

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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April 17, 2015

[State Higher Education Finance report released](#)

The 12th annual SHEEO State Higher Education Finance (SHEF) study of state support for higher education released on April 13th, identifies national trends in state funding for higher education in 2014. These include:

- In 2014, for the second straight year, overall state and local funding for higher education increased, reaching \$86.3 billion, up 5.7 percent from 2013, but still below 2008-2011 levels.
- In addition to state and local revenues, public institutions collected net tuition revenue of \$64.3 billion in 2014, for a total of about \$150.7 billion available to support higher education. For the first time since the recession, the share of overall funding for *public* and *private* higher education from tuition decreased slightly to 42.7 percent.
- Net tuition revenue as a share of *public* higher education revenue was 47.1 percent.
- The percent of total support allocated for financial aid to students attending public institutions declined 0.3 percent to 7.7 percent in 2014, although funding was increased slightly.
- The remaining 3.2 percent supported students attending independent institutions, operating expenses at independent institutions, and non-credit and continuing education expenditures.
- Further analysis of the data indicates that constant (adjusted for the impact of inflation over time) dollar per-student state and local funding for public colleges and universities also increased for the second year in a row to \$6,552, which is 5.4 percent above 2013. In 2010, 2011, and 2012, the per student state and local support were the lowest in the last 25 years. Although 2014 per-student state and local support increased, it still remains significantly lower than pre-recession levels.
- Three states—Alaska, North Dakota, and Illinois—increased constant dollar per student support for public institutions during the five-year period from 2009 to 2014. (See *Figure 8* and the accompanying data in *Table 5 of the Report*.) Alaska and North Dakota are oil-dependent states. In Illinois, the increases were primarily to cover historical underfunding of pension programs. While funding for higher education operations and grants declined, funding to the higher education retirement system increased to \$1.5 billion in FY 2014. (See *page 37 of the Report* for the case study for more detail on the funding situation in Illinois.)

[Gallup-Lumina Poll finds most Americans say higher education not affordable](#)

A majority of U.S. adults, 61%, believe education beyond high school is available to anyone in America who needs it -- down from 67% who felt this way in [2013](#). However, only a small minority (21%) believe higher education is affordable. These findings are among many in a [report](#) based on the most recent [Gallup-Lumina Foundation Poll](#) conducted Nov. 3-Dec. 18, 2014. While the majority of all Americans believe higher education is available to anyone in the U.S. who needs it, some are more likely to feel this way than others do. For instance, Hispanics are more optimistic (73%) than whites (58%) that this type of education is available to all.

UPCOMING

APRIL

21 [House Higher Education Committee](#), C-1
Stratton Bldg,
Springfield

22 [House Community College Access & Affordability Committee](#), Room 118,
The Capitol, Springfield

IBHE-SAC Lobby Day in Springfield

28 **ICCTA Board meeting**,
Crisp Community College
Center, Springfield

29 **ICCB-Student Advocacy Day in Springfield**

ICCTA Lobby Day in Springfield

America's College Promise

In the most recent White House [weekly address](#), Vice President Biden laid out the President's plan to make two years of community college free for responsible students ([fact sheet](#)). Access to higher education has a tangible impact on a student's success. Those with an associate's degree earn 25% more than those with only a high school diploma, while those with a four-year degree make 70% more.

[New Report: The Geography of the New Teacher Pipeline](#)

The latest report released from the Illinois Education Research Council (IERC), *The Geography of the New Teacher Pipeline* examines the geography of the teacher labor markets by tracking the distances between the teacher's home area and college with the location of their first teaching position. This research is informative for teacher recruitment efforts, as well as for initiatives in Illinois to diversify the teacher pipeline.

[Call for proposals for Illinois Education Research Council Symposium](#)

The 13th IERC *Focus on Illinois Education Research Symposium* will be held on October 8-9, 2015, at the Sheraton Hotel in Lisle, IL. The IERC has issued a call for proposals for presentation or for the poster session at the Symposium. This unique forum provides education practitioners, policy makers and researchers with the opportunity to learn from one another about education research from early childhood through higher education and the workforce. This year's theme is *Pathways to an Affordable College Education* and is designed to elicit discussion around new ideas in educational affordability and P-20 pathways to college and career success.

Deadline for the proposals is June 19. Proposals and inquiries should be directed to: Jennifer Barnhart, Research Associate, Illinois Education Research Council, SIUE Box 1064, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1064, or by email to hebarnh@siue.edu.

[Illinois Latino Council on Higher Education \(ILACHE\) 23rd Annual Professional and Student Development Conference:](#)

"*A New Era In Higher Education: The Latino Effect*" to be held at Northeastern Illinois University (5500 North St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60626) on April 24. Register [here](#).



[People in the News](#)

[Amy Hurd](#) has been appointed as the director of the Graduate School at Illinois State University. Hurd has served as interim director since December of 2013. A professor in the School of Kinesiology and Recreation, Hurd also served as the graduate program director for the school. Her research focuses on competency development and succession planning, and has appeared in more than 50 journals and book chapters, including the *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration*, *Biomedical Human Kinetics*, *New Directions for Youth Development* and *Activities, Adaptation, and Aging*.

McHenry County College president, [Dr. Vicky Smith](#), has announced she will retire on December 31, 2015. When Smith began as president in August 2010, she stated that she would focus her efforts with the Board to set a strategic direction for the College. "We all wish Dr. Smith well in her retirement and offer our appreciation for her efforts and contributions during the past five years. During her tenure, the College has moved forward in its service to the students and the community, and the upgrading of our campus," said MCC Board Chairman, Ron Parrish. "Dr. Smith has recently encouraged our reach toward public transparency, and improved communications among employees, trustees, and the public."

Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored



Trinity International University: Haedi DeAngelis is from Deerfield, majoring in Mathematics.



University of Illinois Chicago: Allyson Joyce is from St. Charles, majoring in Nursing.



University of Illinois Springfield: Clarissa Fisher is from Rochester, majoring in Accountancy.



University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign: Naomi Liu is from Chicago, majoring in Finance and Supply Chain Management.

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. Photographs by Studio 131, courtesy of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois.

The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation has awarded 2015 Guggenheim fellowships to two University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign faculty members: [Wendy K. Tam Cho](#), professor of political science and statistics, and [Philip W. Phillips](#), professor of physics.

Campus News

[UIS to host scholarly symposium for Lincoln Funeral Commemoration](#)

The University of Illinois Springfield (UIS) will present a scholarly symposium on April 30, as part of the Lincoln Funeral Coalition's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the funeral of Abraham Lincoln. The symposium, "Mourning Father Abraham: Lincoln's Assassination and the Public's Response," will feature three prize-winning historians of Lincoln and the Civil War era. Featured speakers are Louis P. Masur, distinguished professor of American Studies and History at Rutgers University, Martha Hodes, professor of History at New York University, and Michael Burlingame, and Chancellor Naomi B. Lynn, Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies at UIS, who will give opening remarks on "Lincoln as Father Figure," and serve as moderator.

News from Higher Education

[Report: funding for higher education lags in Missouri, Illinois](#) (Missouri Public Radio)

State higher education funding per full time student has dropped more than 26 percent in Missouri and increased almost 50 percent in Illinois over the past five years, according to data compiled by the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association.

[Rose: Cuts offer chance at reform](#) (News-Gazette)

Proposed Illinois budget cuts were called everything from "catastrophic" to "heartbreaking" at a state Senate appropriations committee hearing on the University of Illinois campus.

[Opinion: The issues to consider regarding bachelor's degrees at community colleges](#) (Daily Herald)

Illinois community colleges are beginning to advocate for the right to offer applied bachelor degrees.

[First-generation students unite](#) (The New York Times)

Ana Barros grew up hard in a two-family house built by Habitat for Humanity, by the boarded-up buildings and vacant lots of Newark.

Read IBHE Executive Director Jim Applegate's Blog: [Is Fairness Still an Illinois Value?](#)

Illinois has set an audacious goal to have 60 percent of its workforce with a high quality college credential by 2025. Meeting this goal is essential to the quality of life for Illinois citizens. Those left out of the college mix will be relegated to the life of the working poor since two thirds of all new and replacement jobs going forward (and almost all of the middle class jobs) will require a college credential. [Read more...](#)

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