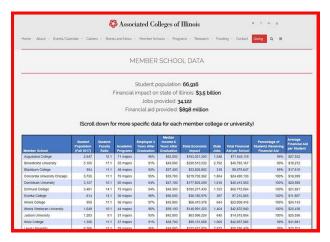**ACI Colleges and Universities Contribute More than $3.5 Billion to Illinois Economy, Updated Figures Show**
Aug. 15, 2019

ACI'S 26 member colleges and universities contribute an economic value of more than $3.5 billion to the Illinois economy, according to updated, publicly available information compiled by ACI. In addition, the member schools employ more than 34,000 people, enroll nearly 70,000 students and provide $900 million in financial aid.

The updated 2019 information is available on the ACI website on the Member School Data web page.

Comparative data also shows that ACI member colleges graduate significantly more education and nursing majors than larger, nonmember colleges and universities in Illinois.

"Members, donors, employers and other ACI partners have expressed a significant interest in this information on our website," said Mick Weltman, ACI executive director. "The data shows ACI member colleges and universities have small faculty-student classroom ratios, a wide range of academic programs and majors, and strong employment rates for their students within two years after graduation."

The updated data is available in aggregated form, as well as individual data per member school. ACI's compilation includes several data points about its members:

- Demographic information
- Academic programs
- Employment statistics after graduation
- State economic impact and jobs
- Financial aid provided by each institution

"We want to encourage sharing this information with individuals, families, school personnel, human resources professionals, business contacts and others," Weltman said.

The data were updated by Quinn Leach, intern and North Park University graduate, and Eli O'Sullivan Kurtz, ACI manager of operations and research, using publicly available sources. Sources included member schools' own websites, plus data from the Federation of Independent Colleges and Universities' Economic Input Calculator and the National Center for Education Statistics' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.