

## **Fiscal Year 2010 Community College Statewide Budget**

### **OPERATIONS FUNDING**

Since Fiscal Year 2002, state support for community colleges has **declined by more than 15 percent**. To make up for the losses in state support, local community college boards have been forced to **increase student tuition** by over 65 percent, while pressure upon local property taxpayers also mounts. Local community college boards have made these decisions in order to maintain quality programs and balanced budgets.

For Fiscal Year 2010, Gov. Pat Quinn has recommended that community colleges receive an \$8.6 million (or 2.8 percent) increase above Fiscal Year 2009 funding levels. This budget includes \$16 million in Federal Stimulus Funds. The Illinois community college system has generally indicated support for the Governor's budget because it begins moving community college funding in the correct direction.

Community colleges, however, are recommending **restored state funding** of \$35 million for other necessary programs that have been eliminated during the past few years.

The Governor's Fiscal Year 2010 budget is built upon an increase in the state income tax rate from the current 3 percent rate to 4.5 percent. Additionally, the Governor has proposed changes in the state's public pension plans.

### **CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION**

Gov. Quinn is recommending a state capital construction program in Fiscal Year 2010, the first such program in seven years. A significant number of community college construction projects would be funded if the Illinois General Assembly approves a capital construction program.

Community colleges are also seeking a capital program for sustainable or "green" construction projects.



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