



January 8, 2025

Honorable Governor JB Pritzker
207 State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Pritzker:

In accordance with the reporting requirement of the Illinois Prepaid Tuition Act (110 ILCS 979/1 et seq.), I am sending you this letter as a certification that the College Illinois!® 529 Prepaid Tuition Program will not require any state financial support during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 to fulfill FY 2026 obligations to students and families. During FY 2026, we estimate that approximately \$85 million will be paid out for prepaid tuition contract benefits, refunds, and expenses, netted for expected contributions. During January through June 2025, we anticipate net payouts of approximately \$49 million. The Commission is expected to approve the FY 2026 administrative budget for the College Illinois! 529 Prepaid Tuition Program in June 2025; staff expects the request to include approximately \$3 million of program funds for operational expenses.

Program enrollment has been closed since the 2017-18 enrollment year and remains closed.

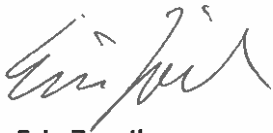
The plan is fully funded as of June 30, 2024. We are grateful for your support and the support of the General Assembly in providing State funding during FY 2021 and FY 2022 to address the College Illinois! unfunded liability.

The Program retains a substantial investment portfolio in a separate trust fund to pay obligations. According to the June 30, 2024 Actuarial Soundness Report, Program assets totaled about \$497 million, corresponding to a 108.9% funded ratio. As always, actuarial reports necessarily represent a point in time and will change in the future up or down based on a variety of factors, including tuition and fee growth and market volatility.

College Illinois! continues to invest the trust fund assets in a prudent manner. The portfolio currently consists largely of a ladder of U.S. Treasury Securities with maturities that align with expected future payments of tuition and fees.

Please contact me at 847-831-8379 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this certification letter.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Zarnikow", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eric Zarnikow
Executive Director

cc: Martin V. Torres, Deputy Governor, Office of the Governor
Alexis Sturm, Director, Office of Management and Budget