



**ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
August 13, 2025 • 2:00 p.m.**

**MEETING WILL CONVENE AT 2 P.M. IN PERSON**

- **EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, DOUDNA FINE ARTS CENTER, DVORAK HALL,  
1860 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET, CHARLESTON, IL 61920**

**AND ONLINE VIA ZOOM.**

**Participation by Zoom requires registration. Please [click here](#) to register. After your registration has been approved, you will receive instructions for joining the meeting.**

**A. Call to Order/Roll Call**

- Call Meeting to Order and Remarks, Pranav Kothari, Chair
- Action to Permit Board Member Virtual Attendance
- Welcome and Remarks, President Jay Gatrell, Eastern Illinois University
- Executive Director Report, Ginger Ostro, Executive Director

**B. Deep Dive Policy Update**

**Federal Policy and Budget Update**

- Tom Harnisch, Vice President for Government Relations, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association

**Adequate and Equitable Funding**

- Mike Abrahamson, Director of Policy and Research, The Partnership for College Completion
- Cherita Ellens, President and CEO, Women Employed
- Kelsey Bakken, Director of Policy, Advance Illinois

**C. Public Comment**

- Request from Members of the Public to Address the Board

**D. Action Items**

**Page Number**

1. Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction at Public Service, and Research at Public Universities (Dr. Nkechi Onwuameze)
2. Consideration and Approval of New Operating and/or Degree-Granting Authority for Independent Institutions (Dr. Nkechi Onwuameze)
3. Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction, Public Community Colleges (Dr. Nkechi Onwuameze)

**E. Consent Agenda Action Items**

1. Consideration and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – June 25, 2025
2. Consideration and Approval of Proposed Amendments to Nurse Educator Fellowship Rules (Eric Villarreal)

**F. Executive Session**

1. Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Matters involving 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act

**G. Other Business**

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at Elgin Community College in Elgin.

**H. Adjournment**

**This meeting will be audio recorded, and a copy may be requested through the IBHE website.**

Board agenda materials online at: [www.ibhe.org](http://www.ibhe.org)

*In compliance with pertinent state and federal laws, this meeting will be accessible to persons with disabilities upon notification of anticipated attendance. Persons planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact: Board Secretary, Illinois Board of Higher Education, 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 333, Springfield, Illinois 62701, telephone: 217/557-7351 (TTD 217/524-3494), e-mail: [bealon@ibhe.org](mailto:bealon@ibhe.org) by August 12, 2025.*