

# EQUITY FIRST

**Building Toward a  
Better Future and  
Revitalizing Learning**

## Illinois 60 by 25 Network

Newcomers Orientation

Edith Njuguna, Illinois 60 by 25 Network

Sam Nelson, Illinois Student Assistance Commission



## Why “60 by 25”?

The Illinois P-20 Council has set a goal to ensure that **60% of all Illinois adults have a high-quality college degree or postsecondary credential by 2025.** *Right now, Illinois is at 55.2%*

# Network Organizers





## **Our Network Goal**

To support communities to increase meaningful and equitable postsecondary attainment.

# Leadership Communities

Aurora Regional Pathways to Prosperity  
Black Hawk Region Pathways  
Boone County  
East Side Aligned  
Enlace Chicago  
Evanston  
Lake County  
Making Opportunities Real for Everyone (MORE) in the  
Mississippi and Rock River Region  
McLean County  
NCI/Starved Rock Region  
Northwest Educational Council for Student Success (NECSS)  
OAI/Rich Township District 227  
Peoria Pathways to Prosperity  
Rockford  
Sangamon County Continuum of Learning  
Thrive Chicago  
Vandalia ONE  
Vermilion County



# Leadership Community Expectations



# Who's at the table?

Documented partnership must include:

- Employers
- Workforce boards
- Education
- Municipal leadership
- Community-based organizations

# Leadership Community Supports

- Manage peer-to-peer learning and action network
- Provide technical assistance on collective impact and strategies to reach postsecondary attainment
- Gather and curate critical data
- Serve as a conduit for financial support to communities (mini-grants)

# Cradle to Career Dashboard

- Early Childhood ⌵
- WELL CHILD VISITS
- GOLD-RATED EXCELERATE PROGRAMS
- Elementary Through 9th Grade ⌵
- College Readiness ⌵
- Community and Labor ⌵
- Supply and Demand ⌵

# Dashboard Home STATE OF ILLINOIS LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES RE BY 25 NETWORK

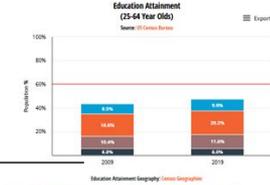
## GP Pathways

60 by 25 NETWORK

GP Pathways is an initiative of the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council that connects middle and high school students and their parents and educators to career exploration information, resources, and activities in our region. The program seeks to identify and share information about the most critically needed job skills in Greater Peoria and support a system that trains those critical skills to support our employers' future workforce needs.

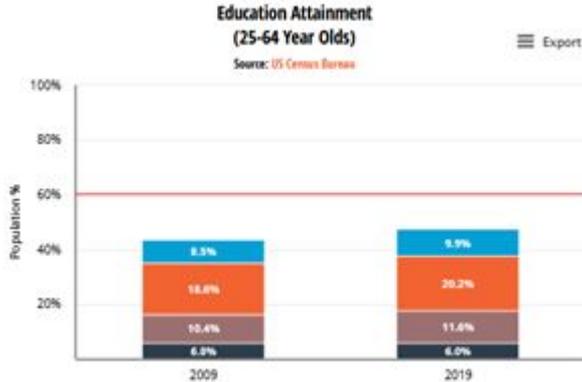
## Resources

- Early Childhood ⌵
- Elementary Through 9th Grade ⌵
- College Readiness ⌵
- Community and Labor ⌵
- Supply and Demand ⌵



## FOCUS SECTORS

- Health Science
- Technology
- Manufacturing
- Transportation



## Education Attainment

### COMMUNITY FOCUS INDICATORS

Education Attainment Geography: Census Geography

- FAFSA COMPLETIONS: 59.2% [Learn More](#)
- FRESHMEN ON TRACK: 89.6% [Learn More](#)
- FIVE YEAR GRADUATION: 86.6% [Learn More](#)
- COLLEGE REMEDIATION RATE: 27.9% [Learn More](#)

## Focus Indicators

- FAFSA COMPLETIONS: 59.2%
- FRESHMEN ON TRACK: 89.6%
- FIVE YEAR GRADUATION: 86.6%
- COLLEGE REMEDIATION RATE: 27.9%

# Scale of the Network



**273,234**

*Public high school students  
in Leadership Communities  
statewide*



**45%**

*of public high school  
students statewide*



**167,815**

*Public high school students  
in Leadership Communities  
outside Chicago*



**34%**

*of all high school students  
outside of Chicago*

# Guiding Team

**Stephanie Bernoteit**, Illinois Board of Higher Education

**Mara Botman**, Circle of Service Foundation

**Amy Jo Clemens**, Center for P-20 Engagement at NIU

**Chibuzo Ezeigbo**, The Joyce Foundation

**Jason Helfer**, Illinois State Board of Education

**Darryl Hogue**, Riverbend School District

**Jennifer Irvin**, BJC Healthcare

**Lisa Jones**, Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

**Sharon Kherat**, Peoria Public Schools

**Kim Korando**, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

**Pranav Kothari**, Revolution Impact

**Jason Leahy**, Illinois Principals Association

**Laz Lopez**, District 214 & Illinois Community College Board

**Alan Mather**, Golden Apple Foundation

**Travis McGuire**, Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429

**Charlie Moore**, McLean County Chamber of Commerce

**Margi Schiemann**, Illinois Workforce Innovation Board & Nicor Gas

**Audrey Soglin**, Illinois Education Association

**Susan Stanton**, ACT Now

**Sydney Stigge-Kaufman**, East Side Aligned

**Whitney Thompson**, Illinois Community College Board

**Vince Walsh-Rock**, Illinois School Counselor Association

# Advancing Equity: Student Advisory Council

**Goal:** To better understand the experiences of young people in the systems Network Organizers are trying to improve

Members participate in up to 3 meetings per year & annual conference

[Planning for Life After High School: Tips from the SAC](#)



# Network Impact

# Leadership Communities Drive Policy Implementation

Public Act 99-0674 (HB 5729)

Signed by Governor in 2016

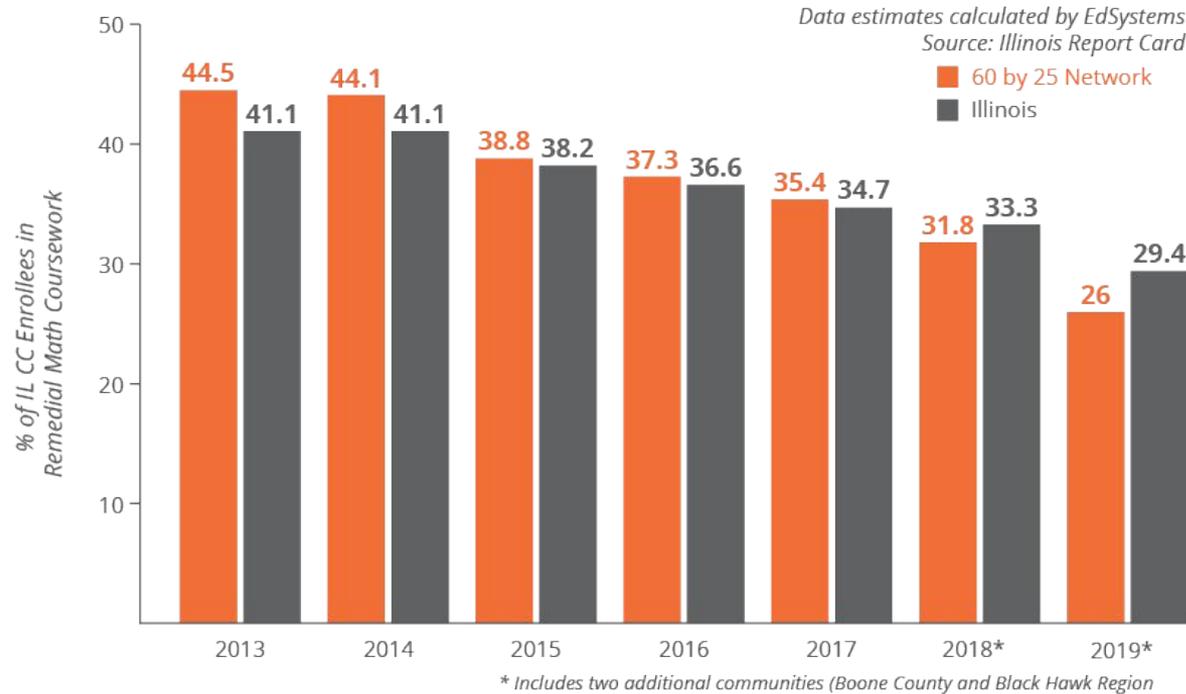
## Four Components:

- Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE)
- College & Career Pathway Endorsements (CCPE)
- Pilot of Competency-Based High School Graduation Requirements
- Scaling of 12th Grade Transitional Courses



[pwract.org](http://pwract.org)

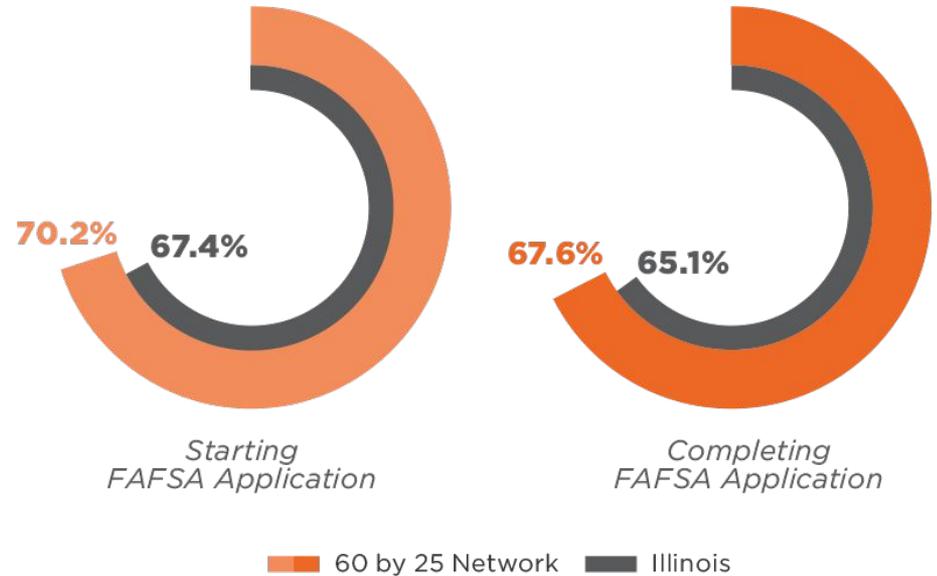
# Celebrating Student Success



Illinois Community Colleges remedial math enrollment fell at both the **Network (-18.5% pts.)** and **State (-11.7% pts.)** levels between the classes of 2013 and 2019

# Celebrating Student Success

Relative to the entire state, the Network had higher rates of 2019 12th grade students *starting a FAFSA application* (70.2% versus 67.4%) and *completing an application* (67.6% versus 65.1%)



Note: ISAC uses prior year ACT test takers as its approximate denominator  
Source: ISBE Illinois Report Card Public Data Set, 2015-2019, ISAC FAFSA Data File, 2018-2019 cycle



**ILLINOIS  
60 BY 25 NETWORK  
IMPACT REPORT**

July 2020

[www.60by25.org](http://www.60by25.org)

# Illinois 60 by 25 Network Impact Report

**EQUITY FIRST: BUILDING TOWARD A BETTER FUTURE AND REVITALIZING LEARNING**

# Why participate in the Network?

- Supportive structure for collaboration across education, workforce, & community partners
- Be on the cutting edge of education and workforce policy implementation
- Help inform State policy through innovative local practice
- Potential to receive funding for local efforts



# Thank You



EQUITY FIRST: BUILDING TOWARD A BETTER FUTURE AND REVITALIZING LEARNING