

**An Agreement
Between
Heartland Community College
and
The Board of Trustees of Illinois State University**

Heartland Community College (HCC) and the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University (ISU) hereby form a cooperative relationship through this agreement to better serve Heartland Community College honors students in their admission and transfer to the Honors Program at Illinois State University. Both institutions recognize that by working together, their collaborative efforts are stronger than their individual efforts.

Heartland Community College Honors Program:

The Honors Program at HCC seeks to provide qualified students the challenges inherent in enriched and advanced study related to general education courses and/or areas of concentration or specialization. The HCC Program is based on the core tenets of Phi Theta Kappa: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship. Honors students at HCC have the opportunity to work on individual research with instructors and participate in honors courses with fellow honors students.

Honors students at HCC who have completed a minimum of 4 credit hours of honors seminar coursework, 2 credit hours of service learning coursework, and two in-course honors projects have a special designation placed on their transcript, and are recognized at commencement.

Illinois State University Honors Program:

The Honors Program at ISU strives to enrich students' learning experiences by providing opportunities, resources, and support for its Honors students to customize their learning in ways that are valuable to them across all disciplines. The ISU Honors Program framework is comprised of six dimensions of learning, which are considered the learning outcomes of the program. Students explore these learning outcomes through six Honors learning experience options, allowing them to choose the experiences that best suit their interests and goals.

Honors Program students at ISU must complete a minimum of one Honors learning experience per semester and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3 each semester. Students who maintain these requirements have a special designation placed on their transcript and are recognized at commencement.

The two institutions agree to the following:

1. Students who graduate from the HCC Honors Program and meet all general ISU transfer and program admission criteria will be admitted to ISU and to ISU's Honors Program. Students who have not graduated from the HCC Honors Program may also be accepted into ISU's Honors Program if he or she meets the standard Program admission criteria as stated above.
2. HCC students must submit a completed transfer application to ISU in addition to the ISU application to the Honors Program. Students must indicate they are current HCC Honors Program students on the application to Illinois State's Honors Program. Students will not be required to submit any other Honors Program application requirements including written responses to essay prompts.

3. Applications to the Honors Program will be only accepted for fall admission. Those students who transfer to ISU in the spring will need to apply for admission to the Honors Program for the following fall semester.
4. This agreement is effective with the 2023-2024 academic year and will automatically renew each year for a total period not to exceed five years, unless terminated in accordance with paragraph 9 below.
5. Relationships between HCC and ISU faculty and administration are in the spirit of cooperation and provide the basis of this agreement.
6. Representatives of both institutions agree to meet on a regular basis, but at least yearly, to assess curricular changes and other conditions that may affect the nature of the agreement.
7. This agreement does not preclude either institution from making curriculum changes. The other party will be notified of any such curriculum changes.
8. Either ISU or HCC may terminate this agreement for any reason upon at least sixty (60) days advance notice to the cooperating institution's chief academic officer. All students admitted to ISU or enrolled at ISU at the time such termination becomes effective shall be permitted the opportunity to complete their degree or program upon such terms and conditions as were in effect at the time such student was admitted.
9. It is understood and agreed that neither party to this Agreement shall be legally liable for any negligent or wrongful acts, either of commission or omission, of the other, unless such liability is imposed by law and this Agreement shall not be construed as seeking to either enlarge or diminish any obligation or duty owed by one party against the other or against third parties.
10. Both parties agree to comply with all applicable federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations. Neither party shall engage in unlawful discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, pregnancy, sexual orientation, order of protection, gender identity and expression, age, marital status, disability, genetic information, unfavorable military discharge, status as a veteran, or sex (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking).
11. The relationship of each party to the other under this Agreement shall be that of independent contractor, and no employment, partnership, or joint venture relationship shall be created by the entry into or performance of this Agreement by the parties.
12. Both parties affirm that, to the best of its knowledge, there exists no actual or potential conflict between such party's business, or financial interests and its obligations under this Agreement; and, in the event of a change in either of its private interests or obligations under this Agreement, and such party will raise to the other any questions regarding a possible conflict of interest which may arise as a result of such change.

13. This Agreement may not be assigned to either party without the prior written consent of the other party. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Agreement, attachments, and incorporated references shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the content of said Agreement. This Agreement may not be amended by either party unless such amendment is mutually acceptable to both parties and is reduced to writing and signed by both parties.
14. The failure of either party to enforce any provision hereof shall not be construed as a waiver of such party's right to enforce such provisions in the future. In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be held to be void, voidable or otherwise unenforceable, the remaining provisions, shall remain in full force and effect. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois, without regard to the conflicts of laws. Any dispute arising hereunder shall be brought only in the appropriate courts located in Illinois. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, including by facsimile signature, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which together shall constitute a single instrument.
15. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois.
16. **Confidentiality.** Both ISU and HCC may receive confidential student information as a result of participation associated with this Articulation Agreement. ISU and HCC agree to abide by the student protections as outlined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
17. **Use of Trademark.** ISU and HCC agree to grant mutual, non-exclusive, non-transferable rights to utilize each other's trademarks, logos, or other institutional identifiers as provided by each party for the purposes of promoting this agreement, and for no other purpose. Should improper use of any trademark by either institution be determined, ISU and <insert institution name here> shall attempt to collaboratively work to rectify the usage. Usage does not grant any right or interest to acquire said trademarks.
18. Any notice required hereunder shall be deemed given when delivered in person or three (3) days after being sent by first class mail to the following addresses, which may be changed by notice provided pursuant to this Agreement:

For Illinois State University:

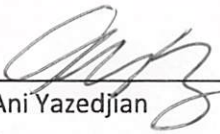
Honors Program
Illinois State University
Campus Box 6100
Normal, IL 61790-6100

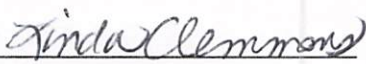
For Heartland Community College:

Office of the Vice President for Learning
and Student Success
Heartland Community College
1500 W. Raab Rd
Normal, IL 61761

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties here to have executed this Agreement as of the date below.

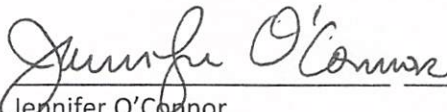
The Board of Trustees of Illinois State University

 080723
Dr. Ani Yazedjian Date
Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

 8/7/23
Dr. Linda Clemmons Date
Director, Honors Program

Heartland Community College

 7/25/23
Kerth Cornille
President, Heartland Community College

 7/24/2023
Jennifer O'Connor
7/24/2023
Director, Honors Program HCC

Reviewed and Approved
as to legal form
Office of General Counsel