



A Guaranteed Admission 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 agree to form a cooperative relationship through this Guaranteed Admission Agreement to better serve our public constituents, to smooth the transfer process, to minimize duplication of instruction and to build on community college and university learning experiences. Both institutions recognize that by working together, their collective efforts are stronger than their individual efforts.

This Agreement offers Heartland Community College students guaranteed admission to Illinois State University to complete their Bachelor's degree. Under the terms of the Guaranteed Admission Program and Redbird Promise (IllinoisState.edu/Redbird Promise), Heartland Community College students who successfully complete the Associate of Arts (A.A.) or the Associate of Science (A.S.) degree are guaranteed admission to Illinois State provided that all current admissions standards, policies, and procedures of ISU are met at the time of admission to the ISU bachelor's program. Students must meet all of the requirements outlined in this agreement to guarantee their admission to ISU.

The two institutions agree to the following:

Academic Requirements:

- 1. HCC and ISU will collaborate and coordinate the recruitment and transfer of students in accordance with the program and degree requirements of their respective schools.
- 2. HCC will inform prospective student of this program during student recruitment activities through co-branded marketing materials and/or other mutually agreed upon means. HCC will publish the details of the agreement on their website for the benefit of students interested in participating in the program. ISU and HCC will jointly approve any and all advertising related to the Guaranteed Admission Program. ISU will provide online and/or print information regarding its academic program requirements and transfer credit policies.
- 3. For Heartland students enrolled in an A.A. or A.S. degree program, Illinois State will provide advisement to discuss academic program requirements and transfer credit policies. It is recommended that students also track their degree progress by working with their advisor at Heartland Community College.

Illinois State Admission Requirements:

- 1. Subject to any applicable ISU admission requirements, Illinois State agrees to admit qualified Heartland students to ISU. For purposes of this Program, qualified Heartland students shall be defined as those students who have:
 - a. Completed or will complete an A.A. or A.S. degree;
 - b. Achieved a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.4/4.0 in all transferrable academic coursework at all colleges/universities attended including all prerequisite courses as specified by ISU and in other courses as specified by the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI).

- 2. International students will have their English proficiency requirement satisfied for admission so long as they complete 60 credit hours or their A.A. or A.S. degree. Students will not need to submit separate proof of English proficiency at the time of application.
- 3. This agreement **does not** guarantee admission for students seeking readmission or reinstatement to Illinois State.
- 4. This agreement does not guarantee admission for transfer students to a specific ISU major, degree program, or academic college within the University. There may be additional admission requirements to enroll in and complete certain ISU's bachelor's degree programs.
- 5. Failure to meet the requirements above **does not** preclude any HCC student from applying and being considered for admission to ISU through the traditional admission process.
- 6. ISU agrees to accept all course credit completed at HCC in accordance with the current transfer and articulation policies and processes.
- 7. ISU agrees to offer scholarships for up to five (5) HCC transfer students each year. The awards are to be valued at a minimum of \$1,000 annually; some are renewable for multiple years. The awards are to be based on academic merit and the competitiveness of the applicant pool, rather than on financial need.

Other terms:

- 1. Relationships between HCC and ISU faculty and administration are in the spirit of cooperation and provide the basis of this agreement.
- 2. Representatives of both institutions agree to meet annually, to assess curricular changes and other conditions that may affect the nature of the agreement.
- 3. This agreement does not preclude either institution from making curriculum changes. The other party will be notified of any such curriculum changes.
- 4. Subject to review and approval of both parties, appropriate publications and promotional materials regarding this agreement will be made available to all Heartland Community College students with interest in the program.
- 5. This Agreement will become effective upon signature by all parties, and will continue for a period of one (1) year, and will be automatically renewed for additional one (1) year terms for a total of five (5) years, unless earlier terminated in accordance with the terms hereof. The parties may mutually agree to renew and/or amend this Agreement. Any such renewal or amendment will be reduced to writing and signed by both parties.
- 6. Either party may terminate this Agreement for any reason upon at least sixty (60) days written notice to the other party. Any student enrolled at Heartland Community College in the final year of the A.A. or A.S. program who submits an application in the year in which the Agreement is terminated, shall be allowed to enroll at ISU under the terms outlined in this Agreement.
- 7. 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.
- 8. 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).

- 9. 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.
- 10. Both parties affirm that, to the best of its knowledge, there exists no actual or potential conflict between such party's family, 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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:

Mr. Jeff Mavros Director of Admission Illinois State University Campus Box 2200 Normal, IL 61790-2200

For Heartland Community College:

Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt Vice President, Enrollment & Student Services Heartland Community College 1500 West Raab Rd Normal, IL 61761 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the date below.

The Board of Trustees of Illinois State University

Heartland Community College

Dr. Aondover Tarhule

Vice President and Provost

Dr. Richard Pearce

Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs

Reviewed and Approved as to legal form

Office of General Counsel