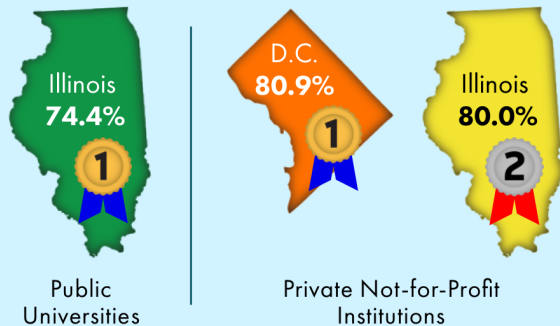


Infographic

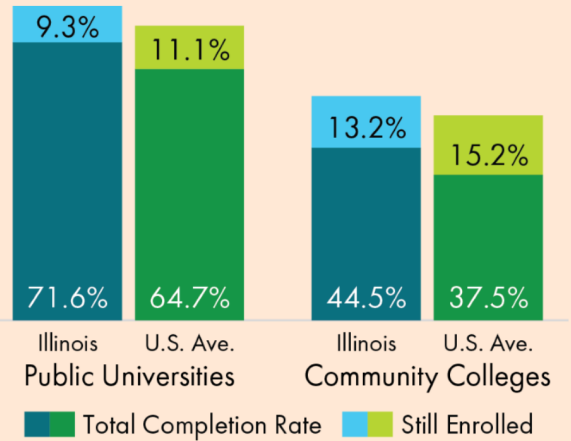
ILLINOIS PROUD: COMPLETING COLLEGE

Illinois is **best in the nation** in completion rates for adult learners at public universities and **ranked second** only to Washington, D.C., among not-for-profit private institutions.

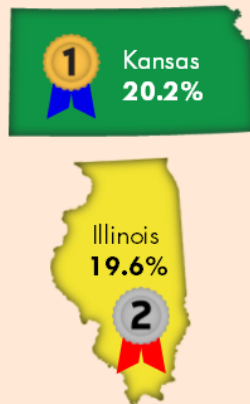


Note: Adult learners are age 24 years and older

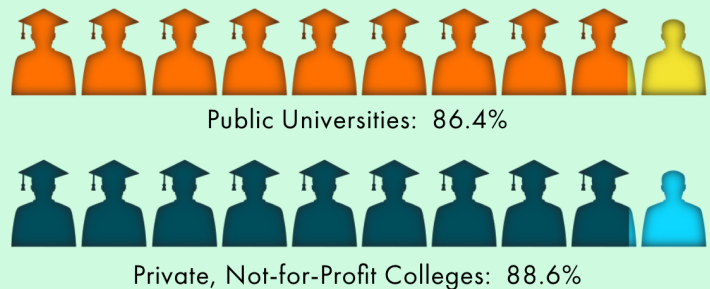
Illinois public colleges **substantially outpace** the national averages in terms of six-year completion rates.



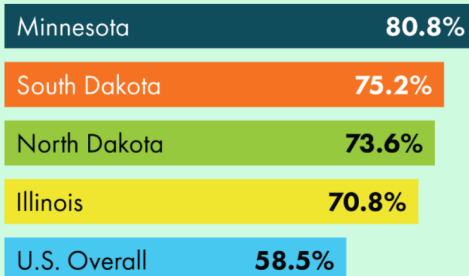
Illinois ranks **second in the nation** for completion rates at four-year institutions among all community college students (part-time and full-time).
 National Ave.: **14.7%**



The **overwhelming majority of full-time students** at Illinois not-for-profit private colleges and public universities complete a degree within six-years.



Illinois is **fourth in the nation** for overall degree completion among full-time community college students.



Illinois also has the **highest percentage** of full-time community college students earning degrees at both their community college and a four-year institution.
 National Average: **17.0%**



The week of March 18 – 24 is designated as [Dual Credit Week in Illinois](#), by [SR 1411](#), sponsored by **Senator Chuck Weaver** and **Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant**. In a [statement](#) released by **Illinois Community College Board** (ICCB) Executive Director **Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson** noted, “The community college system has long been a leader in the development and expansion of dual credit programs. The steady rise in dual credit enrollment reflects an understanding among secondary and postsecondary educators that early college experience is an integral part of preparing students for college and career success.” [Dual Credit Fact Sheet](#) describes a total of 10,740 dual credit courses being offered by all 48 community colleges in the 2015-16 academic year. The **Illinois Board of Higher Education** (IBHE) approves [public universities and private four-year colleges](#) also offering dual credit courses. Both [ICCB](#) and [IBHE](#) administer dual credit programs in accordance with the 2010 state law, the [Dual Credit Quality Act](#).

People in the News



The **Northeastern Illinois University** Board of Trustees has named [Dr. Gloria J. Gibson](#) the new president of the University. Gibson has been serving as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Morgan State University.

“I am truly honored to be named President at Northeastern Illinois University, a place I have developed a strong and heartfelt appreciation for since setting foot on campus,” said Gibson, who will take the helm at Northeastern, starting June 1. “Among the things I found most impressive about Northeastern are its resiliency during the past 150 years and its diverse community. I am so honored to be a part of Northeastern’s history and to be following the footsteps of strong leaders who preceded me.”

Gibson will be the 10th president of NEIU and has been appointed to a three-year term. She succeeds **Dr. Sharon Hahs**, who served as University President from 2007 to 2016, and **Dr. Richard Helldobler**, who served as Interim President for the past 18 months.

Dr. David J. Livingston, President of **Lewis University**, announced [Dr. Christopher Sindt](#), Saint Mary’s College of California Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, will become the Provost of Lewis University, effective July 1.

“All of us at Lewis University look forward to the talent and skill Christopher will bring to our community as our provost,” Livingston said. “His academic leadership and administrative experience will be helpful as our university implements a new strategic plan, reorganizes academic colleges, hires new deans and prepares for a Higher Learning Commission reaccreditation visit.”

Sindt stated, “I’ve admired Lewis for many years for its commitment to liberal learning paired with professional education, and I am delighted to be joining the Lewis community.”



After nearly four decades of leadership in key University roles, **Dr. Stephany Schlachter**, announced plans to retire as provost of Lewis University, effective June 30, 2018. She will continue to serve the University as special assistant to the president until June 30, 2019.

Other News

The **Illinois Student Assistance Commission** (ISAC) has been named the 2018 "Most Effective IT Team" by **CompTIA AITP Chicago**. The award recognizes high performing Chicagoland IT teams that have demonstrated an outstanding job in improving the success of their organization's business. The annual award was presented to the team on Thursday, March 8.



ISAC received the **Most Effective IT Team award in 2015** as well, becoming the first state agency to take the honor.

"We couldn't be more proud of our CIO, **Ramnath Cidambi**, and the entire team," said **Eric Zarnikow**, executive director of ISAC. "Whether they are providing innovative technology that helps us better administer our programs or assisting other state agencies with their technology needs, we are pleased to be recognized as a leader in the field."

Events



The **Illinois Science and Technology Coalition** (ISTC) is sponsoring a member and partner event on Wednesday, April 4, celebrating the release of its annual **Illinois Innovation Index University Entrepreneurship** report, detailing record growth of university startup creation, technology transfer, and funding trends.

In partnership with university members and sponsors, three panel discussions will take place from university leaders, student and faculty entrepreneurs, and funders:

- **University Incubation and Innovation:** University leaders will discuss the role of incubation and innovation initiatives from an on-the-ground perspective, including the evolution of support, bridging activities across campus, the role of funding, and the community impact of university efforts.
- **The Entrepreneurial Perspective across Campus:** Hear perspectives from university-supported startup founders from across campus (undergrad, grad, faculty, and alumni) on their experience leveraging university resources and connecting to the broader ecosystem.
- **The Role of Venture Funding:** Entrepreneurs and members of Illinois' venture capital community will share their perspective on raising capital and discuss trends and strategies unique to university-supported startups

Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 8:30 – 11:30 am, 1871 Auditorium, 222 W. Merchandise Mart, Suite #1212 (12th Floor). [Click here to RSVP.](#)

IBHE Student Art Exhibition

Keenan Dailey

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



The Celestials

Angela Delamora

Moraine Valley Community College



The Trip to Venus

Benjamin Richter
McKendree University



Escaping the Box



Flaming Souls

Paige Scanlan
Moraine Valley Community College



I'm a King Bee

Student Laureates

McKendree University



Himani N. Patel

Millikin University



Justin Alan DeBo

Monmouth College



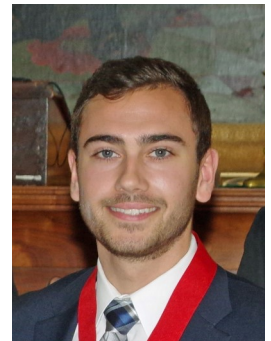
Diana Rubi

National Louis University



Jeremy Kwitschau

North Central College



Connor R. McGury

If you know a past Student Laureate, please ask them get in touch with the Lincoln Academy to share what they've been up to for the Academy's social media pages! Call (217) 785-5030 or e-mail kellner@thelincolnacademyofillinois.org.

In Case You Missed It

Crain's Chicago Business: Hey, Illinois elected officials: Pay attention to this student outmigration, March 9, 2018.

Inside Higher Ed: The persistence project, March 13, 2018.

New York Times: A winning political issue hiding in plain sight, March 18, 2018.

Washington Post: A University of Wisconsin campus pushes plan to drop 13 majors – including English, history, and philosophy, March 21, 2018.



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