

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Public Community College Act is amended by  
5 adding Section 2-26 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 805/2-26 new)

7 Sec. 2-26. 21st Century Employment grant program.

8 (a) Subject to appropriation, the State Board shall  
9 establish and administer a 21st Century Employment grant  
10 program. To qualify for a grant, a community college district  
11 and a public high school located in that district must jointly  
12 establish a collaborative regional partnership with workforce  
13 development organizations, including community-based  
14 organizations with a vested interest in the workforce, regional  
15 economic development organizations, and economic development  
16 officials in the district, along with manufacturers,  
17 healthcare service providers, and innovative technology  
18 businesses that have a presence in the district, to provide a  
19 manufacturing training program. A grant recipient must provide  
20 the State Board with a plan that meets all of the following  
21 requirements:

22 (1) The plan shall define specific goals that a student  
23 must meet upon graduation.

1           (2) The plan shall include the type of professional  
2           skills that will be taught in order for the students to  
3           gain and retain employment. The professional skills  
4           curriculum in the program shall include, but not be limited  
5           to, training on all of the following:

6                   (A) Effective communication skills.

7                   (B) Teamwork.

8                   (C) Dependability.

9                   (D) Adaptability.

10                  (E) Conflict resolution.

11                  (F) Flexibility.

12                  (G) Leadership.

13                  (H) Problem-solving.

14                  (I) Research.

15                  (J) Creativity.

16                  (K) Work ethic.

17                  (L) Integrity.

18           In awarding grants under this Section, the State Board  
19           must give priority to plans that demonstrate a formal  
20           articulation agreement between a public high school and a  
21           community college district.

22           (3) The plan shall include a budget that includes any  
23           outside donations, including any in-kind donations, made  
24           to help the program, including from non-profit entities and  
25           individuals.

26           (4) The plan shall include the proposed number of

1 individuals who would be enrolled in the program, along  
2 with the places that those individuals could be employed at  
3 after graduation and what industries would be targeted. The  
4 plan must support a seamless transition into higher  
5 education and career opportunities and must outline the  
6 college credit and on-the-job training hours that will  
7 transfer from the high school to a community college.

8 (5) The plan shall require a private-public  
9 partnership clause that requires private businesses to  
10 contribute an amount determined by the State Board and the  
11 collaborative regional partnership that does not exceed  
12 40% of the amount of the total project. The applicant must  
13 provide the State Board with a receipt of contributions  
14 from businesses to evidence compliance with this  
15 paragraph. However, businesses may contribute equipment or  
16 offer their facilities, in which case a business shall  
17 establish a cost of use of its facility, to meet the  
18 requirements of this paragraph.

19 (6) The plan shall indicate the certificates that the  
20 community college or high school will offer to students  
21 upon graduation, as agreed to by the collaborative regional  
22 partnership. The community college or high school shall  
23 offer no less than 6 types of industry-recognized  
24 certificates.

25 (b) The State Board shall establish an advisory board for  
26 the grant program established under subsection (a) that

1 consists of all of the following members:

2 (1) The Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

3 (2) The Executive Director of the State Board.

4 (3) The State Superintendent of Education.

5 (4) The Director of Labor.

6 (5) A senator appointed by the President of the Senate.

7 (6) A senator appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
8 Senate.

9 (7) A representative appointed by the Speaker of the  
10 House of Representatives.

11 (8) A representative appointed by the Minority Leader  
12 of the House of Representatives.

13 (9) A member from a statewide organization that  
14 represents manufacturing companies throughout this State,  
15 appointed by the Governor.

16 (10) A member who represents at-risk students,  
17 including, but not limited to, opportunity youth,  
18 appointed by the Governor.

19 (11) A member from a statewide organization that  
20 represents multiple employee unions in this State,  
21 appointed by the Governor.

22 (12) A member from a trade union, appointed by the  
23 Governor.

24 (13) A member from a statewide organization that  
25 represents the business community, appointed by the  
26 Governor.

1           (14) A member from a statewide organization that  
2           represents service employees in this State, appointed by  
3           the Governor.

4           (15) Educators representing various regions of this  
5           State from professional teachers' organizations, appointed  
6           by the Governor.

7           (16) A member from a statewide organization that  
8           represents hospitals in this State, appointed by the  
9           Governor.

10           (17) A president of a community college, appointed by  
11           the Governor.

12           (18) A district superintendent of a high school  
13           district, appointed by Governor.

14           The members of the advisory board shall serve without  
15           compensation but shall be reimbursed for their reasonable and  
16           necessary expenses from funds appropriated to the State Board  
17           for that purpose, including travel, subject to the rules of the  
18           appropriate travel control board.

19           The advisory board shall meet at the call of the State  
20           Board and shall report to the State Board. The State Board  
21           shall provide administrative and other support to the advisory  
22           board.

23           (c) The advisory board established under subsection (b)  
24           shall have all of the following duties:

25           (1) To review the progress made by each grant  
26           recipient, including, but not limited to, the

1 gainful-employment success rate, how many students remain  
2 employed for how long, and how many students went on to  
3 receive higher manufacturing certificates.

4 (2) To review how many students went on to complete a  
5 paid internship or apprenticeship upon graduation.

6 (3) To compile a list of programs offered by each  
7 community college or high school.

8 (4) To analyze whether the certificates are closing the  
9 gap in education for the current needs of the labor force,  
10 and to offer suggestions on how to close the gap if one  
11 still exists.

12 (5) To suggest certificates that could help future  
13 employers looking to locate in this State.

14 (6) To offer guidelines for the types of certificates  
15 that a community college or high school should pursue.

16 (7) To offer possible rules to the State Board that the  
17 grant process should follow.

18 (d) The State Board may adopt any rules necessary for the  
19 purposes of this Section.