Submitted for: Action.

Summary: The Illinois Cooperative Work Study (ICWS) Program provides grants to public and nonpublic colleges and universities to support education-related work experiences that benefit students academically and financially. Colleges and universities in cooperation with public and private companies provide paid work experiences to Illinois college and university students.

This item recommends the fiscal year 2007 ICWS grant allocation in the amount of $2,058,000. This allocation amount reflects the amount of funding available after the mandatory two percent budget reserve. The 54 projects recommended in this item will support academically-related work experiences for approximately 2,000 students at nearly 900 businesses and not-for-profit organizations. Participating employers provide a matching fund commitment that serves to extend the base funding support provided by the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program.

Action Requested: That the Board approve the allocation of $2,058,000 for fiscal year 2007 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grants as detailed in this item.
STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE WORK STUDY PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2007 GRANT ALLOCATION

This item presents recommendations for the fiscal year 2007 allocation of approximately $2.1 million in grants for the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (ICWS). The Act authorizes the Illinois Board of Higher Education to award grants to public and nonpublic institutions of higher education to support cooperative work study programs. The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program provides opportunities for students to apply the theory learned during their educational preparation to the world of work. Institutions seek internships that will assist the students financially and provide relevant clinical work experiences in occupations related to their field of academic study and leading to future employment. Institutions arrange internships and provide Work Study funds to employers who in turn pay the salaries of the interns. Most employers contribute funding up to 50 percent of the intern salary. The program has seven primary objectives:

- Expand opportunities for students to pursue internships, clinical placement, cooperative programs with business and industry, and other work opportunities linked to a student’s academic program;
- Strengthen cooperation between higher education, business, industry, and government;
- Encourage social and community service;
- Maximize the use of matching contributions from business and industry, and governmental and social agencies;
- Create new opportunities for public/private partnerships;
- Integrate other components of student financial aid to reduce reliance on student loans;
- Encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

While each of the applications addressed these criteria, several entities have made outstanding strides in securing internship opportunities for students that ultimately led to full-time employment. It was reported that approximately 484 students that had participated in the work study program during fiscal year 2005 received full-time employment.

The ICWS proposals target internship opportunities based on local community needs and labor market demands. Institutions provide strong support services to the student interns and dedicated institutional supervision of the interns. Institutions also have developed comprehensive program evaluation design strategies to measure program impact. All institutions provide for a corresponding institutional match to requested program funds.

Employers that participate in the program express extreme pleasure in the quality of interns that are placed within their businesses. Employers are pleased to employ properly-trained well-educated interns at a reduced cost of normal wages. Most of the participating employers have agreed to provide up to fifty percent of the wage that is ultimately paid to the students.
In fiscal year 2007, the 54 college work study proposals recommended in this item were selected from a pool of applicants requesting more than $3.1 million in funding. The projects recommended in this item will support approximately 2,000 students at nearly 900 businesses and not-for-profit organizations. The highest ranked proposals include programs aimed at supporting Illinois resident students in programs that closely link work and academic experiences, and programs that feature significant employer commitment in the form of direct matching contributions to support work study student wages.

Each proposal was reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the following criteria as presented in the fiscal year 2007 application:

**Workforce and Economic Development** - How well does the proposal provide clear evidence of addressing issues relative to workforce and economic development, i.e., strengthening cooperation among higher education institutions, K-12 education, business, industry and government; creating opportunities for public/private partnerships; and encouraging students to seek permanent employment in Illinois?

**Leveraging Resources** - How well does the proposal provide clear evidence of integrating other resources, i.e., integrating other components of financial aid to reduce reliance on student loans; maximizing the use of matching contributions from business, industry, and government; and showing alignment between the Cooperative Work Study Program and other campus work study programs?

**Enhances Academic, Employment, and Community Relationships** - How well does the proposal enhance academic, employment and community relationships, i.e., expanding student internships linked to a student’s academic field; and encouraging social and community service?

**Program Articulation** - How well does the proposal articulate the administrative requirements for the program, i.e., the student selection process; the relationship between students, faculty, and employers; and clearly defined responsibilities for student supervision and evaluation?

**Evaluation Process** - How well does the proposal describe the evaluation and assessment measures used to assess the effectiveness of the activities in relation to the goals and objectives, i.e., providing clearly stated performance measures; clearly stating tracking information for follow up of students; and providing an interim evaluation for previously funded projects?

**Budget** - How well does the budget support the proposed project objectives, i.e., the budget is cost effective and consistent with the scope of the proposed objectives; and the budget reflects maximized use of matching contributions?

Illinois Cooperative Work Study Programs are required to meet several accountability requirements. These requirements include: (1) a performance evaluation, (2) employer commitments, (3) a project budget, and (4) an annual audit. These measures serve to enhance program accountability and compliance with ICWS guidelines.

Attached are the fiscal year 2007 recommendations for 54 grants—four new and 50 continuing projects—that provide $2,058,000 in funds that will assist approximately 2,000 Illinois resident undergraduate students. Table 1 presents a summary of recommended award amounts by institution. The accompanying project synopses provide a brief overview of the project activities planned for each of the fiscal year 2007 ICWS recommended projects.
The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the allocation of $2,058,000 for Illinois Cooperative Work Study grants for fiscal year 2007 as detailed in Table 1. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to withhold payment or adjust grant allocations, if necessary, to conform with existing statute and rules.
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**TOTALS**

$2,053,905  $2,058,000

** Funded in FY2006, did not apply in FY2007
Note: Recommendations based on FY2007 reserve funding level.
Institution: Bradley University

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program Grant

Project Director: Ms. Dawn Koeltzow
Assistant Director, Smith Career Center
Bradley University
1501 W. Bradley Avenue
Peoria, IL 61625
Telephone: (309) 677-2510
e-mail: dkoeltzow@bradley.edu

Recommended: $121,600

Project Synopsis: The proposed Bradley University Fiscal Year 2007 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will establish cooperative work study relationships with new employers, expand and strengthen existing relationships, and continue relationships established with previous years’ grant funds. Thirty-four Illinois employers have submitted letters of intent indicating a total of 144 Cooperative Education/Internship opportunities for undergraduate students who are Illinois residents. It is projected that a total of 110 Bradley University students will be served by the fiscal year 2007 project. Examples of organizations who have submitted a letter of intent to participate in the fiscal year 2007 program are Alzheimer’s Association, W. D. Boyce Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Clifton Gunderson L.L.P., Economic Development Council, Foth & VanDyke and Associates, Heart of Illinois United Way, Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Lakeview Museum of Arts & Sciences, Morton Metalcraft Company, MultiAd, Martin & Shadid, CPAs, P.C., Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, RLI, Ross Creative + Strategy, Sylvan Learning Center, and Vansco Electronics. Opportunities will be offered to students in all five undergraduate colleges: Foster College of Business Administration, Slane College of Communications & Fine Arts, College of Education & Health Sciences, College of Engineering & Technology, and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

The proposed budget will utilize a 50 percent match in employer and grant funds, enabling Bradley students to earn approximately $354,000 in wages. The goals of the project are to expand opportunities for students to pursue career-related work experience, create new opportunities and strengthen existing relationships between Bradley University and participating organizations, encourage social and community service opportunities, maximize the use of matching grant contributions from participating organizations, reduce reliance on financial assistance, and encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation.
Institution: Northern Illinois University

Project Title: Northern Illinois University FY 2007 Cooperative Work Study

Project Director: Cindy Henderson
Acting Executive Director/Career Services
Northern Illinois University
Telephone: (815) 753-4045
e-mail: chenderson@niu.edu

Recommended: $119,000

Project Synopsis: The Northern Illinois University (NIU) Career Services office proposes to partner with a wide variety of large and small employers to provide valuable career-related work experiences for 83 NIU students. These supervised experiences will offer students professional, hands-on experience applicable to their field of study and more one-on-one supervision than that offered in the regular classroom. Employers have agreed to supply 50 percent of student wages. Career Services proposes this cooperative experience with nine employers, many of which have participated in previous ICWS grants. Included are: Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital; Alexian Brothers Medical Center; Alexian Brothers St. Alexius Medical Center; DeKalb Park District; Delnor-Community Hospital; Linden Oaks Hospital; Provena St. Joseph Hospital; Rush-Copley Medical Center and Sherman Hospital. Selected employers will offer career-relevant work experiences for students from the NIU Colleges of Business, Education, Health & Human Sciences, Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Visual & Performing Arts.
Institution: Eastern Illinois University

Project Title: Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mr. Daniel E. Crews
Grant Manager
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920-3099
Telephone: (217) 581-2113
e-mail: decrews@eiu.edu

Recommended: $112,600

Project Synopsis: Eastern Illinois University requests Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program funds to support work-study experiences for students in the areas of African-American Studies, Business/Marketing, Economics, Environmental Biology, Geology/Geography, Graphic Design, Health Studies, Family and Consumer Science, Journalism, Physical Education, Political Science (Administration and Pre-Law), Psychology, Public Relations, and Sociology. Allocated funds also will pay for an external audit at the conclusion of the program. Eastern's goals for the CWS program are to initiate new work-study opportunities for students and expand previously existing partnerships with Illinois employers. The participating work sites will provide a minimum 50 percent match toward student salaries while the funds provided by the CWS program will provide a maximum 50 percent match toward student salaries. By participating in the program, students will enhance their knowledge and skills through practical, on-the-job work experiences that are directly linked to their selected academic degree program. Student-earned income will assist in reducing reliance upon state funded loans and other financial aid programs. Statistics indicate many students are routinely hired following their work-study experience while others secure employment through networking contacts made while employed at the work site. The Cooperative Work Study program is available to Illinois resident, undergraduate students only, and participation is open to businesses, corporations and governmental agencies located throughout the state of Illinois.
Institution: Dominican University

Project Title: CAREERNET

Project Director: Ms. Keli Wojciechowski
Director of Internships/Center for Career Development
Dominican University
7900 West Division Street
River Forest, IL 60305-1066
Telephone: (708) 524-6827
e-mail: kallen@dom.edu

Recommended: $102,000

Project Synopsis: This year marks the thirteenth anniversary of Dominican University’s highly successful CAREERNET internship program. The purpose of this program is to assist students in obtaining paid internship experiences that are academically relevant to their major field of study, reduce reliance on financial assistance and to encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation. The CAREERNET program has enabled us to build new business and community partnerships and strengthened existing relationships with both large and small employers in public and nonprofit organizations. This year, the requested funding will be used as matching funds to support student wages for seventy-three academically relevant internship experiences. Junior and Senior level students can earn up to eight academic credit hours by successfully completing an internship in their major field of study. Students complete the program with a better understanding of their skills and abilities, as well as a clearer goal for potential careers. This program includes a strong evaluation component with the students’ performance closely monitored by their faculty internship advisor, their employment supervisor and the Director of Internships.
Institution: University of Illinois at Springfield

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant Program

Project Director: Ms. Elaine Rundle-Schwark, Director
Experiential & Service-Learning Programs: Applied Study Program
University of Illinois at Springfield
One University Plaza MS BRK 482
Springfield, IL 62703-5407
Telephone: (217) 206-6640
e-mail: rundle-schwark.elaine@uis.edu

Recommended: $93,000

Project Synopsis: The objective of this project is to continue to provide matching funds for approximately 61 paid internships where prior to the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program undergraduate interns were seldom paid. Our proposal is to continue paid work study placements at University of Illinois at Springfield by providing competitive work study placements for those students who will be participating in the Applied Study Program for academic credit in the area of general education. This funding will enable us to increase student, faculty, and employer awareness of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program; to maximize potential for obtaining matching funds; to expand the variety of opportunities for students to pursue internships linked to the students’ academic programs; to offer a way to reduce loan and financial aid dependency for the students; to encourage placements with business, industry, government, community and social service agencies; to provide opportunities for entry level positions in a variety of Illinois agencies and businesses so that these students could become more successful in today’s competitive job market.
<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Institution:</strong></th>
<th>Rend Lake College</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Title:</strong></td>
<td>Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program</td>
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| **Project Director:** | Jennifer O’Daniel  
Director, Center for Business & Cooperative Education  
Rend Lake College  
468 North Ken Gray Parkway  
Ina, IL  62846-9740  
Telephone:  (618) 437-5321, ext 1354  
e-mail:  odanielj@rlc.edu |
| **Recommended:** | $92,000 |
| **Project Synopsis:** | Program funds are requested for the purpose of placing a minimum of 69 Rend Lake College Students into academically-relevant cooperative education employment with approximately 20 employers. Funds will be used to place students who have historically proven to be difficult to place because of their major selections and life situations which present barriers to employment. The majority of the students placed in the project will be elementary, early childhood or special education majors. Other students targeted by this project will include those majoring in technical fields such as computer networking, graphic design, and industrial electronics. This project will continue a unique application of Illinois Cooperative Work Study funds by placing the majority of students into paid employment in area schools working directly in the classroom under the supervision of experienced teachers. |
Institution: University of Illinois at Chicago

Project Title: UIC Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mr. Roger Nelson
Special Projects Coordinator
Office of Planning and Programs M/C 103
University of Illinois at Chicago
601 S. Morgan Street
Chicago, IL  60607-7128
Telephone: (312) 413-5508
e-mail: rpnelson@uic.edu

Recommended: $90,000

Project Synopsis: The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is requesting funding to continue support of its successful UIC Cooperative Work Study Program. Funding will allow UIC to provide paid internships for students who will be placed in work experiences relevant to their academic studies and chosen professions. The funding also will contribute to continuing relationships with employers who have participated in the program in past years and to engage new employers who can bring to the program a wider array of work experiences for students.

The purpose of the program is to: (1) provide undergraduates with experiential work opportunities with professional and business firms, community organizations, cultural institutions and government agencies; (2) enable students to apply classroom learning to actual work situations; (3) develop on-the-job skills; (4) enhance students’ chances of finding full-time employment upon graduation; (5) strengthen relationships with organizations that have hired UIC students in the past and to recruit new employers to the program; and (6) reduce students’ dependence on educational loans and other financial assistance.

For fiscal year 2007, the UIC Cooperative Work Study Program estimates enrolling 45 students with total wages of $252,000. Employers are committed to contributing 50 percent of student wages, making a projected contribution of $126,000. The other 50 percent of student wages would come from the grant. The UIC estimates that approximately 25 employers representing architectural firms, businesses, and civic, social, and political organizations will participate in the program.
Institution: Northeastern Illinois University

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mr. Lorn B. Coleman
Director of Placement
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 N. St. Louis Avenue
Chicago, IL  60625–4699
Telephone: (773) 442 – 4693
e-mail: L-Coleman@neiu.edu

Recommended: $72,400

Project Synopsis: Northeastern Illinois University proposes to use grant funds to establish internships for current undergraduate students meeting eligibility criteria. One of the objectives of the program will be to provide opportunities for qualified resident Illinois students to acquire relevant career related experience prior to graduation. This experience will enhance the employability of the student upon graduation. Another objective of participating in the program will be to facilitate outreach efforts to medium and small employers by establishing internship ventures and strengthening cooperation with higher education. Some of the targeted academic areas for internship development are computer science, accounting, marketing, management, human resources, education and a number of liberal arts areas. Participating companies will provide 43 percent of the wages paid to students in the form of matching funds.
Institution: Illinois State University

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Pamela J. Cooper, M.S. Ed
Assistant Director, Professional Practice/Career Center
Illinois State University
Campus Box 2520
Normal, IL 61790-2520
Telephone: (309) 438-3245
e-mail: picoope@ilstu.edu

Recommended: $50,000

Project Synopsis: The goals of this project are linked both to The Illinois Commitment, (“higher education will help Illinois business and industry sustain strong economic growth.” “...and its workforce must be smart, adaptable and competent.”), and Illinois State University’s Educating Illinois 2003-2010 (“fully engage in outreach with business, industry, government, and education.” “...outcomes from...partnerships established between Illinois State University and business, industry, government, and education”). The goals of the project are to benefit students academically and financially, reduce reliance on student loans, enhance public-private sector partnerships, and encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

Project Participants: Illinois State University students

Funding is essential to assist students in realizing academic and career goals. Funding will support enhanced classroom learning by combining academic curricula with internship/service learning work experiences. Monetary compensation by Illinois employers during the students’ applied career learning experiences will reduce student dependence on student loans. Illinois employers.

Additional funding goals include continuing to enhance public-private sector partnerships by engaging Illinois businesses in the program through venues that include participation in career fairs sponsored by the Career Center and academic departments; and encouraging students to seek permanent employment in Illinois. “…educating the student inside and outside of the classroom, so that students come to appreciate learning as an active and lifelong process”, is the link between the students, Educating Illinois, the Illinois Commitment and the IBHE Cooperative Work Study Program.

While this project will benefit Illinois businesses, the principal clientele to be served are Illinois State University students.
Institution: Elmhurst College

Project Title: JOBPATH

Project Director: Ms. Avery Williams
Coordinator, Career Education
Elmhurst College
190 Prospect Avenue
Elmhurst, IL 60126
Telephone: (630) 617-3624
e-mail: averyw@elmhurst.edu

Recommended: $49,200

Project Synopsis: The Elmhurst College JOBPATH program seeks to provide purposeful job internships for over 50 students in Illinois companies and organizations. These internships would provide meaningful learning opportunities in the private and public/government sectors, in minority owned businesses and in businesses within the science, mathematics and education fields. Student interns complete pre-, mid- and post-internship assessment tools, and employers complete formal evaluations, to ensure the best possible chance for full-time employment upon completion of the internship.

Paid internships in the private sector would have a 50/50 salary match with the employer, and students procuring internships in the non-profit sector would have a 60/40 salary match. Students participating in unpaid internships would receive a stipend based on the number of hours worked, or a travel expense reimbursement. There is a stated intent to hire the student full-time if the opportunity exists and the intern has been performing at a satisfactory level. Students benefit from the program both academically and financially. They are given the opportunity to earn money, therefore decreasing the need for student loans, while enhancing their career development and exploring a potential career field.

The JOBPATH program at Elmhurst College has been successfully placing students into professional positions in Illinois businesses for the last 14 years. The program provides necessary practical experiences for aspiring professionals while offering Illinois organizations the opportunity to hire young professionals who are well prepared for entry into the workforce.
Institution: Quincy University

Project Title: The Early Exploratory Internship Program

Project Director: Dr. John Schleppenbach
Intern Faculty Advisor
Quincy University
1800 College Avenue
Quincy IL 62301-2699
Telephone: (217) 228-5439
e-mail: jschlepp@quincy.edu

Recommended: $48,400

Project Synopsis: The Quincy University proposal will provide opportunities for students as interns in communication, information technology, graphic design, accounting, marketing, pre-professional programs and the liberal arts to explore careers in a variety of fields in area agencies and businesses. Nineteen organizations have agreed to provide a fifty percent match for student wages for 40-50 interns based on an average rate of $8.00 per hour for an average of 15 hours per week each semester. A faculty advisor and advising committee coordinate the program. Fields included are: broadcast and print communication, education, computer science and technology, business (marketing, finance, accounting), government service and social work.
Institution: Concordia University Chicago

Project Title: Enhancing Relationships for Workforce Development through Work Study

Project Director: Ms. Darcie R. Campos  
Career Services  
Concordia University Chicago  
7400 Augusta Street  
River Forest, IL 60305-1499  
Telephone: (708) 209 3032  
e-mail: darcie.campos@cuchicago.edu

Recommended $45,000

Project Synopsis: Concordia University Chicago is seeking funding to partially support internships for up to 45 students enrolled in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, and Education. The University internship program promotes and encourages undergraduate Illinois-resident students to develop a learning relationship with businesses, industries, government agencies, and non-profit agencies to expand their understanding of the workplace. Employers supporting this program include health and fitness centers, accounting firms, early childhood centers, manufacturing firms, media groups, graphic design sites, and social service agencies. Examples from past years include: Sachem Company, K Squared Communications, AthletiCo Physical Therapy, Chase Bank Corporation, ChildServ, The City of Chicago Park District, Cook County Adult Probation Dept., The Grand Group, Gottlieb Health and Fitness, Hephzibah House, Maryville Academy, Osco Sav-On Drugs, Park District of Oak Park, RML Specialty Hospital, ProSport Training And Rehabilitation, The Wednesday Journal, West Suburban Medical Center and Westside Health Authority. Others have offered opportunities to Concordia University Chicago students in appropriate learning experiences in the fields of accounting, business, chemistry, communications, education, exercise science, social work, and psychology.

Next year we will again emphasize placing computer science and graphic design students with employers in the information technology/web design fields. Since the internship program began in 1989, Concordia has increased the number of students participating each year, with the exception of the 2004-2005 grant year, as it was a transitional year for the Career Center, as they were left without a Director for a period of time due to retirement. This past grant year the overall internship participation was increased 30 percent, from 64 students to 83 students. The goal of this project is to increase last years participation by about 10 percent (from 83 students to 91 students) by providing matching funds with current and newly enlisted employers between March 27, 2007 and June 30, 2008.
Institution: The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Vicki Engonopoulos
Director of the Cooperative Education Program
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
36 S. Wabash, #1204
Chicago, IL  60603-3103
Telephone: (312) 629-6810
e-mail: vengds@saic.edu

Recommended: $44,600

Project Synopsis: The School of the Art Institute of Chicago established its Cooperative Education Program in 1978. The School offers academic programs that range from traditional forms of art-making to the study of anthropology and philosophy of art, to the investigation of state-of-the-art technology, including computer imaging, web design, animation, video and visual communication.

The Co-op Program provides students in every department of the School the opportunity to identify a preferred career track and develop realistic goals and expectations for future employment. As students are introduced to quality cooperative education work experiences they begin to see the relationship between these work experiences and their studies. Co-op is part of our curriculum—students work 210 hours per semester averaging 14 hours per week earning three credit hours. Undergraduates are able to take a maximum of 12 credit hours enabling them to have up to four work experiences.

We are currently receiving funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work-Study Program for the 2006/2007 fiscal year. This funding enables us to continue placing students with employers from the public and private sectors and offer paid work experiences to our students who are eligible to participate. The type of work experiences our employer’s offer is of great value to our students. Specific areas continue to include community service, interior architecture, graphic design, web design, animation and film/video production. Although fine art students are considered to be more “difficult to place,” our program proves there are many work opportunities in the arts.
Institution: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Project Title: UIUC Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Gail S. Rooney, Ph.D.
The Career Center
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
715 S. Wright Street
Champaign, IL 61820
Telephone: (217) 333-0820
e-mail: grooney@uiuc.edu

Recommended: $43,300

Project Synopsis: The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) requests supplementary funding through the Illinois Cooperative Work Study (ICWS) grant to support experiential learning opportunities through additional academic and career services units including the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES), the College of Business, and The Career Center. Continued ICWS grant funding for the School of Architecture and College of Fine and Applied Arts is also requested. The proposed program enhances experiential learning opportunities by serving a substantially larger number and more diverse population of students and employers than was previously served through the ICWS program at UIUC. The recommended program makes available more high quality experiential education opportunities representing an increased variety of work environments while also promoting available student talent in east central Illinois. Economic development in the area will be supported and enhanced by partnering with regional employers that provide real-world professional experience and skill development opportunities linked to a student’s academic studies.

Established as a Land Grant University, UIUC focuses on opportunities to fulfill its mission of learning and labor in service to the citizens of the State of Illinois. The ICWS grant provides an avenue for the University to fulfill its mission. The anticipated enhanced program will benefit students academically and financially in diverse curricula, support public-private sector partnerships, and encourage students to seek employment in local/regional organizations. The proposed program also will continue to serve students and employer partnerships in Architecture and Fine and Applied Arts.
Institution: Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: James E. Scales, Ph.D.
Director, Career Services
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Woody Hall B-204, MC-4703
Carbondale, IL 62901-4703
Telephone: (618) 453-1045
e-mail: jscales@siu.edu

Recommended: $43,000

Project Synopsis: Participation in the program will allow SIUC to enhance and expand current Work study/internship opportunities for Illinois undergraduate students to gain work-based, academically-structured experiences while networking with professionals in their field of study. The experiential learning will contribute toward the retention and graduation of participating students by confirming career goals and enhancing marketable work skills. The internship positions will be designed and mutually agreed upon by students, faculty, and employer representatives and will link to the student’s academic field of study. This will allow the student to reinforce the knowledge gained in the classroom and incorporate emerging trends within the industry to better prepare them for employment in Illinois after graduation. It also will provide students with an opportunity to reduce their reliance on student loans by increasing their earnings while gaining related work experience. Both employers and students will evaluate the program. Student performance will be evaluated by employer site supervisors and also by faculty members if the student is receiving college credit. Nine employers, including two new sites, have submitted letters of interest (7), or made verbal commitments (2), to participate and hire 25 students from the following colleges within the University: Agricultural Sciences, Applied Sciences and Arts, Business and Administration, Engineering, Liberal Arts, and Science. Students participating in the program will earn an average of $8.34 per hour and work an average of 20 hours per week during fall and/or spring semester (16 weeks each semester) and 40 hours per week during summer semester (12-14 weeks).
Institution: DeVry University-Illinois

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant

Project Director: Kelly O’Brien
Associate Director/Career Services Center
DeVry University
3300 N. Campbell Avenue #213
Chicago, IL 60618
Telephone: (773) 929-8500, ext. 2078
e-mail: kobrien@chi.devry.edu

Recommended: $41,500

Project Synopsis: DeVry University-Illinois requests funding to expand its Cooperative Education Program in the fields of technology, business, and healthcare as a part of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program.

Up to 40 students from DeVry University and 18 Chicago area employers will participate in this grant program during the fiscal year 2007-2008 grant period. The primary intent of this program is to benefit students academically and financially by providing experiential opportunities in career–related positions in order to enhance their post-graduate employment in the State of Illinois, while minimizing their reliance on student loans. Employers will benefit from having a more dedicated and motivated student employee who can contribute to the business needs and perhaps stay with the company upon graduation. The program also is intended to financially assist students and promote their retention in college and completion of their associate and/or baccalaureate degrees, while at the same time strengthening partnerships between DeVry University and Illinois businesses.
Institution: Greenville College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Tonya Holman
Director, Career Services
Greenville College
315 E College Ave.
Greenville, IL 62246-0159
Telephone: (618) 664-6616
e-mail: tonya.holman@greenville.edu

Recommended: $39,000

Project Synopsis: Greenville College is requesting funding for the thirteenth year to continue the IBHE Cooperative Work Study Program for undergraduate students. The co-op program operates independently from other campus employment opportunities and student work study programs. The goals and objectives of the co-op work study program are to: (1) enhance students’ academic experiences by providing opportunities for students to directly apply their academic learning experiences to real work situations; (2) develop employer partnerships with not-for-profit organizations which provide social and community services; (3) encourage students to obtain permanent employment in the state of Illinois; and (4) provide students with financial assistance to offset their college costs.

Approximately 40 students are expected to be placed in 40 different organizations. Participants earn up to $7.00 an hour from the grant funds and are paid by submitting a timecard to the Director, which has been signed by the on site supervisor. This is an increase in hourly wages from last year due to the increase in the minimum wage. Students from all academic programs are encouraged to participate in the co-op program. Students must enroll for at least two co-op or internship credit and are required to work a minimum of 40 hours per credit. Students develop co-op learning objectives, with their academic advisor, based on their academic and career interests. Students often report that their co-op experiences help them clarify their occupational interests and affirm their academic studies. The program has consistently served a wide variety of organizations and agencies by providing qualified student workers who possess genuine interests in serving their communities throughout the state.
Institution: Lake Land College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Tina Moore
Director, Career Services
Lake Land College
5001 Lake Land Boulevard
Mattoon, IL  61938-9366
Telephone: (217) 234-5346
e-mail: tmoore@lakeland.cc.il.us

Recommended: $38,000

Project Synopsis: Lake Land College’s Fiscal Year 2007 Cooperative Work Study Program will increase opportunities for pre-baccalaureate and technical program students to pursue paid work experience related to their academic majors. Lake Land’s long-term goal is to provide cooperative education employment to all qualified students who desire it. In fiscal year 2007, a participation level of approximately 50 students is anticipated, and financially needy students will fill at least 50 percent of available positions. Twenty academic programs are targeted, with emphasis on technical programs. Fifteen employers, including five public schools and/or school districts, have committed their participation for 2007. All employers will pay 50 percent of students’ wages. Students will be required to complete three learning objectives and to research Illinois job opportunities in their career field. The program is designed to create new employers/college partnerships and to encourage many employers to join the College’s existing co-op employment program where employers pay 100 percent of wages.
Institution: Augustana College

Project Title: Illinois Emerging Professional Community Internship Program

Project Director: Mr. Jeff Abernathy
Dean, Academic Affairs
Augustana College
6390-038th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201-2296
Telephone: (309)-794-7213
e-mail: jeffabernathy@augustana.edu

Recommended: $35,000

Project Synopsis: Illinois Emerging Professionals Community Internships seek to place undergraduates with 16 Illinois organizations to encourage students to see working in Illinois as a possible career choice. The internships will provide these companies, particularly the not-for-profits, with skilled students who can take on projects that the organizations do not have sufficient resources to pursue. The college is partnering with the Illinois Quad-City Chamber of Commerce, which is extending the resources and expertise of its 1,500 member Young Professional Network to form an Emerging Professionals Network, which seeks to retain skilled college graduates in the area.

Emerging Professional Community Internships differ from traditional internships and offer unique academic benefits. Each will have a research component. Interns will take on projects at each site, doing research and using ideas from their academic discipline to solve problems that the organizations face. Interns will be advised by a faculty mentor in their major.

Interns also will do a detailed-reflective writing, in which they will discuss the value of the internship work, not only for themselves but for the larger community. This requirement moves beyond reflective work Augustana interns have done in the past, which typically have focused on whether the internship was work they might try after graduation, not on issues of value for the community. Students will be asked to share their work and their reflections about it in public presentations on campus.

Long-term, the Illinois’ Emerging Professional Community Internships will serve as a model for increased private/public partnerships with underserved organizations in the Illinois Quad-City area.
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<th><strong>Institution:</strong></th>
<th>Chicago State University</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Title:</strong></td>
<td>Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Project Director:** | Mr. Lee Junkans  
Director, Career Development Center  
Chicago State University  
9501 S. King Drive, CRSU 180  
Chicago, IL  60467  
Telephone: (773) 995-4462  
e-mail: ljunkans@csu.edu |
| **Recommended:** | $35,000 |

**Project Synopsis:** The ICWS Program at Chicago State University will enable them to maximize their resources by providing employment opportunities to the diverse populations, comprised of a majority of African-American students as well as Latinos students. The program will help students meet their financial obligations, thereby increasing the retention rate at the university and increasing the likelihood of graduation. With graduation, these students will then enter the Illinois employment market in the fields of science, math and business.
Institution: Lewis University

Project Title: *Interntrak: Cooperative Work Study Program*

Project Director: Ms. Smret Smith  
Director of Career Services  
Lewis University  
One University Parkway  
Romeoville, IL 60446-2298  
Telephone: (815) 836-5332  
e-mail: smithsm@lewisu.edu

Recommended: $35,000

Project Synopsis:  
The Lewis University’s Illinois Cooperative Work Study program called *Interntrak* complements the institution’s formal internship program. Located in the southwestern suburbs of the Chicago metropolitan region, the University serves just over 5,000 students. Enrollment has continued to increase with a rise of nearly 4.4 percent this year. At Lewis University, 77 percent of the undergraduate students receive some form of financial aid, 87 percent of the new incoming freshmen receive some form of financial aid, and more than 57 percent overall receive some form of need-based financial aid. In addition, a significant number of Lewis University students are first generation college students, and approximately 30 percent of Lewis University students are minority students.

Employers view the program positively and participate regularly. Each new fiscal year brings new partnerships with employers. Throughout the history of the program, student interns have worked an average 15-20 hours per week and have earned an average of $9.42 per hour. This varies slightly from year to year. Students are employed within the areas of human resources management, marketing, aviation maintenance, computer graphic design, accounting, social service, management information systems, healthcare, communications, and business management. Students, employers, and university faculty and staff report positive benefits from the program in aligning subject-area coursework with applied work experience. *Interntrak* provides a valuable resource to students that enhances the success of their academic programs, allows them to reduce their reliance on loans, and strongly encourages them to remain with Illinois-based employers.
Institution: Shawnee Community College

Project Title: Shawnee Area Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Candy Eastwood
Coordinator of Career Services
Shawnee Community College
8364 Shawnee College Road
Ullin, IL 62992-9725
Telephone: (618) 634-3214
e-mail: candye@shawneecc.edu

Recommended: $34,800

Project Synopsis: The Career Services Department at Shawnee Community College (SCC) has created and maintained a partnership with seven rural K-12 school districts, with 18 instructional sites, and nine area employers to continue a Cooperative Work Study project to serve 18 college students who are considering careers in education, social service, technology and other labor shortage occupations in Illinois. The Cooperative Work Study experiences will be closely linked to the students’ academic fields and will offer a progressive sequence of experiences that will afford them opportunities to explore chosen occupations and consider committing to them. All participants will attend an Orientation to Cooperative Education workshop and complete a background check. Education majors will be encouraged to enroll in an Introduction to Education class (EDU 110). Education majors will be employed as Teacher Assistants in area school under the close tutelage of exemplary teachers. Other Cooperative Education students will be provided guidance and mentoring from the business owners or other experienced professional. The project goals are to: (1) increase the number of dedicated K-12 teachers in the state of Illinois; (2) reduce student reliance on student loan programs; (3) continue to expand the existing Cooperative Work Study program to include social services, technology and other labor shortage occupations; and (4) Strengthen relationships between SCC and area schools and employers.
Institution: Roosevelt University

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Patrick M. Green, Ed.D.
Director, Office of Career Services
Roosevelt University
430 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605 –
Telephone: (312) 341-3560
e-mail: pmgreen@roosevelt.edu

Recommended: $34,000

Project Synopsis: Roosevelt University, a private, metropolitan, non-sectarian institution of higher learning is requesting Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program grant funds to assist in the placement of 35 cooperative education and internship students. Students from the five schools: Walter E. Heller College of Business Administration, College of Education, College of Arts and Sciences, Chicago College of Performing Arts, and Evelyn T. Stone University College, will be encouraged to gain work related experiences in their field of study. This field related training will assist students in making the connection between the theory that is being introduced in the classroom with real work experience. Grant funds will assist in the partnerships between the public and private sectors as well as encourage social and community service. The wages earned by students will reduce the reliance of student loans and maximize the use of financial dollars. Successful new professionals, living and working in Illinois, will encourage economic growth within the state (both in the public and private sectors).
**Institution:** Danville Area Community College

**Project Title:** “Education at Work: The DACC Cooperative Work Study Program”

**Project Director:** Ms. Nancy A. Boesdorfer  
CQI Coordinator/ Tech Prep Director  
Danville Area Community College  
2000 E. Main Street  
Danville, IL 61832-5199  
Telephone: (217) 443-8582  
E-mail: nboes@dacc.edu

**Recommended:** $33,300

**Project Synopsis:** The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (ICWSP) continues to be a strong component in work-based learning at Danville Area Community College (DACC). With the ICWSP grant and the cooperative efforts of DACC and local businesses, students who are Illinois residents are recommended to participate if they have one or more of the following traits: an interest in hands-on learning, a financial need, and/or a desire to work in the surrounding community. Fiscal year 2007 project goals include: (1) broaden students’ awareness of local employment opportunities within their field of study, thereby promoting permanent employment in Illinois; (2) reduce reliance on student loans; (3) expand internship opportunities for students by creating, promoting, and strengthening partnerships between higher education, business, industry, and governmental agencies; and (4) enhance students’ academic performance and retention by matching students with employment opportunities in their chosen career.

On the recommendation of Faculty, Division Deans, Career Services or Tech Prep Director, or Financial Aid representative, students will be placed in an employment opportunity according to their educational plan. Both the needs of the student and business are taken into careful consideration when placing a student. Once a student is in a position within their chosen field of study, the student begins to see the correlation between theory and hands-on application. The whole education-to-work process comes full circle, with improved grades, increased self esteem, and lightened educational expenses due to the assistance of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program.
Institution: John A. Logan College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study

Project Director: Dr. Deborah Payne
Dean for Instruction
John A. Logan College
700 Logan College Road
Cartersville IL  62918-9599
e-mail: deborahpayne@jalc.edu

Recommended: $33,000

Project Synopsis: The John A. Logan College Fiscal Year 2007 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will use grant funds to encourage new and established employers to provide work experiences for John A. Logan College students. Students will have the opportunity to integrate classroom studies with learning through work experiences in the field related to their career goals. Eighteen (18) southern Illinois employers have submitted Letters of Intent to provide Education/Internship opportunities for students who are Illinois residents.

The proposed budget will enable approximately 33-36 students to pursue career-related work experience. This program encourages social and community-service opportunities, maximizes the use of matching grant contributions from participating organizations, reduces reliance on financial assistance, and encourages students to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation. The goals of the project are to expand opportunities for students to pursue career-related work experience, create new opportunities and strengthen existing relationships between John A. Logan College and participating organizations, encourage social and community-service opportunities, reduce reliance on financial assistance, and encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois upon graduation.

These supervised work experiences will include both an appropriate learning environment and a productive work experience that enhances what is offered in the regular classroom. Students will gain knowledge and skills through practical, on-site work experiences that are directly linked to their academic background. Students will earn income, which will assist in reducing reliance upon state-funded student loans and other financial aid programs. Grant funds will also pay for an external audit. The program is available to John A. Logan College students who have completed 12 semester hours, have a 2.5 GPA or higher and are recommended by a faculty member. Participation is open to all Illinois businesses, corporations, and governmental agencies.

Statistics indicate that John A. Logan College students are routinely hired as full-time or part-time employees following their work-study experience while others secure employment through networking contacts. This program includes a strong evaluation component with the student’s performance closely monitored by their employment supervisor and the Director of Internships.
Institution: East-West University

Project Title: PROJECT V.O.I.C.E. ((Vocational Opportunities In Community service and Employment for college students)

Project Director: Dr. Carolyn Stevenson
Internship Coordinator/ English and Communication
East-West University
816 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL  60605
Telephone: (312) 939-0111, ext. 2404
e-mail: carolyns@eastwest.edu

Recommended: $32,000

Project Synopsis East-West University, a predominately minority-serving private higher education institution located in Chicago’s South Loop, seeks to partner with local governmental, not-for-profit agencies and other Chicago employers to provide an Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program to currently enrolled Illinois resident college students at East-West University (EWU). The program is critical to workforce and economic development: it will strengthen cooperation between higher education institutions, K-12 education, business, industry and government, and it will create new opportunities for public/private partnerships. Graduates will be encouraged to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

East-West University will partner with employers in for-profit businesses and not-for-profit organizations in Chicagoland to provide students with valuable industry experience while attending college. Goals of the program include: (1) increased opportunities for full-time employment in Illinois; (2) increased student awareness of job skills needed to compete in today’s global workplace; (3) Increased skills preparation leading to a greater opportunity for employment upon graduation.; (4) improved university-community relationships; (5) increased involvement and service to the community for current college students; and (6) exposure of disadvantaged and first generation college students to the professional world of work.

With support from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, the program goals are both cost-effective and achievable.
Institution: Oakton Community College

Project Title: Paid Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Lisa Prosperi
Internship Specialist/ Business & Professional Institute
Oakton Community College
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e-mail: lprosperi@oakton.edu

Recommended: $30,400

Project Synopsis: Since 2000, Oakton Community College’s Paid Internship Program, funded by the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, has provided 210 students with paid, practical work experiences designed to augment the conceptual knowledge and job-specific skills students develop in the classroom. Fully aligned with Oakton’s institutional goals, the Paid Internship Program places selected students in employer-subsidized positions, thereby providing pathways to careers in the student’s academic field. Employers agree to pay at least 50 percent of students’ wages. The program helps students develop essential problem solving and critical thinking skills. These internships enable students to reduce their dependence on education loans, increase the depth and practice of their knowledge, and improve their employability.

In fiscal year 2007, Oakton’s Paid Internship Program proposes to place 40 students into paid internships. In addition, Oakton will recruit at least 12 new employers into the program, with emphasis on the accounting, human resources, web and graphic design, marketing, biotechnology, engineering, information technology, manufacturing and administration sectors. Oakton also will create new opportunities for career development by fostering interaction among students, employers, the Internship Specialist and others at Oakton. Finally, Oakton will encourage all interns to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

In meeting these objectives, Oakton’s Paid Internship Program will continue to address the seven Cooperative Work Study Program objectives established by the Illinois Board of Higher Education and further the Board’s goals to “help business and industry sustain strong economic growth” and ensure that “no citizen will be denied an opportunity for a college education because of financial need.” Oakton appreciates the Board’s continued support of this unique and beneficial program.
Institution: Saint Xavier University

Project Title: Saint Xavier University Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Jodi Malloy Martin
Assistant Director, Internship Program
Counseling and Career Services
St. Xavier University
3700 W. 103rd Street
Chicago, IL 60655
Telephone: (773) 298-3133
e-mail: malloymartin@sxu.edu

Recommended: $30,000

Project Synopsis: The primary goal of the Internship Program at Saint Xavier University (SXU) is to assist students with securing meaningful, career-related employment opportunities prior to graduation. In so doing, the program also assists Chicago-area employers by helping them to meet their part-time, professional hiring needs. Many of these are local employers from the Southwest side of the metropolitan area who are in need of qualified, classroom educated employees, but are unable to pay them the market salary rates. The support of the grant funding from the State of Illinois will permit some of these organizations to secure the employees they need while providing at least 40 (Illinois resident) students with part-time jobs that are directly related to their academic majors and career goals. These internship placements strengthen the cooperation between the University and local employers, create new opportunities for public/private partnerships, and encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.

Almost all of SXU students must work to meet educational expenses. Over 80 percent of them are commuters, and more than 90 percent are eligible to receive financial aid. Approximately 64 percent are first-generation college students, and 96 percent are residents of the state of Illinois. They often seek work experiences close to home in order to be able to satisfy obligations outside their academic careers. Local employers are eager for the opportunity to act as mentors to inexperienced professionals and value the chance to evaluate potential full-time employees before extending offers for permanent employment. Many local area social service, educational, and not-for-profit agencies, in particular, would benefit greatly from being able to take advantage of the reimbursement provided with funding from the state of Illinois.

On the strength of their experiences in these positions, many of these students will, in fact, be encouraged to become full-time employees and continue to work and reside in the State of Illinois. According to the 2005 SXU Graduate Survey, of the respondents employed, 98 percent accepted positions in Illinois.
Institution: Wilbur Wright College of the City Colleges of Chicago

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant

Project Director: Ms. Madeline Roman-Vargas
Dean/ Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center
Wilbur Wright College
4300 North Narragansett
Chicago, IL  60634-1591
Telephone: (773) 489-8989
e-mail: mroman-vargas@ccc.edu

Recommended: $30,000

Project Synopsis: The Humboldt Park Vocational Educational Center (HPVEC) of Wilbur Wright College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago, is seeking funding from the state of Illinois Board of Higher Education to continue its long-established Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program. The program will be used to partially subsidize the wages of approximately 15 students enrolled in the HPVEC’s Computerized Numerical Control, Electric/Electronic Industrial Maintenance and Information Processing Technology programs. Students selected for this work study program will be economically disadvantaged community residents with limited work histories. The purpose of the program is to give these students supported work experiences that are structured to recognize and reward on-the-job and school-related performance. Preparation for internships will begin with a pre-employment class that will be integrated into their respective programs. Since the programs vary in both starting dates and duration, the internship periods will be scheduled at an appropriate time, approximately three months into the program, when the students are ready for an “on-the-job” experience. The internships will be run in two consecutive ten-week periods. Students will work twenty hours a week during each ten-week period, with employers being reimbursed in full for the students' wages in the first period and for half of the students’ wages in the second ten-week period. Students must meet all of the employers’ performance requirements to be “promoted” from the first internship period to the second. This Cooperative Internship Program, combined with the manufacturing and office skills programs at HPVEC, was meant to impact retention and long-term placement rates of its “at-risk” occupational/technical students, which has been the actual result in the last nine years, thanks to this grant.
Institution: Spoon River College

Project Title: Cooperative Internship Program (CIP)

Project Director: Dr. Sherry Aaker  
Dean of Student Services  
Spoon River College  
23235 North County Highway 22  
Canton, IL 61520-9801  
Telephone: (309) 649-6305  
e-mail: saaker@spoonrivercollege.edu

Recommended: $30,000

Project Synopsis: The goals of the proposed Cooperative Internship Project (CIP) program are to provide employment opportunities, enhance career choices, and learn through experiential education for career and lifelong goals by completing internships to assist with financial obligations related to attending college. Students also will learn valuable lifelong lessons on building collaborative efforts, interactions and service within the community workforce. Ultimately, to that end, the student will have to rely less upon other alternative funding sources to complete higher education goals; moreover, establish a career link network for support for future reemployment within the state of Illinois.

The CIP program will place a minimum of 30 students into “internship like” work experiences during summer 2007 and the 2007-2008 academic year. These work experiences will allow students to have hands-on, real world work experience while completing credits for graduation. The CIP program has been well received with in the Spoon River College district and approximately 20 local businesses have expressed intent to participate by paying 50 percent of the students’ wages.
Institution: Lewis and Clark Community College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Marty Brawn
Director, Workforce Development
Lewis and Clark Community College
5800 Godfrey Road
Godfrey, IL 62035-2466
Telephone: (618) 468-5500
e-mail: mbrawn@lc.edu

Recommended: $25,000

Project Synopsis: Lewis and Clark Community College (LCCC), with the assistance of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, will place approximately 21 students from career fields in cooperative/internship/field experience positions with a goal of achieving the following objectives: (1) to strengthen LCCC’s career programs through enhanced guided practical experiences in the field; (2) to respond to the workforce needs of the wider community of southwestern Illinois through experientially strengthened career programs in high-demand, high-paying fields; and, (3) to improve the preparation of its students in career fields through meaningful, guided practical experiences in their fields. Career fields to be included in these placements are: Nursing, CAD/Drafting, machinist, and industrial technology. Employers included in the partnerships are: Alton Memorial Hospital, D & R Machine Company, Dugan Tool & Die, Fabritech, Gateway Regional Medical Center, International Filter Manufacturing, Jersey County Assessor’s Office, Jersey Community Hospital, Olin Corporation, and St. Anthony’s Hospital.
Institution: Kaskaskia College

Project Title: Kaskaskia College Cooperative Work Study Partnership

Project Director: Mr. Tim Hood
Associate Dean/Continuing Education & Placement Services
Kaskaskia College
27210 College Road
Centralia, IL 62801-9285
Telephone: (618) 545-3035
e-mail: thood@kaskaskia.edu

Recommended: $24,100

Project Synopsis: Kaskaskia College’s Cooperative Work Study Partnership program provides financial assistance that benefits students academically, reduces their reliance upon loans to fulfill their education goals, and prepares them to enter or re-enter the labor market upon graduation. Employers are sought that utilize the latest advances in technology in their industry, and who agree to provide progressive learning experiences that enhance the ability of students to obtain employment in Illinois related to their program of study. The CWSP program allows students to obtain compensated workforce training to fulfill academic and financial obligations, strengthens the alliance between the College and the private sector, and assists district employers in defraying the cost of recruiting and training qualified individuals for employment. Nine employers have agreed to offer opportunities for as many as 15 students in the coming year.

The principal goals of Kaskaskia College’s CWSP program include: expand opportunities for students to pursue internships, clinical services and other employment opportunities linked to their academic program; strengthen the College’s alliances with business, industries and government entities; improve the affordability of academic programs by offering extensive financial aid including the CWSP program; enhance students’ abilities to obtain employment related to their program of study, encourage them to seek permanent employment in Illinois by offering workplace training, and encourage them to practice social and community service.
**Institution:** College of Lake County

**Project Title:** Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

**Project Director:** Ms. Sylvia M. Pullins  
Director/Career & Placement Services  
College of Lake County  
19351 W. Washington Street  
Grayslake, IL  60030-1198  
Telephone: (847) 543-2404  
e-mail: spullins@clcillinois.edu

**Recommended:** $24,000

**Project Synopsis:** The College of Lake County proposes to continue its Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program Grant to benefit students academically and financially by reducing their reliance on loans, enhancing public/private sector partnerships, and encouraging students in the program to seek permanent employment in Illinois. Over the project’s three-semester duration, five businesses will provide work-study opportunities for at least 25 students.

The program will supplement the college’s existing Cooperative Education Program, which has provided work-study experiences for more than 3,200 students in the past 22 years. Eligible students will be matched with appropriate businesses, based on interviews and academic considerations, attend at least four of 12 workshops or complete applicable written assignments, and work with an assigned faculty sponsor as a mentor. The mentors are experts in their fields and measure specific work-related objectives and outcomes for students in the workplace. The college will provide ongoing evaluation and track student job placement to ensure that the objectives and the guidelines of the Work Study Program are followed.
Institution: Blackburn College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Roger Fenton
Associate Dean of Work
Blackburn College
700 College Ave.
Carlinville, IL 62626
Telephone: (217) 854-3231
e-mail: rfent@mail.blackburn.edu

Recommended: $23,500

Project Synopsis: The primary goals of the Blackburn College Cooperative Work Study Program are to enhance and expand the college’s unique student-managed work program to include: (1) opportunities for students to gain practical, “hands-on”, work experience in off-campus jobs related to areas of academic study and/or possible career interest; (2) increased opportunities for students to earn additional income toward meeting educational expenses, and therefore less reliance on loans; (3) additional opportunities for educational partnerships between the college and area business, education, government and community service employers.
Institution: Heartland Community College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study/Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Sara Baker  
Coordinator of Workforce Services  
Heartland Community College  
1500 W. Raab Road  
Normal, IL 61761  
Telephone: (309) 268-8035  
e-mail: sara.baker@heartland.edu

Recommended: $23,400

Project Synopsis: The goals of the Heartland Community College (HCC) Illinois Cooperative Work Study/Internship Program are to cultivate partnerships to increase internship opportunities and provide students with meaningful work-based learning experiences in their academic area of study, while financially benefiting the greatest possible number of students by ensuring efficient use of grant funds.

During the 2007 grant period, the HCC Internship Program proposes to partner with 18 regional sponsors, both in the private and not-for-profit sectors, to provide 25 paid, supervised internships to eligible students in the following ten academic fields: Business, Communications, Criminal Justice, Family Services, Health, Humanities & Fine Arts, Digital Media, Science, Social & Behavioral Sciences, and Technology. In addition, the program will support students who have successfully completed either Business Essentials or Information Technology (IT) Essentials (Welfare-to-Work programs of learning designed and implemented by the College to assist students overcome educational, social and economic barriers, and move them into sustainable employment).

Students who participate in the Internship Program are given an opportunity to integrate classroom and practical learning in an on-the-job setting, and benefit through an increased awareness of their fit, including skills, knowledge and abilities, in relation to the world of work; an increased awareness of additional learning needs, leading to an increase in focus and motivation to achieve; an increased development of classroom knowledge/skills through hands-on experience; practical application and development of decision-making, problem solving and interpersonal skills; and, a cultivation of independent learning skills.
Institution: Illinois Eastern Community Colleges - Lincoln Trail College

Project Title: Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program

Project Director: John Highhouse  
Program Director, Telecommunications Training  
IECC – Lincoln Trail College  
9998 State Highway 1  
Robinson, IL 62454-5707  
Telephone: (618) 544-8252  
e-mail: highhousej@iecc.edu

Recommended: $23,200

Project Synopsis: Since fiscal year 2003, the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges (IECC) has been awarded the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program grant. This grant has allowed IECC to develop and implement a highly successful Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program which has provided support to Telecom students academically and financially through enhanced partnerships between Illinois business and industry employers and IECC. Fifteen cooperating employers have participated in IECC’s Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program over the past four summers and we have received twelve letters of intent from cooperating employers who are interested in participating during fiscal year 2007 and are committed to this very worthwhile program next summer.

Illinois Eastern Community College plans to continue to develop and improve their Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program which will expand their summer work program to all eligible Telecom students and continue to provide a work/school cooperative on-the-job-training experience. The Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Internship Program has allowed students to gain valuable work experience and employment training in Telecommunications Technology, one of the fastest growing technologies in the world today. The program has enhanced the students’ educational background, aided their transition to full-time employment in Illinois after graduation, reduced the students’ reliance on student loans, and promoted social and community service. The IECC’s Telecommunications Cooperative Work Study Program has provided students with real-world work experience while providing low cost assistance to business and industry employers.
**Institution:** Harold Washington College of the City Colleges of Chicago

**Project Title:** Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

**Project Director:** Dr. Phyllis A. Daniels-Ward  
Dean, Career Programs and Continuing Education  
Harold Washington College  
30 E. Lake Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 553-5948  Fax: (312) 553-5854  
e-mail: pdaniels@ccc.edu

**Project Coordinator:** Ms. Kim Bowens

**Recommended:** $23,000

**Project Synopsis:** Harold Washington College’s Fiscal Year 2007 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will give students an opportunity to acquire career-related work experience at partnering companies by participating in a paid internship program. The program will strengthen existing partner relationships and expand internship opportunities with new companies. Students will gain hands-on work experience in their selected field of study while also receiving academic credit. Students who participate in this program are currently working towards their Associate in Applied Science Degree majoring in one of the following areas of study: Addictions Studies, Child Development: Elementary Education, Bilingual Teacher Aide, Pre-School Education or School Age Child Care, Horticulture, Hotel-Motel Management, Information Technology: Computer Information Technology, Social Work: Generalist, Management and Marketing or Associate in Science Degree. The science students selected are those who are deeply interested in research and will have the opportunity to develop their research skills and become effective practitioners of science. In addition to gaining valuable on-the-job work experience students will learn to apply classroom theory to actual work experience as well as develop rapport, networks and mentoring with professionals in their field of study. Participating students will benefit academically, financially and rely less on student loans. Participating companies will receive 50 percent salary match up to 20 hours a week per student.
Institution: Richland Community College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mr. Michael G. Diggs
Director of Counseling and Career Services
Richland Community College
One College Park
Decatur, IL 62521-8513
Telephone: 217-875-7211, ext. 205
e-mail: mdiggs@richland.edu

Recommended: $22,600

Project Synopsis: Richland Community College (RCC) will provide a Cooperative Work-Study (CWS) Program for approximately 25 students during the 2007-2008 year. The CWS placements will be in the technical fields that are in demand in the RCC district. These fields include (but are not limited to): Information Technology (IT), Electronics, Business and Agribusiness, Engineering Technology, Fire Science, Criminal Justice, Graphic Design, Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVAC&R), and Drafting and Design Engineering. Students will work an average of 240 hours over the 16-week semester and earn an average of $10.00 per hour with businesses paying one-half of the students’ salaries.

The Cooperative Work-Study Program will be coordinated through the Career Services center at RCC. The Center Director will manage all the employer agreements, employer reimbursements, and reporting requirements for the Program. The Director will work very closely with faculty in the above-mentioned technical programs. RCC faculty will supervise and grade the students on their CWS sites, work with employers to ensure that learning objectives are met, and teach the accompanying seminars in each occupational field. In this way, the CWS grant is fully integrated into RCC’s technical curricula.
Institution: Waubonsee Community College

Project Title: Waubonsee Community College Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Mary Myers
Career Services Manager
Waubonsee Community College
Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive
Sugar Grove, IL  60554-9454
Telephone: (630) 466-7900, ext. 5708
e-mail: mmyers@waubonsee.edu

Recommended: $22,000

Project Synopsis: Because of today’s fast-changing work environment, the college relies on business and industry, to provide the real-world experience necessary to complete our students’ education as well as the opportunity to improve our academic programming and stay current with employer needs. Waubonsee’s fiscal year 2007 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (CWSP) will increase the number of internship opportunities for our associate degree and career education students, by providing additional avenues for them to receive paid work experience in their major area of study. Six employers have committed to participating in the 2007 CWSP at Waubonsee. Our interns will work with appropriate faculty in planning a learning experience to fully utilize time spent with their employers that will include learning goals and objectives, and journaling. The Career Services staff will assist students in the researching of employment opportunities in Illinois in their respective chosen careers.
Institution: MacMurray College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Dena Dobson
Director of Financial Aid
MacMurray College
447 East College Avenue
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650
Telephone: (217) 479-7041
e-mail: dena.dobson@mac.edu

Recommended: $20,000

Project Synopsis: MacMurray College desires to participate in the 2007 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program to provide valuable hands-on professional work experience for students studying nursing, business administration, marketing, education and interpreting. This program offers nursing students a valuable link between classroom learning and real-life work experience in a professional setting. This program will help fund a professional experience for four nursing students through employment at Passavant Area Hospital, one MacMurray Computer Lab employee, who will gain hands-on business administration and management experience, and one Career Services employee who will become familiar with basic principles of human resources and career services administration. The program also will provide financial support for an interpreting or DHH (deaf and hard of hearing) major working with the MacMurray College Disability Support Services Office as well as for education students working in an “after-school program serving local public schools. Finally, it will fund a marketing student to undertake a study of retention trends of MacMurray College, thereby developing valuable data gathering and marketing skills for the student. The program will reimburse participating employers, Passavant Area Hospital and MacMurray College, for wages allotted to employed students. It is expected and anticipated that this experience will encourage students to seek permanent employment throughout the State of Illinois in their chosen fields.
**Institution:** Millikin University

**Project Title:** The IBHE Entrepreneurship Internship Program at Millikin University

**Project Director:** Ms. Sharon T. Alpi, Coleman Professor in Entrepreneurship
Director, Center for Entrepreneurship
Millikin University
1184 W. Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522
Telephone: (217) 424-6298
e-mail: salpi@mail.millikin.edu

**Recommended:** $19,400

**Project Synopsis:** Millikin University in Decatur requests Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program funds to continue the IBHE Entrepreneurship Internship Program. Millikin’s Tabor School of Business has a longstanding internship program in conjunction with the community’s medium-sized and large businesses. In 2002, the Tabor Center for Entrepreneurship established the Entrepreneurship Internship Program to serve the area’s entrepreneurial firms and to offer students entrepreneurial experiences.

Funding for the Entrepreneurship Internships was initially provided by the Kauffman Foundation. The 2004, 2005, and 2006 ICWS programs provided additional funds to serve more businesses and to add not-for-profit organizations as internship sites.

For fiscal year 2007, Millikin will serve 15 students and 15 sites with the requested funding. Continued funding will help the University extend this program for the benefit of Millikin’s business students and the businesses and not-for-profit agencies that employ them.
Institution: Illinois College

Project Title: IC Explorers

Project Director: Ms. Nancy Thorsen
Director of Career Services
Illinois College
1101 West College Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650
Telephone: (217) 245-3040
e-mail: nthorsen@ic.edu

Recommended: $19,000

Project Synopsis: Illinois College (IC) will utilize grant funds for its IC Explorers program. Twenty-four students will be awarded paid internships, clinical placements, and cooperative work study positions sponsored by eight regional public and private sector employers. Critical thinking, problem solving, teamworking skills and a global perspective are important components of the Illinois College liberal arts education. The economic development of the state of Illinois is increasingly dependent upon harnessing these components of intellectual capital, for they fuel the ability of institutions and businesses to innovate, continuously learn, and productively change. Illinois College’s cooperation with business, industry and government will allow interns to directly apply their learning and creativity to advance the competitive advantage of their employers – while providing students the opportunity to achieve work-related competence. Because interns are effectively being pre-screened for employment, it is anticipated that many will ultimately gain permanent employment with their internship sponsors (as past IC Explorers have done) or will use their workplace experiences to enhance the work force capabilities of other Illinois employers. The IC Explorer internship opportunities also will encourage civic engagement by placing the majority of our students with employers whose primary mission is public service. All internships will be awarded through a competitive process, and reducing students’ reliance on student loans will be a consideration in awards. Grant funds will leverage $18,926 in employer investment, as well as $18,934 in direct funding and $66,615 in institutional support provided by the College.
Institution: Southwestern Illinois College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Martha Nelson  
Dean of Counseling/Director, Career Activities & Employment Center  
Southwestern Illinois College  
2500 Carlyle Avenue  
Belleville, IL  62221-5899  
Telephone: (618) 235-2700  
e-mail: martha.nelson@swic.edu

Recommended: $18,800

Project Synopsis: The 18 internships provided by funds requested from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will benefit Southwestern Illinois College students and other students in the Community College District 522 by providing partnership initiatives to a wide range of academic program areas, employers, and agencies including nine tech-prep pathway academic program areas from the Technical and Career Business divisions of the college, 13 area employers/organizations, the Southwestern Illinois Tech Prep Consortium representing local school districts, the Southwestern Illinois College Career Activities and Employment Center, and the Employer Advisory Council. The project director and the Employer Advisory Council will oversee the grant. All internships are credit-bearing and those in the private sector with a 50/50 employer match will consist of: Two Network Design Administration (NDA) interns at CompuType Computer Services and one at Harrisonville Telephone will apply classroom theory; one Computer Information Systems (CIS) intern will be hosted by Harrisonville Telephone in the Help Desk application area; two Auto Collision Repair Technology (ACRT) interns will be hosted by Collision Plus; two Paralegal (PARL) interns will learn a wide variety of legal issues at Livingston Law and Thompson Coburn Law offices; one Heating, Ventilation, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (HVAR) intern will gain a variety of experience with Mid-West Heating and Cooling; two Electrical/Electronic Technology (EET) internships with Siemens Manufacturing offer a wide range of work in the electronic components; and one Culinary Arts (CUL) intern will gain multiple food service knowledge at the National Shrine Restaurant. The community service internships include: One Human Services Technology (HMS) intern with the Foundation for Autism Services Today and Tomorrow (FASTT); one CIS intern and one Office Administrative Technology (OAT) intern at the Living Independently Now Center (LINC); one CIS intern at the Tourism Bureau of Southwestern Illinois; one OAT intern at Troy Chamber of Commerce; and one CIS intern at the Agency for Community Transit (ACT).
Institution: St. Augustine College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Dr. Marcia Pantell
Placement Coordinator/ Bachelor of Social Work
St. Augustine College
1345 W. Argyle Street
Chicago, IL  60640 –
Telephone: (773) 878-3265
e-mail: mpantell@staugustine.edu

Recommended: $18,600

Project Synopsis: The Illinois Cooperative Work Study program at St. Augustine College will place seven students of the College’s Bachelor of Social Work program in jobs at non-profit agencies, to complete their required practicum, while at the same time earning money to help pay for their tuition. In addition to the job placement of students, the objectives of this project include encouraging the students to look for permanent employment opportunities in the state of Illinois, strengthening community cooperation between St. Augustine College and other area businesses and non-profits, and maximizing the use of matching contributions from government and social agencies. To participate, a student must be an Illinois resident and a Social Work major with less than 120 credit hours of coursework; have a GPA of 2.75 on a 4.00 scale; apply for financial aid, and meet departmental requirements.

The Project Director will ensure that the selected students are placed in participating agencies and will serve as a liaison between the College and the agencies, will monitor student performance and will evaluate the success of the program. Participating agencies will be encouraged to hire the students at the end of the internship, on a permanent basis. The agencies willing to participate in the program include Casa Central, La Familia Unida, Pro-Health Advocate. On a semester-by-semester basis, partners may also include other social service agencies who meet Social Work Department requirements as supervising agencies.
Institution: Lexington College

Project Title: Experiential Learning Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Kathy Dornhecker
Director of Career Services
Lexington College
310 S. Peoria, Suite 512
Chicago, IL 60607-3534
Telephone: (312) 226-6294, ext. 233
e-mail: carserv@lexingtoncollege.edu

Recommended: $18,000

Project Synopsis: A grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education’s Cooperative Work Study program will continue supporting young women in Lexington College’s successful two-tiered Experiential Learning Internship Program (ELIP). Assistance from the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Cooperative Work Study program will continue to enrich the already thriving ELIP to facilitate 20 women college students from historically underrepresented populations involvement with competitive compensation and diversify the internship employment opportunities.

Successful since its inception in 1993, the current ELIP structure at Lexington College offers students a substantial income during the internship experience and includes a broader, cross-section of corporate and small business owners in the Illinois hospitality industry. Through Cooperative Work Study funding, this diverse group of young women will be able to benefit from the ELIP as a means to obtain the skills, knowledge and relationships necessary to be productive and promote-able employees, support themselves while in college and experience a broader professional opportunity to enhance opportunities for permanent employment after graduation.

The goal of Lexington’s internship program is to apply academic knowledge learned in the classroom, through experiential learning and so better prepare these students who will enter the workforce. All candidates for Lexington’s degree programs complete two experiential work internships before receiving their BAS degree. At the end of the internship experience, this diverse group of women will have developed skills and a stronger understanding of the work ethic and skills needed to thrive in Illinois’ hospitality and service industries.
Institution: Rockford College

Project Title: Rockford College Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Sandi Lindquist
Student Administrative Services Specialist
Information and Communications
Rockford College
5050 E. State Street
Rockford, IL 61108-2393
Telephone: (815) 394-5144
e-mail: SLindquist@rockford.edu

Recommended: $14,100

Project Synopsis: The goal of the Cooperative Work Study Program at Rockford College is to provide academically relevant, paid work experiences to Illinois resident Rockford College students. Qualifying students will be placed in paid internship positions related to their chosen field of study that will aid in reducing their reliance on student loans. The program has proven results in encouraging social and community service, strengthening the tie between internships and academic interest. Students will be placed in social service agencies, local educational settings, and in businesses. These placements will enhance public-private sector partnerships and forge relationships that will encourage students to consider permanent employment in the State of Illinois.
**Institution:** Illinois Wesleyan University

**Project Title:** The Illinois Wesleyan University Cooperative Work Study Program

**Project Director:** Mr. Warren Kistner  
Director, Hart Career Center  
Illinois Wesleyan University  
PO Box 2900/Gulick Hall, LL  
Bloomington, IL 61702-2900  
Telephone: (309) 556-3071  
e-mail: wkistner@iwu.edu

**Recommended:** $13,900

**Project Synopsis:** Illinois Wesleyan University (IWU) respectfully requests funding from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program to help 30–35 students take advantage of the learning opportunities offered by internships at various businesses, government and social service agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Not only do students in internships gain valuable training and find an entry into the work force, but work-study internships also help students meet their educational expenses. Given the growing cost of higher education, it is not unexpected that students gravitate toward internship positions that will both give them the work experience they seek and help them pay their educational bills, especially in tight economic times and given the cost of higher education. The unfortunate offshoot of the financial pressures students face is that positions with social agencies and not-for-profit organizations—positions that have as much (if not more) to offer students in the way of practical and professional experience—can too often go unfilled.

To address these needs, the IWU Cooperative Work Study Program seeks not only to create more opportunities for students to link their coursework with their internship opportunities—and in so doing to ease the financial burden imposed by tuition and student loans, but also to encourage social and community service on the part of our students, thus making them better citizens by helping to make it financially possible for students to take accept internship positions with not-for-profit organizations and social service agencies unable to offer competitive wages on their own.
**Institution:**  John Wood Community College  

**Project Title:**  Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program  

**Project Director:**  Ms. Renee Higgins  
Director, Division of Education  
John Wood Community College  
1301 South 48th Street  
Quincy, IL 62305-8376  
Telephone: (217) 641-4930  
e-mail: rhiggins@jwcc.edu  

**Recommended:**  13,500  

**Project Synopsis:**  John Wood Community College, through public-private sector partnerships created under the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program, requests funding to establish cooperative work study relationships with new employers and to continue relationships established with past funding. Funds will provide on-site work experiences for 29 students in the 2007-2008 academic year. The academic year 2006-2007 provided a time to evaluate and define the goals of the cooperative education/internship program at John Wood Community College. The requested 2007-2008 funding will allow the Cooperative Work-Study program to support positions in the following broad areas of academics: Mathematics, Technology, Engineering, and Education. Recognizing that John Wood Community College is a two-year community college, the funding will more specifically focus on serving students in Agriculture/Swine Management, Computer-Aided Design, Early Childhood Education, Horticulture, and Restaurant Management. Area employers have indicated a commitment to hire students and match the $3.25 per hour provided by the funding. The benefits of the project will include stronger ties between John Wood and the participating organizations, reduced reliance on financial aid by the student participants, and encouragement to students to pursue permanent employment in Illinois after graduation.
Institution: Kennedy-King College of the City Colleges of Chicago

Project Title: GraphicLink to Career Skills

Project Director: Andrew Lanum
Tech Prep Coordinator
Applied Science Department
Kennedy-King College
6800 S. Wentworth
Chicago, IL  60621-3799
Telephone:
e-mail: alanum@ccc.edu

Recommended: $10,400

Project Synopsis: The Cooperative Work-Study Program in graphic communications, entitled "GraphicLink to Career Skills" at Kennedy-King College provides students a comprehensive opportunity to experience the industry for which they are studying. This project continues to provide a great opportunity to partner with several commercial graphic arts/printing businesses small and large located in the Chicago metropolitan area. “GraphicLink” provides educational fulfillment through cooperative work-study internship opportunities. The project includes the involvement of traditional college graphic communications (GC) students and provides work-study opportunities for students that have successfully completed 12 credit hours of college level graphic communications courses. The project has been very successful in the past in providing students the opportunity to experience realistic work-based experiences in the graphics industry before they complete their Associate of Applied Science degrees or certificates. We have additional requests for interns this year. The expansion of the Cooperative Work-Study project “GraphicLink” would continue to strengthen the Graphic Communications program’s outreach efforts to the business community.

Kennedy-King College will be moving to a new campus facility in summer 2007. We are anticipating an increase in student enrollment and business partners. During the past year, we have been able to expand the number of businesses providing internship opportunities. Additional funding is needed to continue to increase the number of students we are able to serve in the coming year.

We believe that continuing to expand the cooperative work program will successfully link the classroom to the workplace while helping students to make a smooth and productive transition to the graphics and printing industry.
**Institution:** Parkland College

**Project Title:** Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

**Project Director:** Mr. Rich Lake  
Dean of Career Programs  
Parkland College  
2400 W. Bradley Avenue  
Champaign, IL  61821-1899  
Telephone: (217) 351-2236  
e-mail: RichLake@parkland.edu

**Recommended:** $10,000

**Project Synopsis:** Students in Parkland College’s career programs are encouraged, and often required, to participate in paid or unpaid internships or other work experiences, in order to give them hands-on practice they need to get a job in their vocation upon graduation. However, many times the small- to middle-sized businesses that could provide excellent internship opportunities find the cost of taking on interns to be prohibitive. Parkland College’s Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will address this barrier, by arranging new internships with businesses and paying half the cost of the student internships. Businesses have been recruited to provide internships in automotive technology, collision repair, manufacturing, and computer science and information technology. By eliminating barriers, Parkland will create new partnerships with business and industry and give more students the opportunity to experience working with Illinois employers.
Institution: Trinity Christian College

Project Title: *Trinity@work: The Trinity ICWS Internship Project*

Project Director: Ms. Jackie Medenblik  
Interim Director/Cooper Center  
Career Planning & Placement  
Trinity Christian College  
6601 West College Drive  
Palos Heights, IL  60463-0929  
Telephone: (708) 239-4821  
e-mail: jackie.medenblik@trnty.edu

Recommended: $9,400

Project Synopsis: *Trinity@work: The Trinity ICWS Internship Project* provides an avenue to Trinity students and their prospective Illinois employers to enhance economic development in our community and reduce student reliance on loans. Trinity requests support from Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program to continue strides to advance Trinity’s ties with local businesses, non-profits and community organizations also while providing students with additional financial, academic and practical support. These internships serve Illinois students who find it difficult to locate pertinent placements in their chosen fields because of funding restrictions from the non-profit organizations they will serve and because their majors limit the availability of paid internship opportunities. Trinity will provide 11 internship opportunities at four non-profit employers in a 60/40 grant/employer match. Internships are based upon student and community needs in special education, social services, environmental preservation, non-profit management and communications. These placements open internship experiences to students to explore of their chosen professional disciplines. The *Trinity@work* program provides our students with a variety of new income producing jobs for students to reduce their reliance on debt to as the primary means of financing their undergraduate education.
Institution: Lincoln Land Community College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program

Project Director: Ms. Mary Beth Ray
Director, Career Development Services
Lincoln Land Community College
5250 Shepherd Road, PO Box 19256
Springfield, IL 62794-9256
Telephone: (217) 786-2472
e-mail: Marybeth.ray@llcc.edu

Recommended: $8,400

Project Synopsis: Since 1999, the Cooperative Work Study Program (co-op) at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) has successfully expanded opportunities for students to succeed through the development of individualized contextual learning environments that integrate academic instruction with relevant real-world work experiences. The primary goals of the LLCC co-op program are to: actively engage students in a manner that increases their academic performance while simultaneously reducing their reliance on student loans link classroom learning with relevant, paid work experience in the student’s field of study create, support and expand relationships with employers in the LLCC college district.

Participation in the co-op program benefits students academically and financially by placing them in relevant paid positions whereby they can apply what they have learned through traditional classroom instruction to actual work related problems and situations. Students receive payment for their hours worked, gain valuable insight into their particular industry, and can earn up to three credits hours per semester. Upon completion of the experience, the employer is reimbursed a portion of the salary paid to the student.

The LLCC co-op program allows students to infuse a real-world component into their program of study. This type of contextual learning has been demonstrated to assist students in their educational performance. According to the Center for Occupational Research and Design, contextual learning helps students to “discover meaningful relationships between abstract ideas and practical applications in the context of the real world.” Applied instruction recognizes that “learning is a complex and multifaceted process that goes far beyond drill-oriented, stimulus-and response methodologies.”
Institution: North Central College

Project Title: CareerLinc

Project Director: Mr. Jeff Denard
Director, Career Development
North Central College
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Recommended: $8,400

Project Synopsis: One of the paramount objectives at North Central College is to strengthen the curricular and extra-curricular programs that distinguish our model of education and enhance student interaction with faculty and staff and engagement with their learning environment. One of the goals developed to achieve this aims to increase and document student participation in programs fostering active learning, including extended learning opportunities such as internships.

Involvement with the Illinois College Word Study program (CWS) directly supports this mission. If we, as an institution, strive to enhance this portion of our students’ educational experience, then the CWS is a means to that end. The shared goals to benefit students academically, minimize student financial burdens, enhance community, business, non-profit and government partnerships, expand student opportunities, and retain students within the state of Illinois makes the obtainment of this grant a win-win.

Through this grant the college will be able to increase efforts to develop partnerships with Illinois businesses, government agencies and not-for-profit organizations. Students will be more likely to be involved in paid, out of class experiences, thereby initiating some of the underlying goals of reducing financial burdens, gaining pre-professional experience and indirectly increasing the likelihood of remaining within the state. As finances have a direct correlation with student’ desire and ability to anticipate in internships, this grant increases the probability that a student will get involved with an organization who previously did not offer paid internships, and thus, increase their – and our connections to the future.
Institution: Joliet Junior College

Project Title: Illinois Cooperative Education/Internship Program

Project Director: Ms. Mary Jo Wolfersberger
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Recommended: $8,200

Project Synopsis: Participation in the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program will allow opportunities for more students in Joliet Junior College’s academic programs to gain challenging work experiences related to their college majors. As a community college, 60 percent of our students are first generation college students, the wages paid will help the student financially, the work experience will enhance the student’s employment success, and the relationships developed will provide the student a networking source for future employment. This work experience is an essential part of the college’s mission and the Illinois Commitment to partner with business and industry to provide a well-educated workforce in Illinois. The funds from the grant will be used to develop partnerships with not-for-profit employers and small businesses that often do not have the funds to provide a competitive wage; however, can provide meaningful employment experiences for the students. This grant will provide an incentive for local, small employers to become more actively involved in a work partnership that will encourage employers to identify potential full-time employees while providing students the opportunity to develop and demonstrate “soft” employability skills as well as the skills developed through their academic programs. For the 2007 year we are going to expand experiential learning into the transfer programs to provide the students seeking four-year degrees the first step in developing their career path. Students selected to participate will be Illinois residents and meet the academic requirements of their department’s internship program.