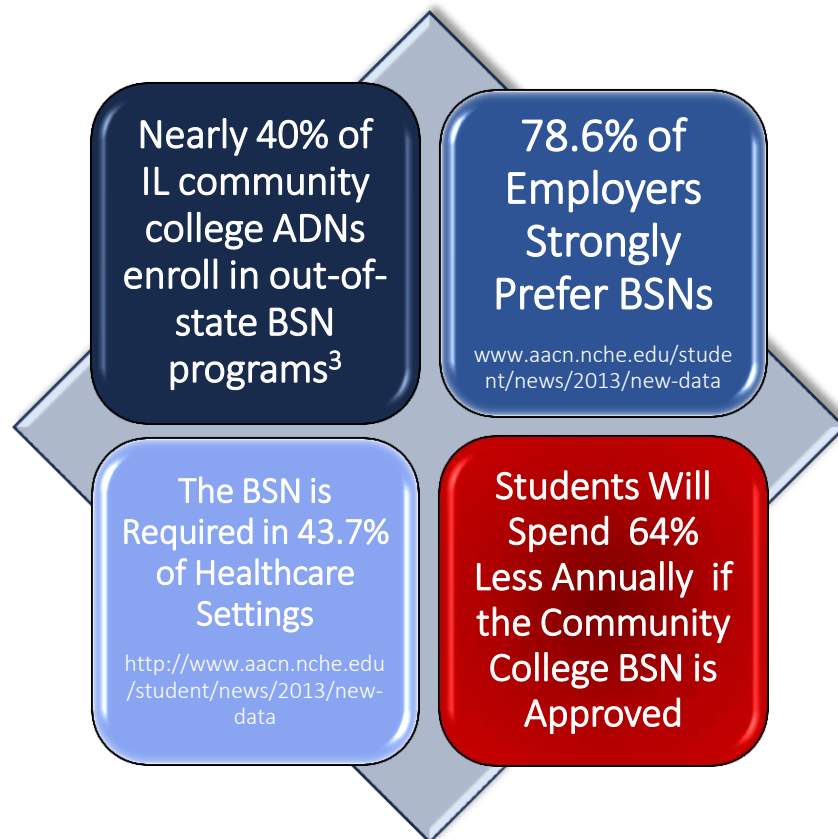


# ICCB POSITION PAPER IN SUPPORT OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

All community college districts in Illinois offer the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN). **Special Consideration must be given to graduates of ADN programs who wish to complete a baccalaureate degree, because they tend to be:**

- **WORKING.** Those that might seek the BSN at the community college are working and looking to upgrade their skills. A 2012 survey of 2,744 Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) student respondents in Illinois revealed that 86.7% of them intended to pursue a bachelor's degree.<sup>1</sup>
- **PLACE BOUND.** Communities, families and jobs make moving or long commutes for the BSN impractical.
- **COST-CONSCIOUS.** Community Colleges are much lower cost options. The average annual cost for the 4-year institutions (independent for-profit, independent not-for-profit, public university) that ADN graduates are enrolling in is almost \$18,000. This compares to the average annual cost of between \$3,200 for 12 credit hours to \$4,800 for 18 credit hours, at an Illinois community college, including tuition and fees. In the survey cited above, of those that did not intend to pursue a BSN, cost was the primary reason.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> [Illinois Community Colleges Registered Nursing Student Survey Report](#), October 9, 2012- unpublished.

<sup>2</sup> [Illinois Community Colleges Registered Nursing Student Survey Report](#), October 9, 2012- unpublished.

<b>MYTH:</b>	<i>Community Colleges are not adequately prepared to provide the BSN program.</i>
<b>FACT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 11 states already authorize these programs around the country. Community Colleges often employ faculty with the same credentials as those at the College or University and maintain the same equipment for their Associate Degree nursing programs as what is maintained in the four year settings. BSNs do not require additional resources to complete.</li> </ul>
<b>MYTH:</b>	<i>Allowing community colleges to provide the BSN program will draw students away from existing BSN programs at 4-year institutions.</i>
<b>FACT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ This legislative proposal explicitly caps the number of community colleges that can provide the BSN program to 10 colleges until 2022.</li> <li>✓ This legislative proposal explicitly caps the enrollment of students into community college BSN programs at 7,000 which represents only 5% per year of total overall enrollment.</li> <li>✓ The community college BSN program is geared to provide access to students not served through existing BSN options.</li> </ul>
<b>MYTH:</b>	<i>Limits on clinical space create an environment where institutions of higher education would be competing for that space.</i>
<b>FACT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ ADN graduates entering BSN programs like those proposed, require no additional clinical instruction. In fact, students complete clinical requirements during the existing ADN portion of the curriculum in existing clinical space.</li> <li>✓ Also, most students are already working in a healthcare setting.</li> </ul>
<b>MYTH:</b>	<i>Public Universities have unlimited capacity to provide students with the BSN and can meet the demand.</i>
<b>FACT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Almost 7 out of 10 Illinois Community College ADN graduates are enrolling in Independent, For-Profit or Not-for-Profit 4-Year institutions. Of those, 30% are enrolling in independent and for profit institutions<sup>3</sup>.</li> <li>✓ 17% of Illinois Community College ADN graduates are enrolling in Chamberlain College of Nursing (For-Profit), with an annual tuition of \$16,200.</li> <li>✓ Much of the capacity is in online programs. Many students prefer face-to-face, community-based options that are accessible through the local community college.</li> </ul>
<b>MYTH:</b>	<i>Community Colleges would draw upon limited state resources to provide the BSN.</i>
<b>FACT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ This legislative proposal explicitly limits the ability of community colleges to access credit hour reimbursement (state) funds for the BSN program.</li> </ul>

### Cost Differential by Sector Enrollment for Fiscal Year 2010 ADN Graduates

Sector of 4-Year Institution	Number of Students	Percent of Students	Average Annual Cost*
Public University	644	34.2%	\$13,247
Independent, For-Profit	541	28.7%	\$18,780
Independent, Not-For-Profit	697	37.0%	\$21,597
Total/Average	1,882	100.0%	\$17,774
<b>Community College**</b>			<b>\$4,800</b>

\*Data Source: USDOE College Scorecard

\*\*Projected Cost for 18 credit hours per year for the average tuition