



January 9, 2024

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) 2025 to fulfill FY 2025 obligations to students and families. During FY 2025, we estimate that approximately \$99 million will be paid out for prepaid tuition contract benefits, refunds, and expenses, netted for expected contributions. During January through June 2024, we anticipate net payouts of approximately \$50 million. The Commission is expected to approve the FY 2025 administrative budget for the College Illinois! 529 Prepaid Tuition Program in June 2024; staff expects the request to include approximately \$4 million of program funds for operational expenses.

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

We are very grateful for your support and the support of the General Assembly, which were essential to obtain the funding received from the State during FY 2021 and FY 2022 that was intended to address the College Illinois! unfunded liability. We are pleased to communicate that the plan is fully funded as of June 30, 2023.

The Program retains a substantial investment portfolio in a separate trust fund to pay obligations. According to the June 30, 2023 Actuarial Soundness Report, Program assets totaled about \$565 million, corresponding to a 100.9% 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 market volatility and tuition and fee growth. College Illinois! continues to prudently invest funds in a diversified portfolio.

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 Zarokow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Eric Zarokow
Executive Director

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