

Education

Illinois residents are serious about the importance of education. Education is a major component of the state's budget, with state and local operating expenditures for elementary and secondary pupils ranking among the top five in the nation. About half of Illinois workers have pursued education beyond the high school level. Illinois has some of the finest colleges and universities in the nation.

Elementary and Secondary Education

Illinois has approximately 870 public school districts, with over 4,000 public schools and approximately 1,100 nonpublic schools. In the 2009-10 School Year, there were nearly 2.4 million pupils attending Illinois schools. Approximately 139,000 students graduated from Illinois high schools in 2010.

Community Colleges

Career and technical education is important in Illinois. There are 48 community colleges and one community college center located in 39 college districts in Illinois. Illinois is the 3rd largest community college system in the nation. In the Fall of 2010, community colleges enrolled over 379,000 students in credit courses, out of which 56.7 percent were female and 43.2 percent male enrollment. The colleges provide instruction and work force preparation in more than 240 occupational specialties. The Community College Board estimates more than 90 percent of its graduates remain in Illinois to work. Many community college students are working adults.

Illinois community colleges provide comprehensive, market-driven services based on local employer needs. Colleges can analyze an organization's needs and offer in-depth assessments of the entire organization. Training is delivered at the workplace, on campus, or on-line. Services range from professional continuing education and customized job training to entrepreneurship training, consulting services, government contract pro-

urement assistance, and industrial attraction and retention. The colleges also help businesses acquire training funds through various state and federal programs.

A primary economic development activity of the community colleges is the valuable resources they provide to business and industry. Across the state, community colleges, through their business and industry centers, work with businesses, industries, and economic development entities to recruit and train workers, retain existing businesses, and bring new businesses and jobs to Illinois. Additionally, colleges engage local business partners through their participation on program advisory committees for the career and technical education programs. This provides industry partners with a forum to render input directly to the college – and ensures that community college programs are always reflective of the latest industry trends.

Online degrees

Illinois colleges and universities reported a total of 26,231 enrollments in online courses during the Fall 2010 term. Community colleges reported 80,269 enrollments, public Universities reported 25,996, and independent universities reported 134,024 enrollments. This is a 13% increase in enrollments from fall 2009 when 234,866 students were enrolled. The number of courses increased in 2010 by 23 percent to 11,311 from 9,212 courses the previous year

Colleges and Universities

Illinois boasts 189 degree-granting institutions that enrolled 530,803 students in the Fall of 2009. There are nine public universities on 12 campuses that offer a full range of educational programs, including nearly 700 baccalaureate degree programs; more than 550 master's degree programs; nearly 200 doctoral programs; and professional

degrees in medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry and law. In the private sector, 96 institutions are not-for-profit colleges and universities, while an additional 33 are proprietary. In fall 2009, 82,724 – enrolled in private institutions, an increase of 15.92 percent from fall 2008.

Many Illinois institutions have world-class reputations. U.S. News and World Report's 2011 rankings of National Universities - Doctoral (schools with a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs that often emphasize research) included three Illinois universities among the top 40: the University of Chicago (9th) Northwestern (12th), and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (47th).

Business Week 2011 assessment of national M.B.A. programs ranked University of Chicago first and the nearby Northwestern was ranked 4th. The University of Chicago graduates are lauded for their financial and analytical skills while Northwestern is credited for its close-knit culture and honing of marketing skills. In addition, the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana is ranked fifth nationally by *U.S. News & World Report* for its school of engineering.

<u>University</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Total Enrollment (Fall 2010)</u>	<u>Distinctions</u>
<i>University of Illinois</i>	<i>Urbana - Champaign</i>	43,862	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •17 colleges offer over 150 undergraduate and 100 graduate Ranked in the top 10 by U.S. News and World Report in Library Science, Engineering, Chemistry, Computer Science and Physics.
<i>University of Illinois</i>	<i>Chicago</i>	27,850	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •15 colleges offer comprehensive undergraduate, masters and doctoral programs in engineering, the sciences, pharmacy and medicine •One of the top 50 research funded institutions nationally
<i>University of Illinois</i>	<i>Springfield</i>	5,174	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •23 bachelor's degree programs and 25 minors; 20 master's degree programs; one doctoral degree
<i>University of Chicago</i>	<i>Chicago</i>	15,152	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pioneer in economics, sociology, literary criticism and legal education •Two major federal research centers, Argonne National Lab and Fermi National Accelerator Lab. •Numerous Nobel prize winning faculty •Country's largest university press
<i>Northwestern University</i>	<i>Evanston & Chicago</i>	21,323	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •libraries hold more than 4.9 million volumes, 4.6 million micro-forms, and 98,000 current periodicals and serials, more than 700 databases and 6,000 electronic journals •The Kellogg School of Management ranks among the top five business schools nationally •The School of Law is ranked 11th in the nation by U.S. News & World Report •The Feinberg School of Medicine in the top 20. by U.S. News & World Report
<i>Illinois Institute of Technology</i>	<i>Chicago</i>	7,774	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Offers programs in engineering, sciences, architecture, psychology, design, humanities, business and las. •Two research institutes and twelve research centers, and core research competency areas •Integrates and partners research at other universities, government laboratories and research organizations and in business and industry
<i>Southern Illinois University</i>	<i>Carbondale</i>	20,037	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Among the top 5 percent of all U.S. higher education institutions for research •More than 200 undergraduate majors, minors and specializations; 30 doctoral and more than 60 master's degree programs; law and medical degrees.
<i>Southern Illinois University</i>	<i>Edwardsville</i>	14,133	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •43 baccalaureate degrees, 41 master's degrees and 2 professional doctoral degrees (Dental Medicine and Pharmacy) •SIU School of Dental Medicine graduates consistently rank high among the nation's 54 dental schools on national board exams
<i>Eastern Illinois</i>	<i>Charleston</i>	11,630	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •47 undergraduate degree programs; 27 graduate degree programs;

<i>University</i>			<p>six post-baccalaureate certificate programs Consistently named one of the top Midwestern public universities by U.S. News & World Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Produce more students that go on to earn a doctorate than any other master's institution in Illinois
<i>Illinois State University</i>	<i>Normal</i>	<i>21,134</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Offers 67 undergraduate, 40 masters and 8 doctorate programs in 6 colleges. •One of only 85 universities in the nation that maintains laboratory schools
<i>Northern Illinois University</i>	<i>De Kalb</i>	<i>23,850</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Seven degree-granting colleges; 63 undergraduate majors; 78 graduate programs, including 11 Ph.D. programs
<i>Western Illinois University</i>	<i>Macomb</i>	<i>12,585</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •71 undergraduate majors over 51 degree programs and 13 pre-professional degrees at the undergraduate level
<i>Governor's State University</i>	<i>University Park</i>	<i>5,660</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •offers world class music, dance, comedy, and entertainment at The Center for Performing Arts

Source: 2010 Data Book on Illinois Higher Education. Illinois State Board of Higher Education and individual college websites.

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