

# **ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD**

## **RECOGNITION MANUAL**

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**for the Illinois Public Community College Districts**

**2021-2025**



**Illinois Community College Board  
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Illinois Community College Board

**RECOGNITION MANUAL FOR THE  
ILLINOIS PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICTS Years 2021 - 2025**

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## INTRODUCTION

Recognition is a statutory term describing the status of a district which meets instructional, administrative, financial, facility, and equipment standards as established by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) (Section 805/2-12f and 805/2-15). Community colleges must be recognized to be eligible for state funding. Based on a five-year cycle, ICCB staff conducts recognition evaluations to assure that colleges are in compliance with these standards. All colleges are evaluated on a select number of standards during the same five-year cycle.

ICCB staff makes an assessment on each individual standard and on a holistic basis. On individual standards, colleges are identified as either in compliance or not in compliance. Recommendations are either mandatory when a college is out of compliance or otherwise advisory. On an overall basis, there are three categories of recognition status:

*Recognition Continued* - The district generally meets ICCB standards.

*Recognition Continued - with Conditions* - The district generally does not meet ICCB standards.

*Recognition Interrupted* - The district fails to take corrective action to resolve the conditions placed upon it under “recognition continued-with conditions” within a prescribed time period.

Standards identified for focused review during the 2021 - 2025 cycle will be selected from the following broad categories:

- I. Academic
- II. Student Services/Academic Support
- III. Finance/Facilities
- IV. Institutional Research/Reporting

*Version updates to this manual will be implemented if any changes occur to the Administrative Code by the State of Illinois Joint Committee on Administrative Rules*

*Version 1.1*

## OBJECTIVES OF THE RECOGNITION EVALUATION

The following are the objectives of the ICCB recognition evaluation process:

1. To determine district compliance with standards established by the [Public Community College Act](#) and [ICCB System Rules Manual](#) available on the ICCB [website](#).
2. To provide assistance to districts in achieving compliance with the Act and Administrative Rules.
3. To identify issues that may be of concern to the community college system and to gather basic data about these issues.
4. To identify exemplary district practices/programs that can be shared with other districts.

## THE RECOGNITION PROCESS

The recognition process takes advantage of the substantial amounts of information that the colleges provide to the Board on a routine basis. Evaluations include quality indicators, in addition to standards that are strictly compliance oriented. If issues arise during the ICCB staff's office evaluation that cannot be resolved through off-site contact with the college, a visit to the college concurrent with the credit hour claims audit visit will be arranged to view materials available on campus and/or to discuss issues with college personnel. The ICCB may, in some instances, conduct on-site visits, as deemed appropriate and necessary.

### **Application**

Each district is required to submit an application for recognition in accordance with the provisions of Section 2-15 of the Act. The application should include a letter from the local board of trustees (or designee) requesting the ICCB to assign a status of "recognition continued" to the district. The application letter should be received within 90 days after official notification from the Illinois Community College Board. See Appendix D for full instructions on the application process.

### **Scope**

Each recognition evaluation will focus on the standards identified in Appendix C. These selected standards will be the central focus of (1) the district's self-evaluation submitted as a part of the application for recognition and (2) the ICCB evaluation. While the focus of the recognition evaluation will be on selected standards, the district is responsible for compliance with all ICCB standards. Standards other than those selected for focus may be addressed by ICCB staff during the recognition evaluation or at other times during the year.

### **Provisions**

On an overall basis, there are three categories of recognition status:

*Recognition Continued* - The district generally meets ICCB standards. A district which has been granted a status of "recognition continued" will be entitled to receive ICCB

grants for which it is otherwise entitled and eligible.

*Recognition Continued-with Conditions* - The district does not meet ICCB standards across one or more identified standards. A district which has been assigned the status of “recognition continued-with conditions” will be entitled to receive ICCB grants for which it is otherwise entitled and eligible, but it will be given a specified time to resolve the conditions which led to the assignment of that status. A follow-up visit evaluation will be scheduled no sooner than three nor later than nine months after ICCB action on the assignment to determine the district’s progress in resolving the conditions.

*Recognition Interrupted* - The district failed to take corrective action to resolve the conditions placed upon it under “Recognition Continued-with Conditions” within the prescribed time period. A district which has been assigned a status of “Recognition Interrupted” may apply for recognition at such time as all requirements set forth by the ICCB have been satisfied. A district on “Recognition Interrupted” status will have state funding suspended on a prorated, per diem basis for the period of time for which such status is in effect.

### **Action**

Recognition is considered to be continuous unless action is taken to interrupt it. The ICCB will act on the recognition status of each district at a meeting subsequent to the ICCB recognition report being received. A district which previously has not been granted a recognition status by the ICCB may apply for a recognition status at any time.

### **Evaluation**

ICCB staff will conduct an in-depth evaluation of each district at least once every five years (See Appendix B for the 2021-2025 schedule).

- 1) This evaluation will be conducted by ICCB staff based on internal ICCB documents and on requests for information, data, and documents from the college.
- 2) On-site visits, including a required credit hour claims audit visit, will be scheduled.
- 3) The district shall receive a draft report of the evaluation findings and is asked to respond to the findings within 30 days of receipt of the draft report.
- 4) A final report will be presented to the ICCB at its next regularly scheduled meeting and will include the district’s responses to the draft report’s findings. Accompanying the final report will be the staff’s recommendation for recognition.
- 5) There may also be recommendations for follow-up submission required by the college, based on the finding in the final report.

### **Review and Appeal**

The ICCB may place a district on a “Recognition Interrupted” status for failure to meet ICCB standards after being assigned a status of “Recognition Continued-with Conditions” and receiving a follow-up evaluation if the district has not resolved the conditions within the stated time allowed. Any district whose recognition is interrupted may file a written request with the ICCB for a hearing on the decision in accordance with ICCB Rule 1501.110.

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## **APPENDIX A**

### **Applicable Statutes - Recognition**

Sections 2-12 and 2-15 of the Public Community College Act provide the bases for recognition: 2-12. The State Board shall have the power and it shall be its duty:

2-12f. To determine efficient and adequate standards for community colleges for the physical plant, heating, lighting, ventilation, sanitation, safety, equipment and supplies, instruction and teaching, curriculum, library, operation, maintenance, administration and supervision, and to grant recognition certificates to community colleges meeting such standards.

2-12g. To determine the standards for establishment of community colleges and the proper location of the site in relation to existing institutions of higher education offering academic, occupational and technical training curricula, possible enrollment, assessed valuation, industrial, business, agricultural, and other conditions reflecting educational needs in the area to be served; however, no community college may be considered as being recognized nor may the establishment of any community college be authorized in any district which shall be deemed inadequate for the maintenance, in accordance with the desirable standards thus determined, of a community college offering the basic subjects of general education and suitable vocational and semiprofessional and technical curricula.

2-15. The State Board shall grant recognition to community colleges which maintain equipment, courses of study, standards of scholarship, and other requirements set by the State Board. Application for recognition shall be made to the State Board. The State Board shall set the criteria by which the community colleges shall be judged and through the executive officer of the State Board shall arrange for an official evaluation of the community colleges and shall grant recognition of such community colleges as may meet the required standards.

## APPENDIX B Schedule of Recognition Evaluations 2021 - 2025

Dist. No.	District	Recognition Evaluation				
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
503	Black Hawk	X				
508	Chicago			X		
507	Danville	X				
502	DuPage	X				
509	Elgin		X			
512	Harper				X	
540	Heartland					X
519	Highland			X		
514	IL Central				X	
529	IL Eastern		X			
513	IL Valley				X	
525	Joliet			X		
520	Kankakee			X		
501	Kaskaskia	X				
523	Kishwaukee				X	
532	Lake County					X
517	Lake Land	X				
536	Lewis & Clark					X
526	Lincoln Land				X	
530	Logan				X	
528	McHenry				X	
524	Moraine Valley					X
527	Morton				X	
535	Oakton					X
505	Parkland		X			
515	Prairie State	X				
521	Rend Lake	X				
537	Richland					X
511	Rock Valley	X				
518	Sandburg		X			
506	Sauk Valley		X			
531	Shawnee				X	
510	South Suburban		X			
533	Southeastern					X
522	Southwestern		X			
534	Spoon River					X
504	Triton	X				
516	Waubonsee	X				
539	Wood					X

**APPENDIX C**  
**Recognition Standards**  
**Years 2021 – 2025**

Illinois Community College Board			
RECOGNITION STANDARDS Years 2021 - 2025			
STANDARD I	AUTHORITY	INDICATORS OF COMPLIANCE/QUALITY	ITEMS TO BE EVALUATED
<b>ACADEMIC</b>			
<p>1. Degrees and Certificates: A college shall award associate degrees and certificates in accordance with units of instruction approved by the ICCB. The criteria for approval of new units of instruction also are required for existing programs offered by community colleges. When a college no longer offers an approved unit of instruction to additional new students, that unit of instruction shall be reported to the ICCB and shall be removed from the college catalog and other documents advertising the program offerings to the public.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.303b (Program Requirements), ICCB Rule 1501.302 (Units of Instruction, Research, and Public Service)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The college awards, associate degrees, and certificates in accordance with units of instruction approved by the ICCB.</li> <li>• All degrees and certificates will meet credit hour ranges and general education requirements for new programs.</li> <li>• Programs that are not in the catalog and in which the college is not enrolling new students will be classified as inactive (I) or withdrawn (W) on the ICCB Curriculum Master File.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College catalog</li> <li>• ICCB Curriculum Master file</li> </ul>





<p>4. Curriculum: The content of the curriculum ensures that the objectives of the unit of instruction will be achieved.</p> <p>a. The range of total number of credit hours required for completion of an associate degree curriculum shall be within the following parameters:</p> <p>i. For the Associate in Arts degree and the Associate in Science degree, a total requirement of not less than 60 semester credit hours nor more than 64 semester credit hours or the quarter credit hour equivalent;</p> <p>ii. For the Associate in Fine Arts, Associate of Arts in Teaching, and the Associate in Engineering Science degree, a total requirement of not less than 60 semester credit hours nor more than 68 semester credit hours or the quarter credit hour equivalent;</p> <p>iii. For the Associate in Applied Science degree, a total requirement of not less than 60 credit hours nor more than 72 semester credit hours or the quarter credit hour equivalent, except in such occupational fields in which accreditation or licensure by a state or national organization requires additional coursework; and</p> <p>iv. For the Associate in General Studies degree, a total requirement of not less than 60 semester credit hours nor more than 64 semester credit hours or the quarter credit hour equivalent.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.302 (Units of Instruction, Research, and Public Service)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The districts AA, AS, AFA, AES, AAS and AGS degrees requirements are within the prescribed limits set forth by statute and Administrative Rules.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degree requirements beyond the minimum are directly related to the objectives of the unit of instruction, are not excessive and are generally consistent with similar degree offerings at other institutions.</li> <li>Degree offerings are consistent with the career pathway competencies for students seeking to enter a field of study or that are transferring to a four-year institution.</li> </ul>	<p>ICCB Approved Units of Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program Requirements</li> </ul>
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<p>b. Accreditation and Credentialing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Appropriate steps have been taken to ensure that accreditation of the unit of instruction will be granted in a reasonable period of time.</li> <li>ii. The unit of instruction will provide the skills required to obtain individual credentialing (certification, licensure, registration) needed for entry into an occupation as specified in the objectives of the proposed new unit of instruction.</li> </ul>		<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unit of instruction meets accreditation and licensure requirements, as appropriate to the specific field.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unit of instruction includes industry-recognized credentials consistent with the discipline or field of study.</li> <li>• Evidence of stackable credentials (certificates and degrees that are fully articulated) within a discipline or field of study.</li> <li>• For Career and Technical Education courses, the unit of instruction was developed with the advice and recommendations of a CTE Advisory committee of employers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of Accreditation for specific units of instruction selected for review;</li> <li>• Evidence of inclusion of industry-recognized credentials (as applicable) for specific units of instruction selected for review.</li> </ul>
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<p>5. Dual Credit: Courses offered by the college for high school students during the regular school day at the secondary school shall be college-level and shall meet the following requirements:</p> <p>a. State Laws and Regulations and Accreditation Standards: All State laws, ICCB regulations, accreditation standards specified by the Higher Learning Commission and local college policies that apply to courses, instructional procedures and academic standards at the college apply to college-level courses offered by the college on campus, at off-campus sites, and at secondary schools. These policies, regulations, instructional procedures and academic standards apply to students, faculty and staff associated with these courses.</p> <p>b. Instructors. The instructors for these courses shall be selected, employed and evaluated by the community college. They shall be selected from individuals with appropriate credentials and demonstrated teaching competencies at the college level. For transfer courses (1.1 PCS (in the ICCB Program Classification System)), these qualifications shall include a minimum of a Master's Degree with 18 graduate hours appropriate to the academic field of study or in the discipline in which they will be teaching. For career and technical education (1.2 PCS) courses, these qualifications shall include 2,000 hours of work experience and appropriate recognizable credentials, depending on the specific field.</p> <p>c. Qualification of Students. Students accepted for enrollment in college-level courses must have appropriate academic qualifications, a high level of motivation, and adequate time to devote to studying a college-level course. The students' course selections shall be made in consultation with high school counselors</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.507 (b)11 (Credit Hours Claims) ICCB Rule 1501.313 (Dual Credit)</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.303(f) (Program Requirements) ICCB Rule 1501.313 (Dual Credit)</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.313 (Dual Credit)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College conforms to all state laws and regulations and accreditation standards</li> <li>College uses local partnership agreement or Model Partnership Agreement parameters when appropriate.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faculty hold required credentials</li> <li>College has Professional Development plans on file</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students enrolled in college-level courses meet the academic requirements of the course</li> <li>Process for course selection is made in consultation with high school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College Dual Credit Policies</li> <li>College faculty records/ICCB faculty records</li> <li>College student records</li> <li>Articulation agreements/program assignment of courses</li> <li>Course outlines/syllabi</li> <li>SU/SR</li> <li>College Self Study</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College faculty/staff records/ICCB faculty records</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self Study</li> <li>College student records</li> <li>Dual Credit Policies</li> <li>Articulation agreements</li> <li>Student Transcripts</li> <li>IAI Course Approval</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self Study</li> <li>Student Transcripts</li> <li>Dual Credit Policies</li> </ul>
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<p>and/or principals and are restricted to students who are able to demonstrate readiness for college-level work, as determined by placement procedures consistent with those that would be used with college level students. The students shall meet all college criteria and follow all college procedures for enrolling in courses. Credit hours generated by freshman and sophomore students for dual credit courses are not eligible for reimbursement.</p> <p>d. Placement Testing and Prerequisites. High school students enrolling in college-level courses must satisfy the same course placement tests or course prerequisites as other college level students, when applicable, to assure that they are qualified and prepared.</p> <p>e. Course Offerings. Courses shall be selected from transfer courses that have been articulated with baccalaureate institutions in Illinois (see 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1501.309(d)) or from courses in ICCB approved certificate or associate in applied science degree programs.</p> <p>f. Course Requirements. The course outlines utilized for these courses shall be the same as for courses offered on campus and at other off-campus sites and shall contain the content articulated with colleges and universities in the State. Course prerequisites, descriptions, outlines, requirements, learning outcomes and methods of evaluating students shall be the same as for on-campus offerings.</p> <p>g. Concurrent Credit. The determination of whether a college course is offered for concurrent high school and college credit shall be made at the secondary level, according to the school's policies and the practices of the district.</p>			
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<p>6. Assessment Plans: A system of evaluating and recording student performance in courses shall be in effect as a per district policies and shall be available for review.</p> <p>Illinois colleges and universities will hold students to even higher expectations for learning and will be accountable to even higher expectations for learning and will be accountable for the quality of academic programs and the assessment of student learning. All academic programs will systematically assess student learning and use assessment results to improve programs.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.405 (Student Evaluation)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The college has in place a systematic process to assess student learning in each degree and certificate program it offers.</li> <li>• The college regularly utilizes data from the assessment of student learning for the improvement of the curriculum, teaching, and student learning.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The College regularly reviews their placement policies and procedures and engages in continuous data analysis to ensure that placement policies and procedures are placing students Appropriately.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College placement policies and cutoff scores</li> <li>• Program review reports</li> <li>• College catalogs</li> <li>• Applications for new programs</li> <li>• College self-study</li> <li>• College instructional program assessment policies</li> </ul>
<p>7. Student Evaluation: A system of evaluating and recording student performance in courses shall be in effect as per district policies and shall be available for review.</p>	<p>Section 1501.405 (Student Evaluation)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The college has a policy in place for evaluating and recording student performance in courses.</li> </ul>	

<p>8. Faculty Qualifications/Policies: Professional staff shall be educated and prepared in accordance with generally accepted standards and practices for teaching, supervising, counseling and administering the curriculum or supporting system to which they are assigned. Such preparation may include collegiate study and professional experience. Graduate work through the master's degree in the assigned field or area of responsibility is expected, except in such areas in which the work experience and related training is the principal learning medium.</p> <p>The instructors for these courses shall be selected, employed and evaluated by the community college. They shall be selected from individuals with appropriate credentials and demonstrated teaching competencies at the college level. For transfer courses [1.1 PCS (in the ICCB Program Classification System)], these qualifications shall include a minimum of a master's degree with 18 graduate hours appropriate to the academic field of study or in the discipline in which they will be teaching. For career and technical education (1.2 PCS) courses, these qualifications shall include 2,000 hours of work experience and appropriate recognizable credentials, depending on the specific field.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.303(f) (Program Requirements)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faculty preparation is in accordance with ICCB rule.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College has adequate faculty development opportunities where faculty can receive professional development such as hands-on technology, relevant discipline specific training, creating accessible instructional materials and pedagogy.</li> <li>Instructional materials are created accessible to persons with disabilities and electronic versions are available in a centralized location.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICCB Faculty and Staff records</li> <li>College records</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-Study</li> <li>Faculty/Staff Handbooks</li> </ul>
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<p>9. Cooperative Agreements and Contracts: Cooperative agreements may be established for the purposed of providing more accessible instructional services to students and increasing efficiency in the use of education resources.</p> <p>a. Inter-District Cooperative Agreements for Instruction. A community college district may enter into inter-district contractual arrangements with another community college district to enable its students to attend the other district's program(s)/course(s) upon approval by the ICCB.</p> <p>b. Interdistrict Cooperative Agreements may be entered into for courses and/or curricula offered through Illinois community Colleges Online. The cooperative agreement shall specify that the programs/course will be approved as program/courses of the receiving district and will be included in the receiving district's Illinois Community College Board curricula and course master files as such.</p>	<p>Section 1501.307 (Cooperative Agreements)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Cooperative Agreements have been approved by the ICCB.</li> <li>• Cooperative agreements are current and reflect existing practices.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperative agreements enhance student access, meet labor market needs and meet programmatic needs for the region.</li> <li>• Information provided in the college catalog is consistent with the information that is provided on the college's website (if applicable)</li> <li>• All information regarding the CAREER Agreement (of which all 39 districts are a part) is accurate in both the college catalog and on the college's website. This includes the following:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on chargebacks</li> <li>• Participating institutions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copies of or links to Cooperative Agreements &amp; Contracts</li> <li>• College Catalog (applicable page(s) should be noted)</li> <li>• Any other applicable web link(s)</li> </ul>
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<p>10. Program Review Process</p> <p>a. Each college shall have a systematic, college wide program review process for evaluating all of its instructional, student services, and academic support programs at least once within a five-year cycle.</p> <p>b. The minimum criteria for program review shall be program need, program cost, and program quality.</p> <p>c. Each college shall submit to the ICCB by September 1 each year a program review report of its previous year's program review findings and subsequent action steps in a format designated by the ICCB in the Program Review Manual.</p> <p>d. The review of academic disciplines, student and academic support, cross-disciplinary instruction (remedial education, adult education, English as a Second Language, and vocational skills), and career and technical education shall be scheduled according to the published ICCB schedule. A college shall follow the published schedule set by ICCB that shows when each program will be reviewed during a five-year cycle. If a college seeks an exception to the published schedule, the college must receive written approval from ICCB.</p> <p>e. The Review of General Education Outcomes shall be scheduled annually but may focus each year on areas specified by the ICCB.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.303d (Review and Evaluation of Programs)</p> <p>ICCB Program Review Manual</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The college's written process description documents a systematic, college wide process.</li> <li>• Supporting data used to conduct the review reflect a systematic approach.</li> <li>• The college follows the 5-year Program Review Schedule. If exceptions were granted, the college maintains ICCB approval in writing. The college will examine overall academic productivity, administrative productivity, and public services productivity according to a schedule designated by ICCB/IBHE.</li> <li>• Criteria of need, quality, and cost will be used in the review of each program.</li> <li>• Disaggregated data to analyze student enrollment and performance is utilized to inform program improvement and address issues of equity.</li> <li>• Reports use the designated format.</li> <li>• The college engages in annual review of general education outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: Subject to revision based on changes in program review process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process description</li> <li>• Program review reports</li> <li>• Individual program review</li> <li>• District's program review schedule</li> </ul>
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<p>10. Program Review Process (Continued)</p>		<p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <p>The following are measures that reflect quality aspects of Program Review/Results Report processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The college provides a strong foundation of data for analysis to help determine program need, quality, and cost-effectiveness.</li> <li>• The college uses trend data.</li> <li>• Use of data across like program areas are consistent.</li> <li>• Reports show that program costs are appropriate and there is evidence that cost data are analyzed.</li> <li>• The program review process is a collaborative process relying primarily on faculty and using administrative resources.</li> <li>• The program review process is tied to long-range planning.</li> <li>• The college systematically incorporates analyses of key issues and factors into its program review process to keep attune to emerging trends.</li> <li>• Recommendations appropriately address identified weaknesses, and the college has a mechanism to ensure that priority recommendations are adopted and implemented.</li> <li>• In assessing CTE or vocational skills program quality, the college takes into consideration occupational skills standards and competencies, work-based learning, articulation, integration of academic and technical instruction, and faculty qualifications and professional development in emerging trends and teaching techniques.</li> <li>• The college uses input from advisory committees to assess program quality and determine if modifications are needed to meet the needs of employers, signifying deep employer engagement.</li> <li>• Students are engaged in the program review process.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: Subject to revision based on changes in program review process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program review reports</li> <li>• Individual program reviews</li> <li>• District's program review schedule</li> </ul>
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Illinois Community College Board			
<b>RECOGNITION STANDARDS Years 2021 – 2025</b>			
STANDARD II	AUTHORITY	INDICATORS OF COMPLIANCE/QUALITY	ITEMS TO BE EVALUATED
<b>STUDENT SERVICES/ACADEMIC SUPPORT</b>			
<p>1. Student Services/Academic Support: Student services including, but not limited to, advising and counseling, financial aid, and placement, shall be provided by the college in a manner convenient to students as defined below. The college should demonstrate that these programs are accessible to all populations of students and stakeholders.</p> <p>a. Advising and Counseling. The college shall have a comprehensive and organized program of academic advising and career counseling.</p> <p>b. Financial Aid. The college shall provide a financial aid program, which provides students with information about and access to available financial support</p> <p>c. Placement. The college shall provide job placement services for students.</p> <p>d. Support Services. The college shall offer support services for students</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.403</p> <p>110 ILCS 49 Higher Education Veterans Services Act</p> <p>110 ILCS 205/9.16 Underrepresentation of certain groups in higher education</p> <p>110 ILCS 131 Higher Education Housing and Opportunities Act</p> <p>110 ILCS 805/3-29.14</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College has a comprehensive and organized program of academic advising and career counseling.</li> <li>• College provides a financial aid program which provides students with information about and access to available financial support.</li> <li>• College provides career counseling for students.</li> <li>• College provides job placement services for students.</li> <li>• College has Coordinator of Veterans and Military Personnel Student Services and serves the specific needs of student veterans and military personnel and their families and serves as an advocate before the administration of the college for the needs of student veterans.</li> <li>• College has identified liaison to work with homeless and housing insecure students or students in care.</li> <li>• College has identified a Dream Resource Liaison.</li> <li>• College implements strategies to recruit, retain, and increase participation of minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities who are traditionally underrepresented in educational programs and activities.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Service/Academic Support facilities are easily accessible to students.</li> <li>• Services are available at hours/days convenient for students (evenings, weekends).</li> <li>• Web available student services are accessible to persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• College web site and computer-based software technologies are accessible to persons with disabilities</li> <li>• The college provides training and professional development for academic advising staff</li> <li>• The college coordinates opportunities- off campus, on campus, and online- with high schools to learn about the college, academic and career pathways, and financial aid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College catalog/other publications</li> <li>• Local board policy manual</li> <li>• Student handbook</li> <li>• College program review reports</li> <li>• College website</li> <li>• Campus facility (e.g. Student Services Center, Financial Aid Office, and various Student Resource Centers)</li> </ul>

STUDENT SERVICES/ACADEMIC SUPPORT			
<p>2. Student Programming, Co-Curricular Activities and Support Services for Students.</p> <p>a. ICCB expected that institutions will provide holistic experiences for students that support learning inside and outside of the classroom. The college should demonstrate that these programs are accessible to all populations of students and stakeholders. Services are available to student outside of the those required by Administrative rule. These may include, but are not limited to, grant programs, student activities, athletics, study abroad, counseling, wellness centers or tutoring.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.403</p> <p>110 ILCS 49 Higher Education Veterans Services Act</p> <p>110 ILCS 205/9.16 Underrepresentation of certain groups in higher education</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.302</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.303</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.311</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.405</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College implements strategies to recruit, retain, and increase participation of minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities who are traditionally underrepresented in educational programs and activities.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Programming and Support Service facilities are easily accessible to students.</li> <li>• Services are available at hours/days convenient for students (evenings, weekends).</li> <li>• Web available student services are accessible to persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• College web site and computer-based software technologies are accessible to persons with disabilities</li> <li>• The college provides on-going training and professional development for professional staff</li> <li>• The college coordinates opportunities- off campus, on campus, and online- with high schools to learn about the college, academic and career pathways, and financial aid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College catalog/other publications</li> <li>• Local board policy manual</li> <li>• Student handbook</li> <li>• College program review reports</li> <li>• College website</li> <li>• Campus facility (e.g. Student Services Center, Financial Aid Office, and various Student Resource Centers)</li> </ul>

STUDENT SERVICES/ACADEMIC SUPPORT			
<p>3. Admission of Students and Student Records</p> <p>a. The college shall have a comprehensive admission process that encompasses students who are severed from a secondary school, dual credit admission or other specialized admission programs.</p> <p>b. Student records and transcripts should reflect admission policies and transcript evaluation.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.402</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.311</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.404</p> <p>110 ILCS 49 Higher Education Veterans Services Act</p> <p>110 ILCS 205/9.16 Underrepresentation of certain groups in higher education</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.313 (Dual Credit)</p>	<p><b>Indicators of Compliance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College has a comprehensive and organized program for admission to programs and courses.</li> <li>• The college has a policy and procedures in place for Prior Learning Assessment and reflects all required policy components.</li> <li>• College has Coordinator of Veterans and Military Personnel Student Services and serves the specific needs of student veterans and military personnel and their families and serves as an advocate before the administration of the college for the needs of student veterans.</li> <li>• College implements strategies to recruit, retrain, and increase participation of minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities who are traditionally underrepresented in educational programs and activities.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Service/Academic Support facilities are easily accessible to students.</li> <li>• Services are available at hours/days convenient for students (evenings, weekends).</li> <li>• Web available student services are accessible to persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• College web site and computer-based software technologies are accessible to persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• The college provides training and professional development for academic advising staff.</li> <li>• The college coordinates opportunities- off campus, on campus, and online- with high schools to learn about the college, academic and career pathways, and financial aid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College catalog/other publications</li> <li>• Local board policy manual</li> <li>• Student handbook</li> <li>• College program review reports</li> <li>• College website</li> <li>• Campus facility (e.g. Student Services Center, Financial Aid Office, and various Student Resource Centers)</li> </ul>

Illinois Community College Board			
<b>RECOGNITION STANDARDS Years 2021 – 2025</b>			
<b>STANDARD III</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>	<b>INDICATORS OF COMPLIANCE/QUALITY</b>	<b>ITEMS TO BE EVALUATED</b>
<b>FINANCE/FACILITIES</b>			
<p>1. Credit Hour Claim Verification: ICCB credit hour grants shall be based on the number of credit hours, or equivalent, of students who have been certified as being in attendance at midterm.</p>	<p>Section 2-16 of the Act ICCB Rule 1501.507 (Credit Hour Claims) ICCB Rule 1501.501 (Definition of Terms)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement between district’s state grant claim (SU and SR) records and information provided on certified mid-term class lists</li> <li>• Documented and verifiable process for determining residency</li> <li>• Documented and verifiable process for proper classification of hours in the credit hour claims submission</li> <li>• Annual district credit hour certification completed timely</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good interdepartmental communication regarding the impact on the claims process and district policies, procedures, and practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICCB credit hour claim printouts (SU and SR records)</li> <li>• Midterm class lists</li> <li>• Residency classification</li> <li>• Documented Processes</li> <li>• Review of most recent residency verification process (due each year)</li> </ul>
<p>2. Financial Planning: Financial planning for current and future operations shall provide for both a sound educational program and the prudent use of public funds.</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.502 (Financial Planning)</p> <p>Sections 3-33.5, 33.6 of the Act (Working Cash)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existence of long-range plans and contingency plans for reduced state or local tax revenues</li> <li>• Monies in the working cash fund principal have not been used as current revenue.</li> <li>• Interest transferred from working cash fund to education or operations and maintenance funds authorized through separate board resolution.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trends in past and current operating balances</li> <li>• Magnitudes and trends in indebtedness</li> <li>• Review and integration of long-range financial plans into overall college mission</li> <li>• Review integration of facilities master plan into overall college mission and strategic planning process.</li> <li>• All college departments are included in the financial planning and accountability process.</li> <li>• Board received report on financial conditions of the institution no less than once every three months.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual budgets</li> <li>• External Audits</li> <li>• Uniform Financial Statements</li> <li>• Board Minutes</li> <li>• Strategic Planning documents</li> <li>• District financial records</li> <li>• Facilities Master Plan</li> <li>• Long-range Financial Planning Model</li> </ul>

<p>3. Financial Compliance Annual External Audit: The district shall complete an annual external audit.</p>	<p>110 ILCS 805/2-16.02 110 ILCS 805/3-22.1 ICCB Rule 1501.503 (Audits)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District files audit on time.</li> <li>• District includes required grant compliance information</li> <li>• District includes Uniform Financial Statements</li> <li>• District audited credit hours matches certification or reconciliation is included in audit</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <p>Corrective Action Plan for audit findings has been implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data and Report Submission records College Audits</li> </ul>
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<p>4. Facilities</p> <p>a. Approval of Construction Projects: The expenditure of funds for the purchase, construction, remodeling, or rehabilitation of physical facilities...shall have prior ICCB approval.</p> <p>Changes in budget/scope to approved construction projects shall be submitted for approval.</p> <p>When completed, each project shall be certified by a licensed architect or engineer as having been constructed within the budget and having met applicable plans, codes and specifications.</p> <p>b. Facilities Data Submissions: To maintain and report facilities data requests, reports, and information to the ICCB in formats specified in accordance with standards and principles developed by the ICCB.</p>	<p>110 ILCS 805/2-12c ICCB Rule 1501.602 (Approval of Capital Projects) ICCB Rule 1501.603 (State-Funded Capital Projects) ICCB Rule 1501.604 (Locally Funded Capital Projects)</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.607 (Reporting Requirements) ICCB Rule 1501.608 (Approval of Projects from 110 ILCS 805/3.20.3.01) ICCB Rule 1501.609 Completion of Projects from 110 ILCS 805/3.20.3.01) ICCB Rule 1501.610 (Definition of Facilities) 110 ILCS805/3-20.3.01 ICCB Rule 1501.608 (Approval of Projects from 110 ILCS 805/3.20.3.01) 110 ILCS-805/2-12f ICCB Rule 1501.201 (Reporting Requirements) ICCB Rule 1502.510 (Reporting Requirements) ICCB Rule 1501.607 (Reporting Requirements)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College projects, and state-funded projects have received local board and/or ICCB approval prior to construction, as required.</li> <li>Existence of a current facilities master plan to support requested projects</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existence of a long-range capital plan including deferred maintenance needs</li> <li>Periodic review of adequacy of long-range capital plan by college management and local board of trustees</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects are accounted for in a project accounting system that allows for identification of excess PH&amp;S funds in the O&amp;M restricted fund.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <p>Data submissions/report for the following have been received on time and are completed accurately and in the required format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilities Data</li> <li>RAMP (Capitol Budget Request)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICCB capital projects records</li> <li>District construction projects files</li> <li>Board minutes</li> <li>District financial records</li> <li>Campus facilities</li> <li>Facilities Master Plan</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District financial records</li> <li>District audits</li> <li>District project files and records</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five Years Data and Report Submission records</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selected internal documents maintained by the colleges</li> </ul>
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Illinois Community College Board

**RECOGNITION STANDARDS  
Years 2021 – 2025**

STANDARD IV	AUTHORITY	INDICATORS OF COMPLIANCE/QUALITY	ITEMS TO BE EVALUATED
<b>INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH/REPORTING</b>			
<p>1. General Reporting Requirements: Complete and accurate reports shall be submitted by the district/college to the ICCB in accordance with ICCB requirements, on forms provided by the ICCB where applicable.</p> <p>a. Student Data Reporting</p> <p>b. Faculty Staff/Data Submissions</p> <p>c. Other Submissions</p>	<p>ICCB Rule 1501.201 (Reporting Requirements) ICCB Rule 1501.406 (Reporting Requirements)</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.201 (Reporting Requirements) ICCB Rule 1501.406 (Reporting Requirements)</p> <p>ICCB Rule 1501.201 (Reporting Requirements) ICCB Rule 1501.406 (Reporting Requirements)</p>	<p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b> Data submissions/reports have been received on time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data submissions are completed accurately and in the required format</li> <li>Data in different submissions are consistent.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Quality:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official college records support data submissions.</li> <li>College has a documented internal process for data flow and reporting</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data Submissions/report for the following have been received on time and are completed accurately and in the required format.</li> <li>Noncredit Course Enrollment Data (N1)</li> <li>Annual Enrollment and Completion Data (A1)</li> <li>Annual Student Identification Data (ID)</li> <li>Enrollment surveys</li> <li>Fall Enrollment Data (E1)</li> <li>Summer Graduate Reporting for IPEDS GRS Data (GS)</li> <li>Annual Course Data (AC)</li> <li>Annual Completions Data (A2)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u></b> Data Submissions/report for the following have been received on time and are completed accurately and in the required format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faculty, Staff &amp; Salary Data (C1)</li> <li>Faculty Staff &amp; Salary Supplementary Information</li> <li>Annual Faculty, Staff &amp; Salary Data (C3)</li> <li>Hispanic Employment Survey</li> <li>Asian American Employment Survey</li> <li>Native American Employment Survey</li> <li>African American Employment Survey</li> <li>Bilingual Needs and Bilingual Pay Survey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data and Report Submission records</li> <li>Edit and frequency printouts generated by the ICCB</li> <li>College Internal Data Reporting Procedures document</li> </ul> <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selected internal documents maintained by the colleges, including individual student transcripts</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data and Report Submission records</li> <li>Edit and frequency printouts generated by the ICCB</li> </ul> <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selected internal documents maintained by the colleges, including individual student transcripts</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data and Report Submission records</li> <li>Edit and frequency printouts generated by the ICCB</li> </ul> <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selected internal documents maintained by the colleges</li> </ul>

Illinois Community College Board <b>RECOGNITION STANDARDS</b> Years 2021 – 2025			
STANDARD IV	AUTHORITY	INDICATORS OF COMPLIANCE/QUALITY	ITEMS TO BE EVALUATED
<b>INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH/REPORTING</b>			
	ICCB Rule 1501.201 (Reporting Requirements) ICCB Rule 1501.406 (Reporting Requirements)	<p><u>Indicators of Compliance:</u>                      Data Submissions/report for the following have been received on time and are completed accurately and in the required format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program Review Report</li> <li>• Program Review Listing</li> <li>• Special Initiatives Reports</li> <li>• Underrepresented Groups Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five years Data and Report Submission records</li> </ul>

<b>Standard IV: Accountability - Reporting Requirements Summary Status - ICCB Reports xxxxxxx Community College</b>					
<b>Report Name</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>1a. Timelines</b>	<b>1b. Accuracy/ Format</b>	<b>1c. Consistency</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Part A. Student Data Reporting</b>					
Spring Enrollment Survey	15-Feb				
Noncredit Course Enrollment Data – N1	15-July				
Annual Student Enrollment and Completion Data – A1	1-Aug				
Annual Course Data – AC	1-Sep				
Annual Completions Data – A2	1-Sep				
Annual Student Identification Data – ID	1-Sep				
Fall Enrollment Survey	1-Oct				
Fall Enrollment Data – E1	1-Oct				
Summer Graduate Reporting for IPEDS GRS Data – GS	1-Nov				
<b>Part B. Faculty/Staff Data Submissions</b>					
Asian American Employment Plan	1-Feb				
African American Employment Plan	1-Feb				
Bilingual Needs and Bilingual Pay Plan	1-Feb				
Hispanic Employment Plan	1-Feb				
Native American Employment Plan	1-Feb				
Annual Faculty, Staff & Salary Data – C3	15-June				
Faculty, Staff, and Salary Data – C1	15-Oct				
Faculty Staff & Salary Supplementary Information	15-Oct				
<b>Part C. Other Submissions</b>					

<b>Standard IV: Accountability - Reporting Requirements Summary Status - ICCB Reports xxxxxxx Community College</b>					
<b>Report Name</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>1a. Timelines</b>	<b>1b. Accuracy/ Format</b>	<b>1c. Consistency</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Program Review Report and Listing	1-Sep				
Special Initiatives Grants Report	1-Aug				
Application for Recognition for Specified Colleges	1-Aug				
Underrepresented Groups Report	1-Mar				
Special Initiative Grants Audit	15-Oct				

## **APPENDIX D**

### **Application for Recognition**

Each district is required to submit an application for recognition in accordance with the provisions of Section 2-15 of the Act. The application should include:

1. A letter from the local board of trustees (or designee) requesting the ICCB to assign a status of “recognition continued” to the district.
2. A self-evaluation by each district concerning its compliance with ICCB standards identified in Appendix C.
  - Procedure/Items Reviewed
  - Findings
  - Correction Action Plan, if necessary

The application must be received within 90 days of official notification from the Illinois Community College Board. The district is asked to forward each of the following with the letter and self-evaluation:

1. Board Policy Manual
2. Collective Bargaining Agreements for Full- and Part-time Faculty
3. Program review process
4. College Catalog – *Hard copy is required*
5. College dual credit policy
6. College instructional program assessment policy
7. College Multi-year Financial Planning Document(s)
8. Copies of, or links to, all Cooperative Agreements and Contracts (if applicable)
9. Dual Credit Faculty Credentials [\(table\)](#) [\(instructions\)](#)
10. Facilities Master Plan - *Hard copy is required*
11. Faculty Handbook
12. Internal Data Reporting Procedures document (see website for document)
13. Student Handbook