



ILLINOIS EQUITY
IN ATTAINMENT

How the Partnership for College Completion Catalyzes Equity-Driven Action in Colleges & Universities across Northeastern Illinois

The **Illinois Equity in Attainment Initiative (ILEA)** is the Partnership for College Completion's (PCC) signature effort to catalyze urgent action on campuses across the state to eliminate racial and socioeconomic graduation disparities on their campuses and significantly increase completion rates for Black, Latinx, and low-income students.

Our Core Beliefs

- Colleges are responsible for graduating all of their degree-seeking students efficiently, and consistent with supporting students' short and long-term goals
- All college students can graduate with the right information, tools, and supports
- Racial and socioeconomic completion disparities are unacceptable and should be eliminated
- Solutions and resources exist to eliminate completion inequities between groups in higher education
- The actions that colleges take or fail to take as it relates to student persistence and completion matters to a students' overall trajectory in college

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public and private nonprofit, 2- and 4-year colleges and universities are currently members of ILEA.

40%

of all Illinois undergraduates are enrolled at ILEA institutions, which enroll **68%** and **42%** of all Illinois' Latinx and Black undergraduates, respectively.

ILEA College Commitments

- Publicly commit to eliminating racial and socioeconomic completion gaps by 2025, thereby increasing overall graduation rates
- Undertake these efforts in partnership with PCC without sacrificing quality and excellence or raising admissions standards
- Dedicate a team of committed staff to this effort
- Set annual growth targets & annually report progress to PCC
- Work with PCC to develop comprehensive, college-specific plan to achieve targets
- Implement and scale effective, evidence-based practices
- Share findings in communities of practice and other forums

PCC Commitments

PCC provides a variety of supports to help ILEA institutions drive sustained equity-centered change on their campuses:

- Twice-yearly Equity Summits
- On-campus meetings & calls to maintain momentum, identify challenges and necessary supports
- Regular meetings, conference calls and relevant practice and policy webinars
- Best Practice Sharing

Elements of this work will be made public, and beginning in 2021, PCC will issue regular reports detailing efforts and progress of the cohort.

ILEA Colleges and Universities



For more information on ILEA, please contact Lisa Castillo Richmond at lcastillo@partnershipfcc.org

**PARTNERSHIP FOR
COLLEGE COMPLETION**
Accelerating action to close the graduation gap