

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, America's first public community college was established in Joliet, Illinois in 1901; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges are powerhouses of opportunity with 48 community colleges and 39 college districts throughout Illinois, defining success student by student and community by community; and,*

*WHEREAS, according to the Illinois Community College Board, Illinois community colleges educate 65 percent of the students enrolled in Illinois public higher education; and,*

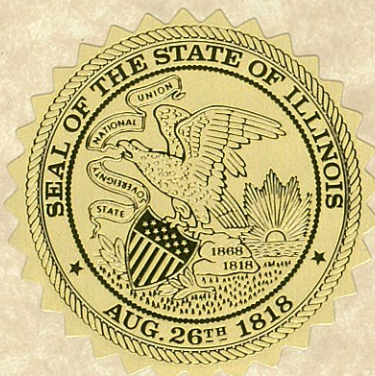
*WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges rank number one in the nation for bachelor's degree completion rates among community college students who transfer (54 percent); and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges share a common belief in the people and places they serve, prepare people for the workforce, help students to transfer to other colleges and universities, and continually respond to the communities they serve through adult literacy continuing education services;*

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2024 to be Illinois Community College Month in honor of the Illinois Community College System and the significant contribution these institutions are making to every student, every community, and our state.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*  
*this* NINETEENTH *day of* MARCH, *in*  
*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*  
TWENTY-FOUR, *and of the State of Illinois,*  
*two hundred and* FIFTH.



*Alexi Giannouh*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR