



iForum

Illinois Community College Board Career and Technical Education Newsletter

- The source for community college Career and Technical Education information -

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR—ROB KERR

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On behalf of the ICCB Career and Technical Education Team, it is my pleasure to present the first issue of *iForum*, the ICCB CTE newsletter. As we launch this new endeavor, it is our sincere hope that what we are creating becomes a tradition - a tradition of timely communication, informative content, and program support. For this to become a reality, I am asking for your help. The themes and substance of *iForum* must be driven, in large part, by the field. We will do our part to make you aware of issues and initiatives coming out of Springfield, but we need you to create content that reflects your unique local perspective. To that end, I encourage you to share any suggestions or ideas you may have that could make this publication more valuable; or even better. I hope that you will consider writing an article for a future issue. If you are interested, please contact Kristy Morelock or your ICCB Regional Consultant.

In this, our first issue, we offer a little bit of everything - updates on statewide initiatives, profiles of local programs, and other bits of information that we think you need to know about including:

- An Events Calendar of statewide meetings and conferences;
- An overview of the most recent Forum for Excellence;
- Information on the latest New Look Project;
- Postsecondary CTE program updates;
- Statewide Workforce Development Initiatives Update;
- An "In the News" section, highlighting activities at various programs statewide;
- An update from IACTE;
- A profile of the Northern Illinois Career Commission;
- A special recurring section entitled "Getting Kandid with Kristy" which features answers to the most commonly asked questions our team gets from the field.

I hope that you enjoy this, and future editions of the *iForum*. Please share it with others in your region or at your institution who may be interested.

"Each man has his own vocation; his talent is his call." Ralph Waldo Emerson

EVENTS CALENDAR

- November 2, 2007 - CSI-CTE Regional Collaborative Meeting, Lewis and Clark Community College
- November 3, 2007 - Lincoln Land Community College Campus Visit Day, Springfield, IL
- November 5, 2007 - ICCB Board Meeting, Parkland College, Champaign, IL
- November 8-9, 2007 - IBEA Annual Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL
- November 14-16, 2007 - ICCCA Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Select, Tinley Park
- November 16, 2007 - ICCB Tech Prep Support Grant due to the ICCB office



If you have events you would like included on the Events Calendar, please forward date(s), meeting/conference name, and location to Kristy Morelock via e-mail at kristy.morelock@illinois.gov



FORUM FOR EXCELLENCE RECAP

The 2007 Forum for Excellence was held on September 18 and 19, 2007 at the Hilton Hotel in Springfield with over 200 participants taking part in this year's event. The annual event allows those involved in Perkins, Tech Prep, or the overall CTE field to engage in a wide range of topics that are essential to the future of CTE.

The featured speaker was Dr. Laurance J. Warford, CCTI Project Director & Senior Workforce Consultant for the League for Innovation in the Community College, who spoke about the overall College and Career Transitions Initiative and the importance of enhancing the role of the community college in easing student transition and helping to improve academic performance as students move from secondary to postsecondary education.

Breakout sessions for this year's event were organized into four content strands (Collaborations & Partnerships, Access and Success for Special Populations, Data Analysis, and Quality CTE Programming) to help focus the various breakout topics. New to this year's Forum was the New Professionals Pathway which were specific breakout sessions that were geared specifically for those new to the Perkins, Tech Prep, and CTE field.

The closing session focused on Perkins IV and the national shifts in the measurement approach and focus. With the new legislation, a new focus is placed on enhanced Tech Prep measures requirements and encourages new ways to determine how to measure technical skill attainment and elevated standards. A Perkins IV Secondary and Postsecondary Technical Work Group has been established to review the new requirements under the legislation and help to move Illinois forward.

SAVE THE DATE - The 2008 Forum for Excellence will be held September 23-24, 2008.

NEW LOOK PROJECT LAUNCH



The purpose of the New Look Project is to assist secondary and postsecondary career and technical educators in identifying, developing, and strengthening aspects of programming for special populations learners. On October 18, 2007, the Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support launched the New Look Project for those entities that have been chosen to participate for fiscal year 2008.

All applications were due on September 14, 2007 and ICSPS staff reviewed applications for this grant with the following community colleges participating for their efforts and projects to come in support of special populations: Black Hawk College, Carl Sandburg College, William Rainey Harper College, College of Dupage, Danville Area Community College, Frontier College, Lincoln Trail College, Olney Central College, John Wood Community College, Kaskaskia College, Kishwaukee College, Lincoln Land Community College, Rend Lake College, Richland Community College, Sauk Valley Community College, Southeastern Illinois College, Southwestern Illinois College, Heartland Community College, and Illinois Central College.

With an emphasis in Perkins IV for more local resources to be devoted to Special Populations, it becomes a requirement for local fund expenditures to be used for special populations and provide additional activities to prepare them for high skill, high wage, or high demand occupations. This project allows funding to assist in identifying, developing, and strengthening aspects at a consortium or college for special populations learners and to share with the field ideas for moving forward.

Each project is provided with an individual liaison from ICSPS for their designated project topic that will assist them throughout the entire project period that may include specialized workshops, online resources, monthly newsletters, telephone/e-mail assistance, and on-site support.

Information as it pertains to the New Look Project can be found by accessing the ICSPS website at the following link: http://www.icspst.edu/projects/index_newlook.html

PROGRAM UPDATES

ICCB Staff has recently updated the *Program Approval Manual* and the *Generic Course List*. These publications serve as valuable resources for administrators and staff at your institutions regarding reporting requirements for various ICCB data, program and course submissions and are all available through the ICCB website at <http://www.iccb.state.il.us/manuals.html>

The *Program Approval Manual* provides guidelines for requesting the addition or revision of all academic/transfer, CTE, vocational skills, adult education/ESL, and remedial courses and programs. This publication also includes the most recent forms required for submission to ICCB.

The *Generic Course List* includes broad-level course descriptions for all academic/transfer, CTE, vocational skills, adult education/ESL, and remedial courses. The new List has been revised to reflect recent changes/updates to the existing CIP List used for curricula, which should provide better course-curricula code alignment. The new List will be available online as a searchable database within the next month.

Colleges will be required to use the revised forms/course codes upon release of the Program Approval Manual and the Generic Course List.

For information regarding either the Program Approval Manual or the Generic Course List, contact Tricia Broughton at tricia.broughton@illinois.gov.



WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

Joyce Foundation Shifting Gears Initiative

The Illinois Shifting Gears initiative is underway. The eight pilots; Black Hawk College, College of DuPage, Lewis & Clark, John A. Logan, City Colleges, McHenry, College of Lake County, and Oakton are in the process of developing their curricula for an implementation launch of January 2008. The next Learning Community will be held at John A. Logan College on November 1. This Learning Community – one of four over the next 18 months- will be opened to those colleges and adult education providers in the southern half of the state. The Learning Communities will be moved around the state to the various pilot sites and will be opened up for colleges and adult education providers in each of the areas.

Workforce Investment Act Minimum Training Requirement

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) has created a new policy requiring WIA Title I providers to spend a minimum of 40% of their adult and dislocated program allocations on direct training. Under this new requirement, classroom size training will be an allowable activity in addition to the existing Individualized Training Accounts. This new policy was developed in collaboration with an Illinois Workforce Investment Board (IWIB) State Plan Task Force. The policy was also approved by the IWIB at their September 27, 2007 meeting. The DCEO Policy Letter will be forwarded by ICCB to community colleges and adult education providers with additional clarification once it is finalized and approved. For more information go to the link provided (<http://www.iccb.org/manuals.reports.html>)

Manufacturing Request for Applications

On October 1, 2007 ICCB distributed an RFA for manufacturing bridge and foundation initiatives. Applications are due November 1, 2007. The grant period ends June 30, 2008. Please click the link to view the RFA (<http://www.iccb.state.il.us/pdf/workforce/FY08%20ManufacturingRFA.pdf>)

For questions regarding any of the Workforce Initiatives, please feel free to contact Lavon Nelson at lavon.nelson@illinois.gov



IN THE NEWS



Program Highlights

Southwestern Illinois College

The Career Activities and Employment Center at Southwestern Illinois College partnered with the Southwestern Illinois Tech Prep Consortium to combine a Career Day with the Fifth Annual Tech Prep Day. Nearly 400 high school Tech Prep juniors and seniors from 14 area high schools traveled to the Belleville campus to meet with SWIC program coordinators who presented hands-on sessions in 17 Tech Prep program areas. Each student participated in three sessions: two hands-on sessions of their choice and the career fair with 40 to 60 employers, career mentors, and college representatives who provided career and employment information. Nontraditional careers were also represented, and students and instructors were surveyed regarding their knowledge of nontraditional careers and likelihood of pursuing a nontraditional career. The culminating event of the day was the motivational presentation by Ben Glenn, The Chalk Guy. Attendance at this event has quadrupled in the five years that it has been offered to students. Please contact Sherry Hott at SWIC via e-mail at sherry.hott@swic.edu should you have any questions as it relates to the Tech Prep day activities recently held at the SWIC campus.



Wilbur Wright College

The Chicago City Colleges Tech Prep consortium in conjunction with Wilbur Wright College and (5) Chicago Public Schools are developing a program for students and parents that creates a high school/college IT sequence using MOS (Microsoft Office Suite) as a curriculum that students can use to receive college credit for work done in high school. Though the focus is on high school students, it does include parental involvement as part of the process.

Wilbur Wright College is the only City Colleges campus with the capabilities to award MOS certificates, which serves as the basis for the ability to portfolio the certification into college credit and the only campus at this time capable of providing this opportunity to students.

Chicago Public Schools administrators selected Kennedy High School as the first high school where the program will be rolled out into practice, however, anticipation is that additional schools will be added soon once the piloting phase at Kennedy has been completed.

The outcome of the completers of this program will be MOS certification based on successfully passing the MOS certifying exam and completing Wilbur Wright credit (up to 12 hours) for MOS program completion.



The Illinois Community College Board CTE staff would like to include "Program Highlights" from around the state in each issue of the newsletter. If you have an activity or information you would like to provide as it pertains to your Tech Prep or Perkins program, please feel free to send to Kristy Morelock via e-mail at kristy.morelock@illinois.gov. The quarterly newsletter schedule is as follows: January, April, July, and October. We look forward to hearing from the various programs around the state.



Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education

The Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education (IACTE) represents career and technical education professionals from all parts of Illinois and from all levels of education. The purpose and vision of the association is "To provide unified, visionary leadership to advance and promote learning in career and technical education." The association works closely with the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Community College Board, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education as the voice of career and technical educators. The association also works with the Governor's Office and the state legislature to formulate and mold legislation that affects career and technical education in Illinois while also working in Washington, DC to promote legislation at the federal level, particularly Carl Perkins legislation and federal fiscal support of career and technical education.

The association invites you to view the website at www.iacte.org and invite all to become a member of the IACTE so that the voice of career and technical education will be strengthened in Illinois. The website will provide membership information under the "membership" tab.

Each year IACTE hosts a conference at the Hilton Hotel in Springfield, Illinois. The 2008 conference will be held on June 17-19 and conference information will be placed on the website very soon.

The members of the Illinois Association of Career and Technical Education work every day to strengthen CTE across Illinois. IACTE asks you to join them and become a part of this critical voice representing CTE educators and CTE students in your hometown and in parts of Illinois.

ATTENTION: Digital Media Educators

The Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education (IACTE) is proposing hosting a two-day workshop titled "Video Production Camp" in the Springfield, Illinois area on either February 12 and 13, 2008 or April 8 and 9, 2008. This two-day workshop will be facilitated by professionals who have extensive backgrounds in digital video production. The cost of the workshop is \$295 for IACTE members and \$325 for non-members. If you are interested in attending the workshop, please indicate your preference of dates by contacting Tom Hott, Executive Director for IACTE by phone at 217-585-9430 or via e-mail at thott@iacte.org. Final information and registration materials will be available soon.



NORCA—Career Administrators in Northern Illinois

NORCA, the Career Administrators in Northern Illinois, will be participating in the Career Commission Meeting at the ICCCA conference on November 14, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be two scheduled presentations which includes 1) Program Vitality - When Do You Close a Program; and 2) Career Program Assessment.

In March 2008, NORCA members will be hosting their spring meeting at Elgin Community College. The commission will invite another presenter to the meeting and a participating college within the CCTI network to discuss their involvement in the project and the impact it has played on the college campus.

For questions as they relate to NORCA, please contact Cynthia Luxton at Harper College via e-mail at cluxton@harpercollege.edu

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We are on the web@
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GETTING KANDID WITH KRISTY

QUESTION 1

If the due date for CTE grant information pertaining to Perkins and Tech Prep falls on a weekend, when is the information due to the ICCB office?

ANSWER 1

All grant information pertaining to Perkins or Tech Prep is always due on or before the due date, regardless of if the due date falls on a weekend. In order to be considered "on time" and not logged in as "Overdue", the information must be date stamped by the ICCB on or before the due date.

QUESTION 2

If allocated funds for Tech Prep and Perkins grants are not expended during a fiscal year and total \$100 or less, can the consortium or college roll those funds into the next fiscal year's allocation?

ANSWER 2

The \$100 rule only applies to the Program Improvement Grant and the CTE Formula Grant. All other grant funds that are not expended during the fiscal year, no matter what the amount, must be returned to the ICCB.

QUESTION 3

If there is a change in a CTE administrator(s) at a consortium or college, who should the consortium or college contact at the Illinois Community College Board to make sure that the change is reflected in list serves and mailing lists?

ANSWER 3

If there is a change in a CTE administrator(s) at a consortium or college, the consortium or college should contact Kristy Morelock via e-mail at kristy.morelock@illinois.gov and the Regional Consultant within their area in order to make sure that the change is reflected in the list serves and mailing lists. Please include name, title, address, phone, fax, and e-mail information in the message

QUESTION 4

Where can a college locate the FY08 Career and Technical Education Leadership Grant package?

ANSWER 4

The FY08 CTE Leadership Grant package was released to the field via e-mail on October 17, 2007. All materials related to the various Leadership Grants can be found at: <http://www.iccb.state.il.us/postsecondary.html>