

Agenda
Illinois Community College Board
Work Session

Kaskaskia College
Lifelong Learning Center
Room LC114/LC115
27210 College Road
Centralia, IL 62801

September 25, 2025

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call
2. Announcements and Remarks by Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, Board Chair
3. Understanding the Federal Environment for Community Colleges
 - Amanda Fuchs Miller, President, Seventh Street Strategies
4. Technical Modeling Working Group Update
5. Board Goals Review & Affirmation
6. Adjournment (*ACTION*)

Item #3
September 25, 2025

Illinois Community College Board

UNDERSTANDING THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Amanda Fuchs Miller, president of Seventh Street Strategies, will present on navigating the current federal policy landscape. She will share information about the current federal grant funding landscape and policy changes impacting community colleges.

Illinois Community College Board

TECHNICAL MODELING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

In June of 2025, the ICCB directed the Executive Director to convene the Adequacy and Equity in Community College Working Group that's purpose was to examine the existing funding mechanisms—base operating and equalization, and to consider areas of improvement for these formulas. In March of 2025, the Working Group produced a report that included five recommendations for the Board to more thoroughly consider, which included five recommendations.

- **Recommendation 1:** Conduct comprehensive analyses to address key funding challenges and inform the future development of data-informed solutions.
- **Recommendation 2:** Establish a base funding amount that provides each district with a foundational level of operational support.
- **Recommendation 3:** Adopt an equity-driven funding approach that provides districts with adequate resources aligned to their students' needs, supported by targeted investments to improve outcomes while allowing districts the flexibility to determine the best strategies for implementation.
- **Recommendation 4:** Evaluate and enhance the existing equalization formula and identify solutions to address factors that lead to wide disparities from year to year, enabling greater predictability and stabilization.
- **Recommendation 5:** Analyze existing dual credit funding structures and mechanisms to explore opportunities for greater consistency and alignment across the system.

Subsequent to the report, the agency formed three working groups across the five recommendations, with each charged with modeling scenarios across the five recommendations. The Base Operating Technical Modeling Group has focused specifically on Recommendation 2 and 3. The Equalization Technical Modeling Group has focused specifically on Recommendation 4. The Dual Credit Policy and Technical Modeling Group will focus on Recommendation 5.

Executive Director Durham will provide a status update on each of the Technical Modeling Groups.

Illinois Community College Board

REVISITING THE BOARD GOALS

Every year the Board considers potential changes to the Board Goals during the retreat or similar session, prior to voting to affirm the goals at its September Board meeting. During this portion of the working session, the Board will consider any potential changes. As a reminder here are the approved goals:

The Board hereby supports and affirms the mission of the state's community college system in providing all Illinois residents with opportunities for economic and personal growth, civic engagement, and cultural awareness. The Board is committed to working with community colleges to ensure racial and ethnic diversity on our campuses and to promote inclusive learning environments. The system's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion is essential to students' personal and professional growth and success academically, social-emotionally, and in the workforce. To meet this responsibility, the Board has committed to the following three goals:

GOAL 1: To support all students with a focus on minority, first-generation, and low-income students across urban, rural, and suburban communities, through the promotion of evidence-based best practices that close equity gaps resulting in system-wide improvement of equity metrics across enrollment, retention, advancement, and completion.

GOAL 2: To support a seamless transition for students into and through postsecondary education and the workforce by fostering the development of robust career pathways aligned to the needs of business and industry, strong engagement at all levels of the community college system, and with a focus on meeting students where they begin their educational journey, resulting in equitable access and outcomes for all students.

GOAL 3: To contribute to economic and workforce development by supporting the Illinois community college system's effort to provide high-quality, dynamic workforce training opportunities that build essential skills for high-value work through apprenticeships, work-based learning opportunities, and competency-based instructional models that result in equitable economic mobility through increased credential attainment.

The Board will implement its goals with a focus and commitment to equitable access, opportunities, and outcomes for all students. The Board will promote best practices, enable evidence-based decision-making, and support system-wide continuous improvement.