

HIGHER EDUCATION TRAVEL CONTROL BOARD

April 22, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Board Members

Present:

Nester Komolafe, Chicago State University
Mike Hutchinson, Eastern Illinois University
Peyton Conner, Illinois Board of Higher Education
Zachary Vespa, Illinois Community College Board
Carla Dietsch, Illinois State University
Tracy McFall, Northeastern Illinois University
Deborah Bonnell, Northern Illinois University
Agnes Arnold, Southern Illinois University
Aaron Carter, University of Illinois System
Jessica Dunn, Western Illinois University

Excused:

Andrea Middleton, Governors State University

Guests Present:

Katie Frossard-Fisher, Governors State University
Keith Dickerson, Illinois Community College Board
Susie Baker, University of Illinois System
Cathy Young, University of Illinois System

Proceedings

- Aaron Carter called the meeting to order at 9:31am. Cathy Young conducted roll call.
- Ten members were present via video (CSU, EIU, IBHE, ICCB, ISU, NEIU, NIU, SIU, UIUC, and WIU).
- Aaron asked if there were any questions about the January 28, 2026 minutes, which were sent to the board on March 4, 2026. Hearing none, Aaron asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Nester made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted and Peyton Conner seconded. Motion carried.

3rd Quarter Exceptions for FY26:

Chicago State University – No exceptions to report
Eastern Illinois University – 9 exceptions for \$1,202.98
➤ **Line 6 in the amount of \$460.28 pulled for follow up**
Governors State University – No exceptions to report
Illinois Board of Higher Education – 4 exceptions for \$103.40
Illinois Community College Board – 4 exceptions for \$205.00
Illinois Math and Science Academy – 1 exception for \$78.29
Illinois Student Assistance Commission – No exceptions to report
Illinois State University – 13 exceptions for \$378.28
Northeastern Illinois University – 4 exceptions for \$607.48
Northern Illinois University – 20 exceptions for \$1,818.83
➤ **Line 1 in the amount of \$452.52 pulled for follow up**
➤ **Line 4 in the amount of \$198.00 pulled for follow up**
➤ **Line 17 in the amount of \$109.00 pulled for follow up**
Southern Illinois University Carbondale – 48 exceptions for \$5,390.73

➤ **Line 9 in the amount of \$185.75 pulled for follow up**

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville – 14 exceptions for \$792.00

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine – 26 exceptions for \$5,880.51

State Universities Civil Service System – No exceptions to report

State Universities Retirement System – No exceptions to report

University of Illinois at Chicago – 418 exceptions for \$85,564.15

➤ **Line 27 in the amount of \$1,128.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 35 in the amount of \$557.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 57 in the amount of \$650.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 73 in the amount of \$482.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 74 in the amount of \$482.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 75 in the amount of \$518.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 133 in the amount of \$346.50 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 160 in the amount of \$1,325.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 246 in the amount of \$590.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 269 in the amount of \$367.10 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 302 in the amount of \$872.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 339 in the amount of \$840.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 415 in the amount of \$1,044.98 pulled for follow up**

University of Illinois at Springfield – 25 exceptions for \$3,266.95

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – 1299 exceptions for \$181,052.

➤ **Line 20 in the amount of \$632.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 56 in the amount of \$428.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 156 in the amount of \$752.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 168 in the amount of \$297.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 279 in the amount of \$535.46 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 310 in the amount of \$535.46 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 411 in the amount of \$1,792.02 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 579 in the amount of \$483.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 587 in the amount of \$643.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 596 in the amount of \$738.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 649 in the amount of \$994.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 682 in the amount of \$251.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 719 in the amount of \$348.96 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 742 in the amount of \$665.78 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 759 in the amount of \$251.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 821 in the amount of \$1,046.00 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 1110 in the amount of \$821.48 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 1111 in the amount of \$1,141.94 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 1112 in the amount of \$1,263.54 pulled for follow up**

University of Illinois Administration – 86 exceptions for \$13,514.59

➤ **Line 58 in the amount of \$560.02 pulled for follow up**

➤ **Line 63 in the amount of \$330.02 pulled for follow up**

Western Illinois University – 17 exceptions for \$1,050.43

Aaron requested a motion to accept the exception reports as presented, excluding the 39 exceptions pulled for follow up from Eastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, University of Illinois Chicago, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and University of Illinois Administration. Motion made by Carla Dietsch. Mike Hutchinson seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business

- a. Debbie Bonnell asked about raising the amount required for receipts from \$10 to \$25. Aaron advised that the State Travel Control board has appointed someone to address this and there is a meeting scheduled in June to discuss it.
- b. Aaron advised that University of Illinois employees who repeatedly showed up on the lodging exceptions report have been moved to leased apartments. He asked the board if the nightly rates are below the allowable, is this acceptable. Board agreed it was acceptable.
- c. Agnes asked the board if seat selection on flights is being allowed at their institutions. Aaron advised that the U of I System now allows seat selection and allows business class airfare for any flight over 14 hours.
- d. Agnes asked if the other institutions are paying taxes on car rentals. The board members advised that their institutions are paying taxes on car rentals.

Aaron asked if anyone had questions or other business to discuss and received no response.

Aaron advised the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 9:30am and requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Carla Dietsch. Seconded by Mike Hutchinson.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 am.

Submitted by Aaron Charter, Chair