

Illinois Community College Board

APPROVAL OF TRUSTEE TRAINING PROVIDERS

The Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-8.5) requires trustees elected or appointed to local community college boards after January 1, 2017, to complete four hours of training every two years. The training can be provided by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) or any provider approved by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB).

Having met the guidelines established by the ICCB, the Board is requested to approve the following vendor as a trustee training provider:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the following trustee training provider:

Akerman LLP

BACKGROUND

Description: Akerman LLP represents institutions of higher education across the entire spectrum of postsecondary education, including public and private colleges and universities offering doctoral and graduate degrees, two and four-year associates and baccalaureate degrees, certificates, and diploma programs. Akerman provides a comprehensive range of litigation, transactional, and counseling services to colleges, universities, athletic conferences, and associations. The firm assists clients in understanding and addressing regulatory challenges within higher education. In addition, members of the Akerman team contributed to re-writing the Higher Education Acts and established the Higher Education Allied Health Leaders (HEAL) Coalition to promote the interests of allied health professionals attending proprietary institutions of higher education.

Instructors and Qualifications: The following team of attorneys and policy consultants will provide trustee training.

LaKeisha C. March, Partner (Chair – Higher Education and Collegiate Athletics Practice). LaKeisha Marsh regularly advises clients on matters including student discipline, student accommodations, Title IX compliance including complaints and investigations, FERPA, Clery Act, and collegiate athletic issues. She also serves as deputy chair of Akerman's Government Affairs and Public Policy Practice Group. LaKeisha received her law degree in 2005 from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

As a former member of the NCAA staff, in the Academic and Membership Affairs department, LaKeisha has firsthand knowledge of the NCAA bylaws and rules for Division I, II, and III athletics. She has handled NCAA certification, compliance reviews, infractions and appeals, student-athlete eligibility and waivers, and Title IX and gender equality matters. In addition to her expansive private practice, LaKeisha previously served as an executive at an entrepreneurial, not-for-profit educational system, where she managed the legal department responsible for corporate governance, compliance, transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and litigation management.

Jamel A.R. Greer, Associate. Jamel Greer focuses his practice on representing clients in the higher education and collegiate athletics sector. His experience includes representing schools and universities in procuring state licenses, as well as conducting training for board members on FOIA, Open Meetings Act, and general board governance. In addition, Jamel routinely counsels teachers and coaches in matters involving discrimination, harassment, hazing, and student privacy, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. He also handles various investigations involving alleged mistreatment of student-athletes, Title IX discrimination claims, and NCAA investigations involving potential violations by student athletes. Jamel received his law degree in 2014 from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

E. Michael Montgomery III, Associate. E. Michael Montgomery III focuses his practice on representing colleges, universities, and related institutions on federal and state regulatory compliance, accreditation, state licensure, distance education programs, institutional governance, and collegiate sports and NCAA compliance-related matters. He also has experience with real estate and municipal licensing. Mike previously worked for the Office of the Mayor for the City of Chicago where he served in the office of legislative counsel and government affairs, managing and advising on mayoral and aldermanic ordinances within the human services and infrastructure City Council Committees. Mike received his law degree in 2016 from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Agenda Item #9.2
January 24, 2020

Course Schedule: Akerman proposes to fulfill board trustee training requirements by providing an understanding of the statutorily mandated topics, along with real work examples and applications. Sample training topics include:

- Managing an Effective Audit
- Compliance with Illinois Community College and Labor Law
- Basics of Contract Law
- Understanding Ethical Obligations of Board of Trustee Members
- Overview of Fiduciary Responsibilities of a Trustee
- Effective Financial Oversight and Accountability
- Overview of Illinois' Freedom of Information Act
- Overview of Illinois' Open Meetings Act
- Reporting and Documenting Sexual Violence on Campus

Subject Matter and Method of Training: The association is seeking approval to provide live in-person, prerecorded audio/video, and online webinar training in the following topics identified in Table 1.

Table 1: Provider Seeks Approval to Offer Training in the Following Topics

Audits	Financial Oversight and Accountability
Community College and Labor Law	Freedom of Information Act
Contract Law	Open Meetings Act
Ethics	Sexual Violence on Campus
Fiduciary Responsibilities of a Trustee	

Table 2: Methods of Providing Training

In Person
Audio/Video - Prerecorded
Online Webinar

Fee Schedule: Akerman LLP's services are calculated from an hourly fee arrangement. Akerman will work with each community college, on a case by case basis, to establish an acceptable fee arrangement for all parties prior to engaging in training.