



Illinois Community College Board  
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# THE ILLINOIS COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS ACT

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Honorable Sen. Edward Maloney

Meeting Illinois' Completion Goals...

# Policy Context

- ❑ Illinois' Completion Agenda
- ❑ Redesign of Remedial Education
- ❑ Performance Based Funding
- ❑ P-20 Council
- ❑ Public Agenda for College & Career Success

# A Need for The IL CCR Act



- Community colleges lead the state in delivery of remedial & developmental coursework
- The percentage of first-time, full-time students required to take remedial/developmental coursework averages 50%
- The CCR Program was created to combat this problem, make students' transition from high school to college more seamless, and reduce the need for remedial/ developmental education

# A Need for The IL CCR Act



- It is widely recognized that better alignment between secondary education and higher education is critical to strengthening readiness for college and reducing the need for remediation (Achieve, 2009; Callan, Finney, Kirst, Usdan, and Venezia, 2006; Illinois Board of Higher Education, 2008).
- Significant numbers of graduating seniors leave high school with deficient reading, writing and math skills (Kirst, 2004).

# A Need for the IL CCR Act



- Most jobs require some skills associated with higher education (Carnevale, et al., 2011).
- An individual with a Bachelor's degree earns 2.1 million dollars over the course of his or her life, twice as much as an individual with only a high school diploma (U.S. Department of Education, 2006, p. 7).

# The Law



- Bill sponsored by Senator Edward Maloney and Representative David Miller in 2007; Re-authorized in 2010
- \$750,000 Appropriation to the Illinois Community College Board

# Five Elements of The Act



- Develop a system to diagnose college readiness
- Reduce the need for remedial/developmental coursework
- Align high school and college curriculum
- Enrich the senior year
- Establish an evaluation process to measure effectiveness of the intervention strategies

# The CCR Pilot Sites



- ❑ Southwestern Illinois College
- ❑ South Suburban College
- ❑ Moraine Valley Community College
- ❑ John A. Logan College
- ❑ Shawnee Community College
- ❑ Kankakee Community College
- ❑ College of Lake County

# Activities Across Sites



- Curriculum gap analysis
- Textbook sharing across systems
- Syllabus sharing across systems
- Team-teaching
- Field observation
- Early placement testing
- CCR guides
- Developmental committees
- Data base development to track students
- Increase high schools

# Sample Activities at Two Sites



## □ **John A. Logan College**

- Early placement testing at partner high schools
- Test scores and teacher input used to create an intervention to address identified gaps
- Saturday and summer interventions

## □ **Moraine Valley Community College**

- ACT Prep and test anxiety workshop for juniors
- Tested high school seniors with the COMPASS test and then invited seniors to participate in a free eight week summer program focused on Math and study skills
- Hired a school liaison to help break down barriers in their district

# Sample Outcomes FY2009



- Five Sites Contacted 3,500 students and Enrolled 400 in interventions
- To Improve Curriculum Alignment, the Five Sites Had 71 Meetings with High Schools and Interacted with 566 College and High School Staff. These meetings led to better alignment of high school to college curriculum.
- Approximately 200 CCR Students Transitioned to Credit Bearing Courses or Higher Levels of Developmental Coursework.

# Sample Outcomes FY 2010



- Seven Sites contacted 12,575 students and enrolled 884 students in interventions.
- To improve curriculum alignment, the five sites had 251 separate meetings with high schools and interacted with hundreds of college and high school staff.
- CCR sites partnered with 75 high schools.
- Approximately 384 CCR students transitioned to credit bearing courses or higher levels of developmental coursework.

# Future Plans for CCR Program

- Continue to define and diagnose College Readiness
- Intensify program focus by implementing evidence-based intervention models.
- Convene work groups of CCR sites—including faculty and staff to address challenges to program and examine best practices.
- Sites create a network for support and sharing of best practices
- Better documentation of best practices and intervention results
- Increase student impact / number of students reached
- Increase rigor in evaluation
- **Prepare and Draft General Assembly report**