granting institutions. With increased implementation at the state's public universities and with improved promotion at the state's community colleges, the goal is to see larger numbers of underrepresented minority students transferring and a greater proportion of those students moving from community colleges to Illinois senior institutions.

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

#### Quad-Cities Graduate Study Center, \$73,800

The Quad-Cities Graduate Study Center (Grad Center) 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 Grad Center is designed for students whose work and family responsibilities make traditional on-campus study difficult. The Grad Center strives to develop convenient and diverse programs

offerings for students.

The Grad Center is comprised of members representing Drake University, St. Ambrose University, University of Iowa, University of Illinois Nursing (Quad Cities), and Western Illinois University.

University Center of Lake County, \$1,055,700

Established by IBHE in 1998, the University Center of Lake County (Center) is a consortium of 20 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.

The creation of the University Center was an intentional decision made by the IBHE after much research. In early studies and through more than 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. Many state and foreign representatives have visited to learn more about this successful national model.

**Recommendation**

The staff recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to award the Fiscal Year 2022 General Grants, pending further action by the General Assembly and the Governor.*