

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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MONEY TRENDS

College Board reports shows higher ed costs rising, affordability declining

Twin studies released this week by the College Board show a double whammy of trends affecting affordability of college.

Highlights of [Trends in College Pricing](#) include:

- Average tuition and fees rose 7% this year for public 4-year institutions; 7.4% for 2-year publics.
- The median tuition and fees at public and private not-for-profit institutions is \$9,936 for the 2011-12 academic year.
- State appropriations per FTE student declined by 9% in constant dollars in fiscal 2009, by another 6% in FY10, and by 4% in FY11.
- Between 2006 and 2011, average net tuition (cost minus financial aid and tax credits) for in-state students at public 4-year institutions increased 1.4% per year above inflation.

Highlights of [Trends in Student Aid](#) include:

- In FY11, undergraduates received an average of \$12,455 per FTE in financial aid -- \$6,539 in grants, \$4,907 in federal loans, \$1,009 in tax incentives.
- In FY11, federal dollars accounted for 46% of all grant aid; 10 years earlier, only 29% of grant aid was federal.
- Over the decade ending in FY11, total borrowing increased by 57% per FTE student.
- In FY10, about 55% of public four-year college graduates had debt to go along with their diplomas. They had borrowed an average of \$22,000.

[One size fits all? Public Agenda organization questions focus of Obama teacher initiatives](#)

As part of an effort to improve teacher preparation programs, the Department of Education recently proposed a number of [initiatives](#) aimed at increasing teacher preparedness – increasing reporting and accountability, aid to high-performing teaching training programs, and targeting support to institutions that prepare high-quality teachers from diverse backgrounds.

However, the Public Agenda research organization says its surveys of teachers raises questions about the effectiveness of teacher preparation programs to adequately train teachers for the diversity and special needs in contemporary classrooms.

“While the majority of new teachers in general told us that their training on direct instruction helped them ‘a lot’ and reported feeling either very or somewhat prepared for their first year teaching,” Public Agenda noted, “certain segments of new teachers-middle school and secondary teachers, teachers with special-needs students, and teachers with ethnically diverse classrooms-were much less likely to say they felt prepared to address their particular

UPCOMING

November

8-10 General Assembly Veto Session

11-12 [Illinois Community College Trustees Association's meeting](#), Chicago Marriott Downtown

11-12 [ICCB-Student Advisory Committee meeting](#), Chicago Marriott Downtown

18 ISAC Commission Meeting, Robert Morris University, Chicago

December

3 IBHE Student Advisory Committee meeting, Harper College, Palatine

6 IBHE Board Meeting, Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills

challenges, and much more likely to be critical of their teacher preparation program.”

[Wanted: New college grads to promote college completion](#)

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) has several job openings throughout the state for recent college graduates interested in working with students and parents as they navigate the college going process. Corps members are placed geographically in community college districts throughout the state. Applications accepted by emailing resume, cover letter, and three references to isac.outreach@isac.illinois.gov, and in the subject line of the email, write "Corps Field Opening" Resumes will be accepted from October 31 to November 10.



[Governor Quinn addresses 2011 Sustainable Universities and Colleges Symposium](#)

The sixth annual Sustainable Universities and Colleges Symposium held at Heartland Community College on October 28 was hosted by the Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council, the Illinois Green Economy Network and Heartland Community College, and featured workshops, panel and break out discussions, exhibits, and speakers who addressed topics such as sustainable transportation and green business techniques.

“Innovation will help us build a stronger, greener future,” Governor Quinn said. “This symposium will help our colleges and universities come up with new ways to increase sustainability on campus, and it is an investment in our future workforce, as they learn more about the green sector and the jobs of today and tomorrow.”

[People in the News.](#)

Governors State University President [Elaine P. Maimon](#) has been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). Dr. Maimon, GSU's President since 2007, will serve on the AASCU Board from 2012 to 2015. She will join other college and university leaders from across the United States on the board.

[Karen Kelly](#), EdD, RN, NEA-BC, of O'Fallon and Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (SIUE) associate professor of Primary Care/Health Systems Nursing, was elected president of the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) at the group's 81st Biennial Convention. Kelly, who earned a doctorate in instructional processes and adult learning and a master's in psychiatric nursing, as well as a BSN, all from SIUE, joined the INA in 1972 after receiving an Illinois nursing license.

[Mary Garrison](#), Millikin associate professor, was chosen Illinois' Social Worker of the Year.

[Campus News](#)

[One stop college shopping: University Center open house features 19 Illinois colleges](#)

The University Center of Lake Country hosts its College Open House on November 9. The college open house will showcase approximately 100 programs available at the University Center of Lake County in Grayslake, Great Lakes Naval Training Center in North Chicago, or via online study. The program offerings enable students to complete a bachelor's degree, earn a graduate degree or pursue a professional certificate. Representatives from the 19 University Center's member schools will be on site to answer questions and provide further information about their programs.

[\\$7.2 million state investment in Incubator-South facility will accelerate growth of startup companies in Illinois](#)

On November 2, Governor Pat Quinn was joined by officials from the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in opening a new research facility in IIT's University Technology Park (UTP) that will provide space for more than 30 startup companies focusing on life sciences, biotech, engineering, materials and chemical research to take their innovations to the next level.

[\\$3.5 million in equipment unveiled at SIUE ethanol research center](#)

Legislators, local dignitaries, Southern Illinois University and SIU Edwardsville administrators, and industry leaders met November 3 at the National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center (NCERC) in SIUE's University Park to witness the unveiling of nearly \$3.5 million in equipment, made possible through the support of Cereal Process Technologies, LLC of Overland Park, Kansas, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The corn fractionation system represents an advanced technology NCERC will utilize to expand upon the career training programs and advanced ethanol research currently taking place at the country's only pilot-scale ethanol facility.

News from Higher Education

[Class of 2010 graduates who borrowed took out an average of \\$25,250 in loans, report says](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Students who earned their bachelor's degrees in 2010 and borrowed to help pay for their education graduated with an estimated average of \$25,250 in student loans, says a report by the Project on Student Debt. About two-thirds of graduates had borrowed, the report says.

[Failure to disclose](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

Three years after the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, which included new disclosure requirements for institutions, the majority of colleges are failing to provide public information on graduation rates for low-income students, and many do not adequately disclose other required information, according to a study published by Education Sector and the American Enterprise Institute.

[Foster students: Half do not finish high school, nearly all don't finish college](#) (The Huffington Post)

When Carey Sommer entered foster care in California, he left his mom, his high school and his friends. Bounced from home to home, he changed high schools nine times until the disheartened teen finally dropped out.

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