

ILLINOIS HIGHLIGHTS

2023-2024

OVERVIEW

Illinois enacted authorizing legislation in 1991 to join the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), the same year MHEC was founded. Over the past 34 years, commissioners, commissioner alternates, and members of advisory committees from Illinois have provided and continue to provide important governance and strategic direction for MHEC.

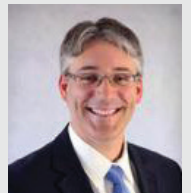
HOW MHEC BENEFITS ILLINOIS

- ▶ **\$26.06M in total annual savings.** Illinois colleges, universities, school districts, state and local governments, and students and their families realized more than \$26.06M in cost and time savings through MHEC's contracts and programs.
 - » *Technology Contracts.* Illinois entities saved \$10.1M through MHEC contracts with Dell, Oracle, Xerox, CampusGuard, Lenovo, and others.
 - » *Distance Education.* By participating in the Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA), Illinois saved approximately \$6.5M and avoided a costly state-by-state, institution-by-institution approach.
 - » *Tuition Reciprocity.* Illinois students and their families who participated in the Midwest Student Exchange Program saved \$9.3M.
 - » *Student Health Insurance.* More than 5,000 Illinois students at three institutions participated in MHEC's contract for student health insurance. Two more institutions have joined for 2024-2025.
 - » *Master Property Insurance.* Ten Illinois institutions received dividends totaling \$283,164 for participating in MHEC's Master Property Insurance Program.
- ▶ **Strong return on investment.** Illinois received a 226-fold return on annual compact membership commitment of \$115,000.
- ▶ **Open Educational Resources.** MHEC supported Illinois with grant funds for OER Campus Kickstart: Award for Growing Illinois OER Programs. This program provided financial incentives to smaller college campuses and campuses with little or no support for OER programming.
- ▶ **Professional Development and Support.** Twenty-one Illinois leaders attended MHEC's FAFSA Summit. Four technology leaders engaged in MHEC's free professional development and networking.

COMMISSIONERS



Maureen Banks
Illinois Community
College Board,
Board Member



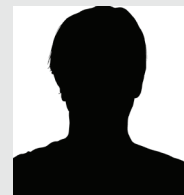
Michael Halpin
Illinois General
Assembly, State
Senator



Pranav Kothari
Illinois Board of
Higher Education,
Board Chair



Katie Stuart
Illinois General
Assembly, State
Representative



Vacancy



The Midwestern Higher Education Compact seeks to improve individual career readiness and regional economic vitality through collective problem-solving and partnerships that strengthen postsecondary education. To achieve this vision, the Compact focuses its work in three strategic priority areas:

INCUBATE

Advance innovation, efficiency & effectiveness

- » Serve as an incubator, studying challenging topics where MHEC can play a valuable role and piloting potential solutions.
- » Lead in expanding use and utility of open educational resources.
- » Respond rapidly to member states' requests for research on pressing topics such as workforce development, loan forgiveness programs, and college affordability.
- » Provide state-by-state data through an interactive dashboard on key performance indicators including preparation, participation, affordability, completion, finance, and workforce.

LAUNCH

Develop collaborative solutions to regional problems and opportunities

- » Take on projects, issues and opportunities that are too big for one state to do alone, working jointly to improve higher education and to strengthen the Midwest region.
- » Convene and connect higher education leaders to navigate timely and critical issues facing higher education, such as FAFSA, distance education delivery, and tuition reciprocity.
- » Help Midwestern states navigate accreditation standards to meet the significant increase in demand for dual and concurrent enrollment.

SAVE

Drive cost savings & business solutions

- » Leverage the combined technology needs of higher education institutions in member states to reach favorable agreements with technology vendors that result in tremendous time and cost savings.
- » Explore opportunities to serve risk management needs.
- » Offer affordable solutions that improve student well-being.