

# *ICCB Press Release*

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Immediate Release

## **Record number of credit hours and completions mark community college efforts in FY2010**

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(Springfield)– A record number of students completed degree or certificate programs at Illinois community colleges during the Fiscal Year 2010, according to a report released today by the Illinois Community College Board. A record number of credit hours were also taken by students during the same period, measured in Full Time Equivalency (FTE).

Figures for FTE are the measure of total number of credit hours being taken by students divided by 30. Thirty is the number of semester hours considered as a full-time class load for a school year. The FTE for FY2010 was 273,344, which is more than 23,000 above FY2009, itself a record at the time.

The number of completions in degree and certificate programs was 56,844 for the last fiscal year, which is more than 3,800 above the previous record in FY2009.

The statewide FY2010 headcount enrollment is at its fourth highest, 730,335, since the ICCB began keeping those figures in 1973. Only 3 years in the early 1980s exceeded the FY2010 mark.

“Students at our community colleges are completing more programs than ever before, placing their confidence in our ability to provide them with the educational experience they need to move forward,” said Geoffrey S. Obrzut, president and chief executive officer of the ICCB. “I cannot compliment our colleges enough for the efforts they have been putting into retention and completion.”

“We cannot emphasize enough that our community colleges are at near bursting points to accommodate the demand for the quality education our students expect to receive,” said Guy H. Alongi, chairman of the ICCB.

Alongi also expressed concern about the level of funding community colleges receive while they continue to serve expanding enrollments. “These continuing record enrollment figures reinforce the necessity of keeping our community colleges well-equipped and adequately funded,” he said.

The full report is available on the ICCB website, [www.iccb.org](http://www.iccb.org).

The ICCB is the state coordinating board for community colleges. Illinois is home to 48 community colleges in 39 districts and has the third largest community college system enrollment in the nation.

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