60 by 25 Conference
Reenvisioning Higher Education Funding to Advance Racial Equity
Why are we here today?

Build Community

Learn about the importance of equitable and adequate higher education funding

Take action to advance equity in higher education
Why Higher Education Matters
A college degree remains the clearest path toward equity for the state and its residents.

Of the jobs added since the last recession, 95% have required college credentials.

Source: Georgetown CEW
A college degree remains the clearest path toward equity for the state and its residents

A college degree is even more valuable for students of color, increasing lifetime earnings by 67% for Black college graduates and 78% for Latinx college graduates

Source: Georgetown CEW
Wages rise and unemployment rates drop as education level increases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Median 12 month earnings, 2017</th>
<th>Unemployment rate, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school graduate</td>
<td>$24,957</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate (includes equivalency)</td>
<td>$31,161</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
<td>$36,756</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
<td>$56,643</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or professional degree</td>
<td>$73,296</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Higher Education in Illinois
Overview of System

AGENCIES:
- IBHE (Illinois Board of Higher Education)
- ICCB (Illinois Community College Board)
- ISAC (Illinois Student Assistance Commission)

INSTITUTIONS: 12 public universities

COMMUNITY COLLEGES: 39 community college districts (geographic, similar to school districts), with 48 community colleges

OTHER: 83 independent NFP 4-year institutions (private); 96 private for-profit institutions
Illinois Public University Enrollment by Race

- White: 56%
- Black: 17%
- Latinx: 14%
- Asian American: 10%
- Other: 3%
How are Illinois’ public universities funded?

**STATE FUNDING**
- Institutional funding
- Student grant aid

**FEDERAL FUNDING**
- Student grants
- Student loans
- Research funding

**STUDENT/CONSUMER SOURCES**
- Tuition & fees
- Event/sports revenue, hospitals, alumni donations
The Problem
What’s the problem?

Over the last 10 years, Illinois has seen:

- **Disinvestment** in higher education
- **Increasing tuition and fees**, impacting affordability
- **Inequitable distribution** of funding
- **Enrollment and completion gaps**, specifically for Black and Latinx students, and students from low-income families
State appropriations cuts lead to tuition increases

Sources: IBHE FY20 Budget Book
The impact has been disproportionate.

Some universities get more than 40% of their funding from the state, while better-resourced universities get less than 10%.
Some universities have offset cuts with tuition increases

Sources: IPEDS Data Center; IBHE Data Book
Educational attainment in Illinois is marked by vast inequities by race

- From 2008-18, Illinois public higher education institutions have enrolled ~25K fewer Black students

- Public 2-year and 4-year retention and completion of students of color is lower than that of White students

- Black enrollment at selective universities (6% in 2008 and 8% in 2018) remains very unrepresentative of our state’s diversity

Sources: IBHE Data Book; College Scorecard Data; IPEDS
The Solution
What do we believe is the solution?

1. To allocate more funding into the system to *adequately support* students.

2. To distribute that funding in a way that is *equitable and stable*. 
Commission on Equitable Public University Funding

SB 815 created the Commission on Equitable Public University Funding, which will evaluate existing funding methods and recommend specific data-driven approaches to equitably, stably, and adequately fund Illinois’ public universities.

33-person commission made up of:

- Elected officials
- Representatives from the 12 four-year institutions
- State agencies
- Non-profit organizations (PCC, WE, AI, Alternative Schools Network & CTBA)
- Faculty unions (IEA, IFT)

The Commission will publish its findings and recommendations by July 2023.
Re-Evaluating Institutional Funding Creates New Possibilities in Higher Education
Who We Are
Our Theory of Action

If we **advance** a public university funding model that prioritizes racial and socioeconomic equity, then we will see statewide increases in higher education equity, through **better-resourced** institutions serving more **representative** student populations, more **resources** directed to colleges serving Black, Latinx, low-income, rural and first generation college students, and **increased investment** in higher education.
What does this mean for the coalition?

What we hope to be true...

- **Building power** with strong allies, like YOU.
  - Your influence, work and experiences matter
- **Opportunity to create a network of advocates.**
  - That raise awareness
  - Elevate their voices and others
  - To create equity
- **Advocate for equity**
  - Throughout the commission’s work
  - Influence development of recommendations
  - Advancing an equitable institutional funding formula
Panel Discussion
Moderator

Dr. Kim Everett
Managing Director
Partnership for College Completion

Dr. April Bernard
Chair & Associate Professor in Criminal Justice
Chicago State University

Dr. Jennifer Garrison
Superintendent
Vandalia CUSD #203

Ale Natera
UIC ‘21, SAC Member
Political Science & Latin American Latino Studies
Ways You Can Engage

1. Become a member of our coalition
   a. Join as NECS, through your organizations, schools, etc., or both!

2. Advocacy Day - March 9

3. Advocate for MAP

4. Share your stories about why higher education funding equity matters to you
Thank you!

Email Sonianne Lozada at slozada@partnershipfcc.org to join the coalition or learn more.