

Governor Quinn's budget

- Governor Pat Quinn on Wednesday delivered his fiscal year 2012 budget [address](#) to the Illinois General Assembly, proposing "Illinois Working," a plan for budget stability, jobs and economic growth. The Governor proposed a lean budget that spreads the burden across state government, while implementing investments and economies needed to ensure a better future. He proposed level funding for [higher education](#) operations and grants in FY12, and an additional \$25 million for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) targeted to community college students.
- [Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman](#) applauded the Governor's MAP funding proposal.

IBHE budget

- On Tuesday, Feb. 15, the Illinois Board of Higher Education approved a four-step investment budget for fiscal 2012. The investment levels for [operations and grants](#) range from flat funding in Step 1 to a \$206 million, 9.7% increase in Step 4. The budget also recommends a \$1.5 billion [capital](#) spending plan.

MAP Task Force delivers consensus report to IBHE

The blue ribbon task force created by IBHE to examine a proposal to supplement funding of the MAP program presented its report to the Board on Tuesday. The panel, made up of finance experts, representatives of higher education agencies and sectors, among others, were charged with exploring the feasibility, sustainability, and advisability of the proposed College Opportunity Investment Notes (COINs) idea, advanced by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. Task Force Chairman Tom Schmidt, former president of Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, acknowledged that concerns raised about COINs, principally from the community college system, were rooted in legitimate fears over the dismal record of state funding in recent years. However, he also said that when the task force "looked at the feasibility, sustainability, and advisability of the status quo, it was clear we need new ideas." The task force worked diligently over the past six weeks to hear testimony, study background papers, and craft a report that was approved by the group without dissent.

Report urges effort to boost achievement among minority males

The annual Report to the Governor and General Assembly on Underrepresented Groups in Illinois Higher Education was presented to the Board of Higher Education at its meeting Feb. 15th at National-Louis University in Chicago. The report noted that national studies have stated that the lack of educational attainment among African American and Latino males has reached a crisis level, and recommended a concerted focus on measures to improve educational achievement for underserved students.

State of the States – AASCU budget analysis

Each year, most governors address a joint meeting of their legislative bodies to articulate their vision for the state and to outline key public policy priorities in the upcoming legislative session.

Key Higher Education Themes

1. **Economic dev./innovation/research** (MD, KY, MI, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NY, UT, TX, VA, VT)
2. **State aid/funding** (AR, CO, ID, IN, KS, ME, NV, NE, ND, VA, WA)
3. **Degree completion** (AR, CT, KY, MD, NV, OR, UT, VA, WV)
4. **Affordability** (AR, CT, MD, MN, MO, MT, TX, VA, WA)
5. **State financial aid** (AK, AR, GA, ID, IL, MO, NC, NV, WA)
6. **Improving postsecondary attainment** (AR, HI, MO, WA)
7. **College readiness** (ID, NC, OR, SD)
8. **College infrastructure** (GA, HI, SD)
9. **Performance funding** (AR, ND, TX)
10. **Dual enrollment/early college** (MS, NH)
11. **Systemic reforms/governance changes** (CT, IL)
12. **Student debt** (VT)
13. **Tax incentives for university giving** (AK)
14. **College credits for veterans** (TX)
15. **Procurement reforms** (OK)

Dual Degrees, Work Study “showcased” at IBHE meeting



An innovative dual degree program and a highly successful work-study program kicked off a new **Public Agenda Showcase** at the February IBHE meeting, the first in a series of presentations to demonstrate how the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success* is being implemented on campuses and other venues throughout Illinois. Governors State University President Elaine Maimon presented the degree partnerships



between GSU and six community colleges as an innovative means to improve educational attainment, enhance affordability, and contribute to the state’s economic development through meeting workforce demands – addressing all four goals of the *Public Agenda*. Dawn Koeltzow explained Bradley University’s commitment to student work and career experiences through the Board’s Cooperative Work Study grant program and other internships and work opportunities for students, efforts that address Goals 2 (affordability) and 3 (workforce development) of the *Public Agenda*.

States are making progress collecting longitudinal information

The Data Quality Campaign’s (DQC) sixth annual state analysis, *Data for Action 2010*, reveals that states have made unprecedented progress collecting longitudinal information but have not taken action to ensure data are used to improve student achievement. When the DQC launched in 2005, no state had all 10 Essential Elements of Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems. Now, 24 states report they have implemented all 10 Essential Elements, and every state has committed to implement them by September 2011.

Governor Quinn receives first P-20 Council Report

Governor Pat Quinn received the first set of recommendations from the Illinois P-20 Council on February 13. The council’s report was released to the Governor and the General Assembly, and it provides a number of suggestions aimed at improving student success in Illinois. "Ensuring that all of our students receive the highest quality education and are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow is key to Illinois’ long-term economic growth," said Governor Quinn. "I would like to thank the council members for their hard work, and I look forward to reviewing their proposal for further improvements to education in Illinois."

The P-20 Council’s [report](#) includes recommendations pertaining to all levels of the state education system. Its primary goal is to increase the proportion of Illinoisans with high-quality degrees and credentials from the current level of 41 percent to 60 percent of the working-age population by 2025.

Off the MAP – eligible students missing out on need-based MAP grants



People in the News



Knox College announced the selection of the first woman to lead the 174-year-old institution. [Teresa L. Amott](#) will succeed Roger L. Taylor and become the College's 19th president on July 1. Dr. Amott currently serves as Provost and Dean of the Faculty at Hobart and William Smith Colleges (HWS) in Geneva, New York, a position she has held since 2005.

[Barbara Risman](#), professor and head of sociology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has been selected as the 2011 recipient of the American Sociological Association's Award for Public Understanding of Sociology.

[Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored](#)



[Kimberly Bartosiak](#), **University of Illinois - Springfield**, is a senior from Bethalto, Illinois, and is majoring in Chemistry at UIS with a minor in Biology. She holds a 4.0 GPA and is currently applying to medical schools in hopes of becoming a neurologist or neurosurgeon.



[Nathaniel Dell](#), **Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville**, is a senior from Maryville, Illinois. Nathaniel is majoring in Philosophy and is a member of PHI SIGMA TAU, the International Honor Society in philosophy.



[Amy Du](#), **Elmhurst College**, is a senior from Elmhurst, Illinois, with a double major in Biology and Political Science. Du spends her free time raising money for the Ghana Neurological Foundation (GNF), which works to provide improved health care delivery for neurological diseases and to assist the Ghana community to maintain healthy lives through education and advanced medical services.

Editor's note: In the upcoming issues of [The Friday Memo](#), the Illinois Student Laureates from Illinois' colleges and universities will be featured in "People in the News." The award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, campus leadership and extracurricular activities among Illinois College and university seniors.

News from Higher Education

[Veterans' agency says it has denied GI Bill approval for some for-profit colleges](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

The Department of Veterans Affairs has "suspended and/or withdrawn" its approval for educational benefits for veterans to flow to some for-profit colleges because they have used "questionable recruitment practices," Secretary Eric Shinseki said in a letter made public by Senator Richard Durbin.

[Closing the achievement gap without widening a racial one](#) (The New York Times)

There is no more pressing topic in education today than closing the achievement gap, and there is no one in America who knows more about the gap than Ronald Ferguson.

[Hispanic students make strides on AP exams, College Board reports](#) (Christian Science Monitor)

The number of Hispanic students taking AP exams has increased dramatically, the College Board says. Hispanic students are a bigger percentage of those passing the exams than ever before.

[The \\$10,000 question](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

Texas prides itself on being a place where everything is bigger. But when it comes to higher education, Governor Rick Perry does not just want the price tag of a four-year bachelor's degree to be smaller. He wants it to be the smallest

Illinois Board of Higher Education
431 East Adams, 2nd Floor, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1404
Phone: (217) 782-2551
<http://www.ibhe.org>
FridayMemo@ibhe.org

[Sign up](#) to Friday Memo mailing list