

# *ICCB Press Release*

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## **Illinois community colleges make good showing in degree and certificate producers survey**

SPRINGFIELD— In a recent survey by published by Community College Week magazine, Illinois community colleges showed a significant presence among the Top 100 Associate Degree and Certificate producers in the nation.

The national survey ranked institutions by the number of Associate degrees and certificates they awarded in the 2006-2007 school year. In the Top 100 schools awarding Associates Degrees, Illinois community colleges included are College Of DuPage, William Rainey Harper College, Moraine Valley Community College, and Illinois Central College. The degrees awarded encompass all disciplines.

Included the Top 100 community colleges awarding One-Year Certificates are Harold Washington College (ranked #2, and one of the City Colleges of Chicago), Southwestern Illinois College, College of DuPage, College of Lake County, Lincoln Land Community College, William Rainey Harper College, South Suburban College, and Lewis & Clark Community College. The certificates include all disciplines.

In the category for all disciplines for Two-Year Certificates, Lake Land College and College of DuPage both rank in the Top 100.

“This survey is another indication of the critical value our community colleges contribute to the educational and economic strength of Illinois,” said Guy Alongi, chairman of the Illinois Community College Board.

“The positive impact of community colleges on the lives of the people in Illinois cannot be overstated,” said Geoffrey Obrzut, president and chief executive officer of the ICCB. “And the survey shows geographic distribution of the Illinois colleges across the entire state. Our entire system can be congratulated for these findings.”

More on the survey can be found at [www.ccweek.com](http://www.ccweek.com) (June 16, 2008 issue).

The Illinois Community College System is the third largest community college system in the nation and comprises 48 community colleges in 39 districts covering all of Illinois. Illinois community colleges annually serve approximately a million students in college transfer courses, workforce development, continuing education, and adult education programs.

The Illinois Community College Board is the state coordinating board for community colleges. It comprises a chairperson and ten other members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, and a nonvoting student member appointed by the ICCB Student Advisory Committee.

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