

# Here's How the Partnership Supports Equity-Driven Action at Colleges & Universities across Illinois



ILLINOIS EQUITY  
IN ATTAINMENT

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

## 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

25

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

28%

of all Illinois undergraduates are enrolled at ILEA institutions, which enroll **46%** and **35%** of all Illinois' Latinx and Black undergraduates\*, respectively.

\*Associate and Bachelor's seeking  
Source: IBHE Enrollment & Degree Data Tool, Fall 2020

## ILEA College Commitments

- Publicly commit to eliminating racial and socioeconomic completion disparities 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:

- Annual 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



# ILEA Colleges and Universities

