

Student Services and Development

Annual Report 2022-2023



Elgin
Community
College

*Student Services
and Development*

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SSD Org Chart

VP of Teaching , Learning and Student Development
Dr. Peggy Heinrich

AVP of Student Services & Development
Dr. Lulu Blacksmith

Dean of Students
John Long

- Academic Advising
- TRiO Student Support Services
- ADA, Student Access & Disabilities Services
- Veterans Services

Assoc Dean of Student Success
Peggy Gundrum

- Transfers Services
- Wellness Services
- Career Development
- Student Success Coaches

Director of Athletics
Kent Payne

- Athletic Coordinators
- Sports Information and Academic Specialist
- Athletics/Fitness Center

Director of First Year Programs and Student Life
Amybeth Maurer

- First Year and Student Life coordinators and staff

Dean of Enrollment and Student Financial Services
Amy Perrin

- Financial Aid and Scholarships
- First Stop and Registration
- Admissions and Records
- Recruitment and Outreach
- Center for Global Engagement
- Testing Services

Introduction

Dear Board of Trustees, President Sam, Colleagues and Friends of Elgin Community College,

Welcome to our FY 2022-2023 Annual Report. We are proud to share our efforts in fostering student success and creating inclusive environments for our students.

This report serves as a snapshot of the impactful work we have undertaken throughout the year to support and empower students on their educational journey. Our dedicated team has been working tirelessly to provide a range of essential services to our diverse student population. The team's commitment, innovation, and passion are what drives Student Services and Development to not only meet but exceed the needs and expectations of our students.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to everyone involved - faculty, staff, and our valued partners across campus for their unwavering commitment and collaboration. Together, we help our students thrive academically, personally, and professionally

We thank you for joining us in this journey and for helping us make a difference in the lives of our students.



Dr. Lourdes (Lulú) Blacksmith

Associate Vice President for Student Services and Development

At a Glance

9,614

Students
Enrolled

▲ +9%

17,952

Academic
Advising
Sessions

=

4,536

Spartan Food
Pantry Visits

▲ +268%

2,240

Early alerts

▼ -17%

14,061

Students
received HEERF
funds

988

Career Services
Appointments

▲ +51%

27

Student Clubs/
Organizations

▲ +58.8%

1200+

Middle School
Students Visited
ECC

% and = changes are from last year to this year.

Student Demographics

- 50% Hispanic or Latino
- 33% White
- 7% Asian
- 2% Two or More Races
- 4% Black
- <1% American Indian or Alaska Native
- <1% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders

Academic Advising

The Academic Advising Department is responsible for guiding and supporting students in their academic journey. Our advisors assist students in selecting courses, creating an academic plan, and ensuring they meet graduation requirements. We are happy to help students succeed academically and, ultimately, professionally.

Our Team



Academic Advising Sessions

17,952
Sessions

Students are able to meet with an advisor in-person, virtually, or over the phone. Students can also come in during walk-in hours as well as email advisors to ask questions or share their academic concerns.

Students' preferred channels of meeting with advisors

- 56% In-Person (▲ +30%)
- 22% Via Phone (▼ -45%)
- 22% Virtually (=22%)

(% changes are from last year to this year.)

Academic Advisors Tour Departments

Staff from Academic Advising, Global Studies, Recruitment, Student Access and Disabilities, Success Coaches, and TRiO toured and met with instructional coordinators and faculty from Sustainability, Business and Career Technologies and Health Professions programs to seek a strong understanding of programs to effectively assist students. Staff reported feeling more confident when meeting with students to explain program requirements, content, and job outcomes. This will ultimately help students make informed decisions about their educational and career paths.



Intentional Connections

The Spartan Success (**Early Alert**) Program improves student success, retention and graduation rates.

The Early Alert Program:

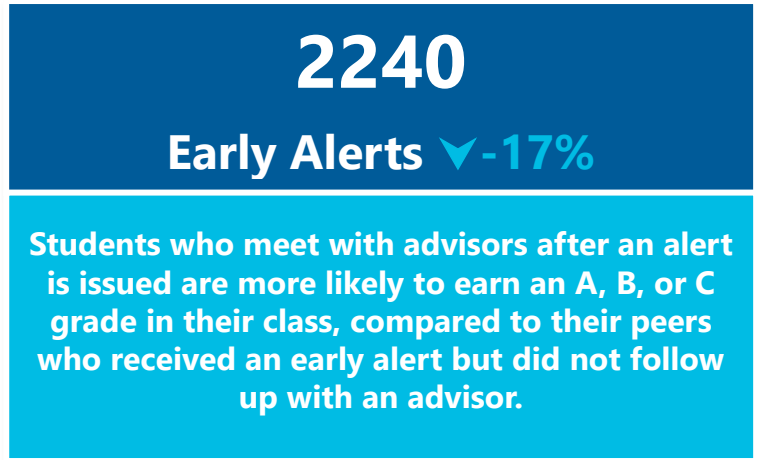
- Identifies students who need additional support early in the semester.

- Faculty take quick action and raise an early alert to notify advisors when a student may be experiencing academic, financial, personal or social difficulties.
- Advisors provide equitable, personalized, and meaningful support to help students stay on track and be successful in their academic journey.

We recognize that addressing challenges or barriers early on in the semester helps students have a better chance of overcoming them and being successful in their classes.

Students who meet with their advisor for an early alert are more likely to earn a passing grade in their class, compared with those who receive an alert but do not meet with their advisor during the semester to address the challenge or barrier they were experiencing.

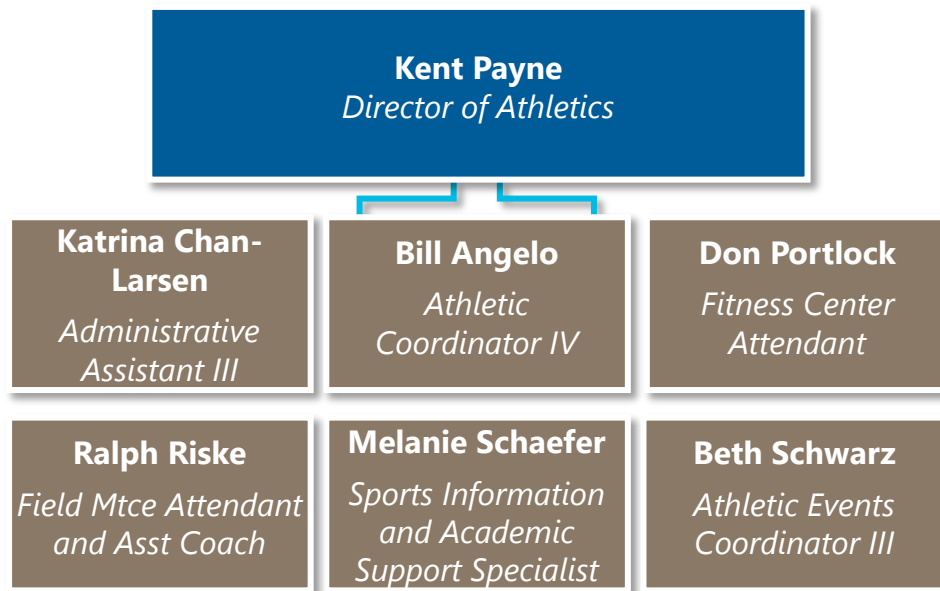
Student success is important to us! We continuously remind our students to take advantage of these resources and support systems available to them.



Athletics and Wellness

Our Athletic Department is a vital component of Elgin Community College. Our team comprises coaches, trainers, administrative staff and departments across campus. We all work together to develop and help athletes excel in both their chosen sports and academics. The Athletic Department also plays a crucial role in ensuring compliance with athletic regulations and managing recruitment processes.

Our Team



Athletic Awards

All-Illinois Skyway Collegiate Conference.

Our students earned a total of 14 awards. *This represents a 20% decrease from last year.*



All-Region

Our students earned four All-Region awards.

1 Men's Soccer	1 Men's Basketball
1 Women's Soccer	1 Volleyball

Academic Awards

(% changes from last year to this year.)

Fall 2022	Spring 2023
28 Honors List ▲ +12%	24 Honors List ▲ +33%
19 Dean's List ▲ +35%	18 Dean's List ▲ +28%
6 President's List ▼ -40%	9 President's List ▼ -10%

Academic All-Conference

29 First-Year Awards	10 Dick Durrant Awards
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Increase in Student-Athlete Grades

Students work closely with an assigned academic advisor in collaboration with the Athletics Academic Support Specialist to discuss academic concerns to ensure student athletes are successful with academic goals. We are happy to report that the average

grade point average increased from 2.23 in Fall 2022 to 2.53 in Fall 2023.

Approximately 50 student-athletes are continuing their college careers at four-year institutions. Currently, five are also continuing their athletic careers.

Board of Trustees Athletic Scholarship

There were 92 scholarships awarded in the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters totaling \$223,167.

Also, two students were each awarded a \$1700 scholarship from the **Elgin Sports Hall of Fame Foundation** for being outstanding student-athletes at ECC.

Successful Social Media

Each platform (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) continues to grow its audience.

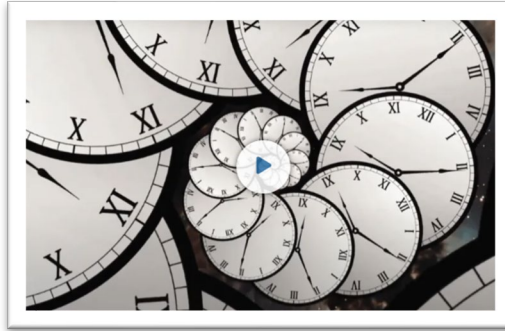
Facebook ▲ +36%

Instagram ▲ +37%

Twitter ▲ +50%

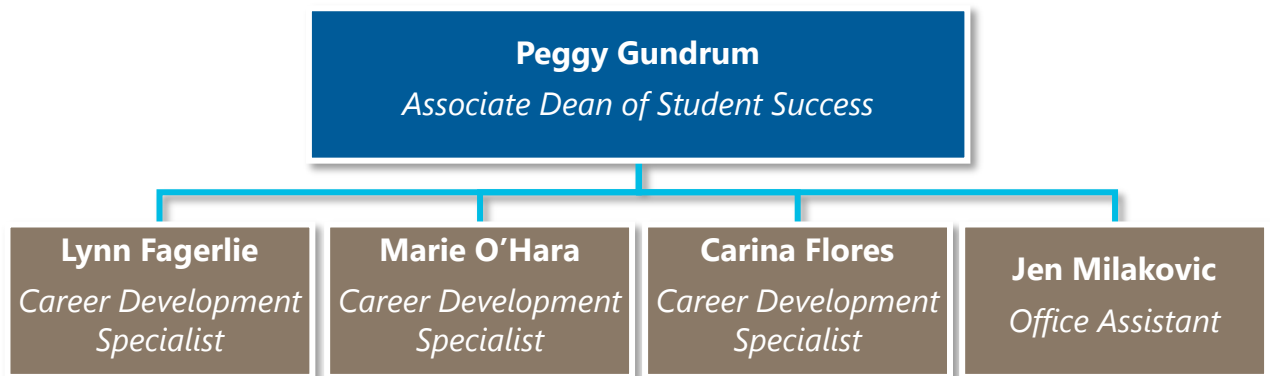
Career Development Services

Career Development Services (CDS) offers a variety of in-person and virtual services to help students choose a major, explore career options, define professional goals, help them with employment search and employability skills. A new video “How Career Development Services Can Help You” was created and is featured on our [webpage](#) to help students understand our services:



[How Career Development Services Can Help You](#)

Our Team



Our results

988
Appointments
▲ +51%

988 students were served in FY 2022-2023 through one-on-one appointments with a Career Development Specialist (CDS). (% change from last year to this year.) Our team consistently evaluates our programs and services. We are committed to providing students with the support and resources needed to

ensure they are on track toward achieving their academic and professional goals.

Choosing a Major and Career Exploration



Career Development Specialists (CDS) provides each student a personalized 50-minute appointment. Students identify where they are in the career development process, discover opportunities and barriers and locate resources and sources of career information. The specialist works with the student in determining next steps and a plan to achieve their goals.

Career Assessment Package (CAP)



Unique to ECC is the offering of two career assessments utilized in career counseling. The Myers-Briggs type indicator (MBTI) and Strong Interest Inventory (SII) are offered, along with career counseling, in a CAP session. The interpretation of both career assessments is typically completed in 2-4 appointments. Students leave with a good understanding of their personalities and interests and how they align with a career/major choice, and are invited to attend additional career counseling after the CAP interpretation sessions.

The cost of the MBTI and SII is considerably lower than other community colleges in the area. Also unique to ECC, the CAP is offered to District 509 high school juniors and seniors.

Employability Skills

Career Development Specialists work with students on building a winning resume, mastering the interview and finding the job that's a good fit for them.

Classrooms Presentations

The classroom presentation, *Professionalism in the Workplace: Employability Skills*, was requested and piloted in a Health Professions class. The presentation covers what it means to conduct oneself professionally, with responsibility, integrity, accountability,

and excellence. Students as well as faculty appreciated the presentations. See a breakdown of presentations:

47 Presentations ▲ +6%		
15 Resumes	12 Career Exploration	7 Interviewing Skills
6 ePortfolio	6 LinkedIn	1 Professionalism

Professionalism Presentation Student feedback

(I learned) how much interpersonal communication matters.

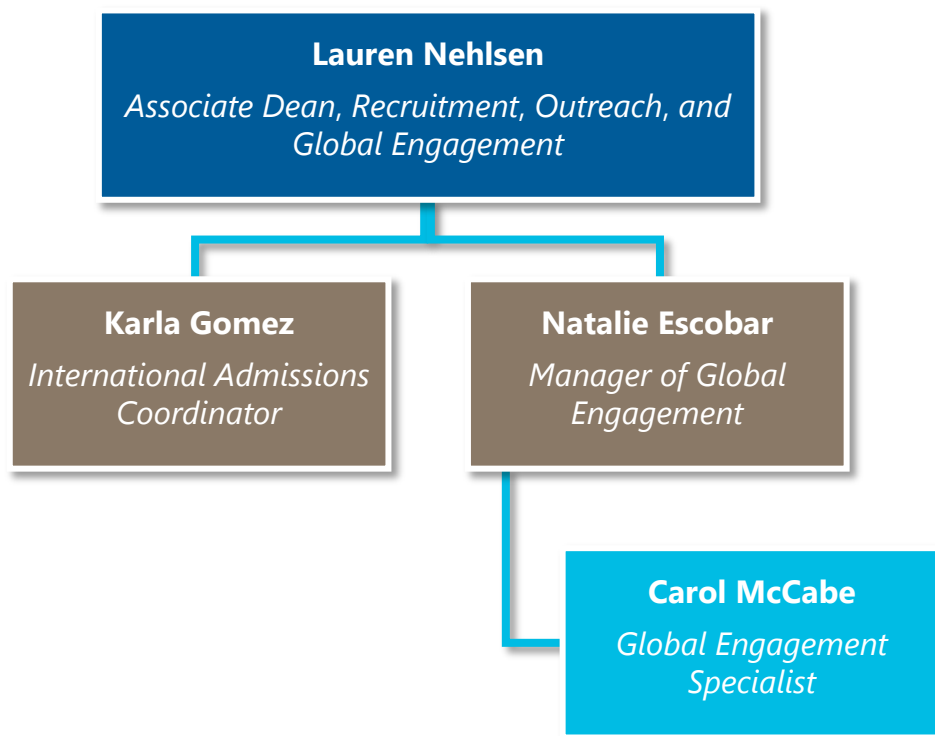
(I liked) the examples of professionalism in the workplace; there was good conversation of things that might happen in the workplace.

I feel like the scenarios were helpful because they displayed examples of unprofessionalism that we probably never thought were unprofessional.

Center for Global Engagement

The Global Engagement program welcomes students from more than 25 different countries who are seeking to either earn a degree and transfer to a four-year university or improve their language skills. This program offers a supportive and inclusive environment for international students. Students are provided with the resources and guidance they need to succeed academically and culturally. Through various initiatives and activities, the Global Engagement program aims to foster cross-cultural understanding and promote global citizenship among our diverse student body.

Our Team



Reorganization and Hiring of New Staff

To better serve our students, the CGE created a Manager of Global Engagement and a Global Engagement Specialist positions.

Highlights and Accomplishments

The Center for Global Engagement comprises three distinct units:

- International Student and Scholar Services
- International Student Homestay Program
- Education Abroad

All units work interdependently to provide internationally-focused educational experiences that prepare students in Community College District 509 to live in a global society.

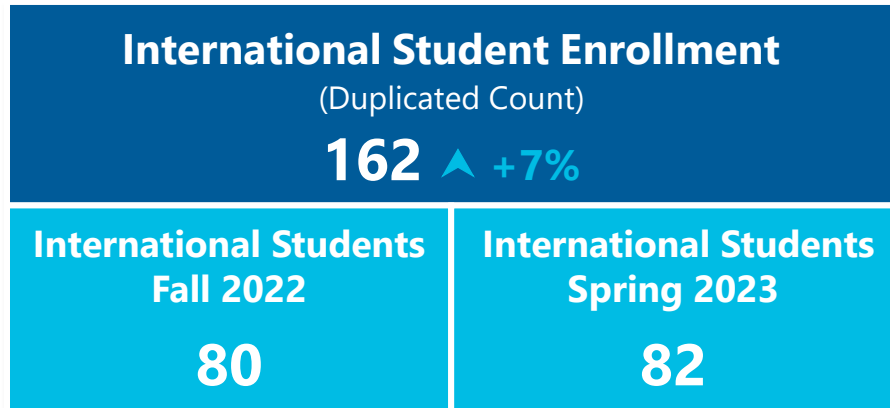
International Student and Scholar Services

International student recruitment activities increased in FY 2023. As part of the International Strategic Enrollment Plan (2021-2024), the department prioritized strengthening

partnerships with international partners in target markets, increasing participation in educational fairs, increasing digital marketing and virtual recruitment efforts, exploring domestic recruitment opportunities with international schools, advocate for institutional

funding for new international student scholarships, and increase student-focused events to better engage the current international student population.

International students are required to attend a mandatory orientation on campus at the start of each semester. A luncheon was provided for new and current students.



Students developed friendships and had peer-to-peer interactions to learn about each other and life on ECC campus.

The college was also the recipient of a \$10,000 Sir Cyril Taylor Memorial Scholarship for Study in the US award to enroll underrepresented or disadvantaged students from the United Kingdom. A key criterion will be that students must self-identify as economically, socially or educationally disadvantaged. ECC was one of only 10 US institutions to receive this prestigious scholarship award.

International Student Homestay Program

25
Host Families
▼-7%

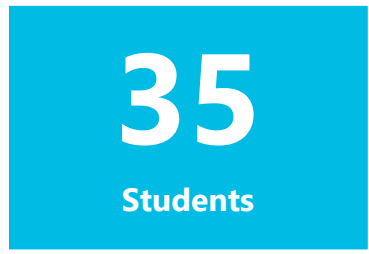
The International Student Homestay Program continues to provide safe and affordable

housing for international students in the local community. There are 25 host families who participate in the program. *(% change is from last year to this year.)*

The host and student homestay agreement has been revised to improve participants' experiences. Short-term placements have also been eliminated, as they took away placements for long-term students. Overall, we had 11 students participate in the program this year.



Education Abroad



More than 35 ECC students studied abroad to Costa Rica - England, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Spain and other countries.

Urbania, Italy - Pilot Program

Dr. David Zacker, Humanities Professor led a summer study abroad pilot program with 11 students to learn the Italian language and culture through courses and cultural activities. in Urbania, Italy.

Student feedback on the pilot program was overwhelmingly positive:

"I met people from across the ocean who shared the same hopes, fears, and passions as I did. In my day-to-day life, I found myself participating in school events, local events, and even participating in a few cultural events, giving me a chance to be a part of a community during my time here and gain a whole new perspective on life."

"I feel like this allowed me to understand different aspects of myself much more than I had previously recognized. I got out everything that I wanted to from this program and more!"

Illinois Consortium for International Studies

Our department provided four ECC faculty support in applying and obtaining faculty liaison roles through the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs (ICISP).

- Ginger Alms, associate professor of English, went to Carlow, Ireland
- Maureen Gray, PhD, instructor of psychology, led students to San Jose, Costa Rica
- Travis Linville, professor of photography, went to Dijon, France
- David Zacker, PhD, professor of humanities, led the ECC trip to Urbania, Italy.

These experiences provide excellent transformative experiences for faculty that can help infuse the curriculum and the classroom with international content and literacy.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Our Financial Aid Department provides financial assistance to students in need. Our department aims to ensure that all students have access to the necessary resources and funding to pursue their academic goals. We understand that the cost of education can be a barrier for many students. Therefore, we strive to provide opportunities for scholarships that can help alleviate the financial burden. Our goal is to empower students to succeed by offering comprehensive financial aid options and personalized guidance throughout the application process.

Our Team



Highlights and Accomplishments

We provided parents and students with information regarding state and federal grants, scholarships, student loans and student employment. Students also receive assistance completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the Retention of Illinois Students and Equity Application which allows eligible undocumented students to apply for state financial aid, as well as how to apply for scholarships.

Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds were also offered to students throughout the year to help pay for educationally related expenses.

Student Loans

Students interested in borrowing a student loan must meet with a financial aid advisor to help them understand the rights and responsibilities associated with borrowing, such as repayment terms, interest rates, and loan limits. We are happy to help students make informed decisions about their financial future.

Since implementing mandatory individual loan counseling in 2010 we have:

- Decreased the number of students borrowing student loans by 82%.
- Decreased the total amount borrowed by 78%; and
- Decreased the cohort default rate from over 20% to 2.5%.

The U.S. Department of Education publishes cohort default rates based on the percentage of school's borrowers who default within a specified period-of-time after entering repayment. Colleges with high CDRs may lose future eligibility for federal grants and loans.

ECC's cohort default rate has gone from as high as 20.5% in FY 2011 to 2.5% in FY 2019.

- Note: The ECC's federal student loan default rate has decreased to 0.0% as of the most recently published data from the Department of Education on September 25, 2023 for FY20. This rate has been impacted by the pause on federal student loan payments that began in March 2020. At present the national student loan default rate is also 0.0%.

Financial Aid Awareness and Financial Literacy programs

Presentations

▲ +23%

The Financial Aid Office hosts financial aid awareness programs ECC for ECC students and the community. Also, presentations and FAFSA workshops are conducted at high school financial aid nights. The

Game of Life is also held at ECC during the fall semester and upon request. The program is designed to teach students budgeting concepts and how to make sound financial decisions.

Financial Aid - Scholarships

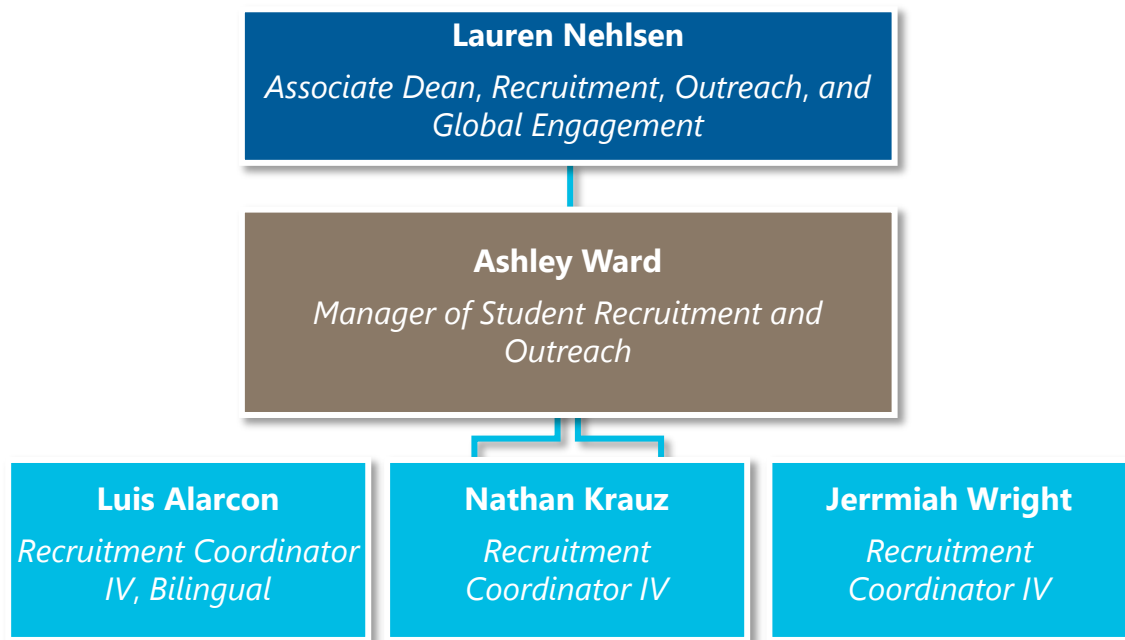
- The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund: A total of \$14,378,648 has been awarded and disbursed to 14,061 students through June 30, 2023.

- The Board of Trustees Athletic Scholarship was offered for the second year. A total of \$221,698 to 92 students was awarded.
- The new Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship (ECACE), Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS), and PATH grants were awarded, totaling \$650,382.09.
- Three new grants were adopted and awarded: Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship (ECACE) in 2021, and the Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) and Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce Grant.
- Foundation Scholarship funds awarded in FY 2022-2023 totaled over \$356,000 and were received by 330 students.
- Individual loan counseling has successfully reduced both the number of students borrowing loans and the total dollar amount borrowed. The number of students borrowing loans has decreased by 82%, from 1,870 students in 2010-11 to 342 students in FY 2022-2023. The total dollar amount borrowed has decreased by 78% from \$6,669,966 in 2010-11 to \$1,477,254 in FY 2022-23.

Recruitment and Outreach Services

The Recruitment and Outreach Department is responsible for reaching out to potential students, raising awareness about educational opportunities, and enrolling students. Staff work on developing strategies and implementing campaigns to attract a diverse range of students. In addition, staff collaborate with schools, community organizations, and other stakeholders to promote education and provide information about ECC' programs and benefits. Our goal is to ensure that students are aware of the available opportunities and have access to necessary resources for enrollment.

Our Team



Highlights and Accomplishments

The Recruitment and Outreach Services department, a unit of the Office of Admissions and Recruitment, contributes to the mission of the College by providing information and resources for students to enroll at the institution and improve their lives through learning. During the FY 2022-2023 academic year, the department increased outreach and engagement efforts to better meet the needs of the community and students. From these efforts, the department met with over 4,600 students and their families and held over 127 offsite high school events.

High School Classroom Visits

The department increased offsite high school visits and partnered with high schools to create customized presentations focused on associate degree programs, career and technical education, completing the enrollment process and scholarships. Through these presentations, students were able to meet with professional staff from departments such as TRiO and Financial Aid in the comfort of their home school and experience a more personalized pathway to post-secondary education. These visits have been well received and many high schools have requested additional visits for the upcoming year.

Middle School Fridays

1200+
Students Visited ECC

Middle School Fridays returned during the FY 2022-2023 academic year, and students from across District 509 had the opportunity to visit campus for the first time since COVID. For many middle school students, this was their first exposure to a college campus experience. More than 1,200 students from eleven different middle schools attended Middle School Fridays where they learned about

college readiness and career paths, how college can be an affordable option after high school and why a postsecondary credential is important. Students received a customized campus tour, including a behind the scenes look at ECC CTE programs guided by Phi Theta Kappa members and volunteers.

Experience ECC

350+
Participants



ECC held its first in-person Experience ECC Open House since 2019 with renewed energy and vigor.

The event was the largest attended open house in the last five years. Students and their families had the opportunity to meet with faculty to discuss programs of interest,

engage with student support departments to learn about resources and services. They also learned how to apply and navigate the enrollment process. The event also included campus tours to various areas of the College including Health Professions, Early Childhood Lab School, Culinary Arts, Career and Technical Education and ECC's main campus.

College Night

329
Attendees

As a host site for the annual Illinois Regional College Fair,

ECC hosted 161 colleges and universities from across the country to meet with students in the community to assist them in their educational journeys. College Night is one of the largest events hosted at ECC for the community and more than 329 students attended throughout the evening. This event provides students with the opportunity to visit their school minutes away from home.



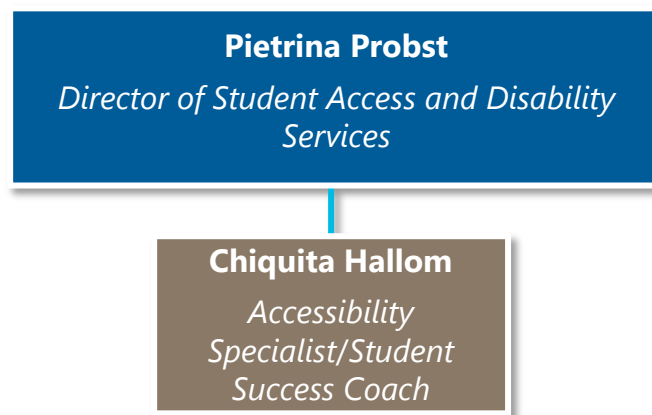
PATH

In 2022, the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) awarded funds to ECC for The Pipeline for the Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce Program (PATH) to create and expand opportunities for individuals in select pathways to obtain or enhance their credentials and degrees in healthcare. Through this funding, ECC hired a community-based outreach assistant to recruit and assist students through the enrollment process. Students received tuition assistance, personalized support, and wrap-around services to help them succeed in the PATH-eligible programs.

Student Access and Disability Services

Our department aims to provide support and accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure equal access to education. We collaborate with students, staff, and faculty to identify and implement appropriate accommodations that meet the individual needs of each student. The goal is to create an inclusive learning environment where all students can thrive academically and personally.

Our Team



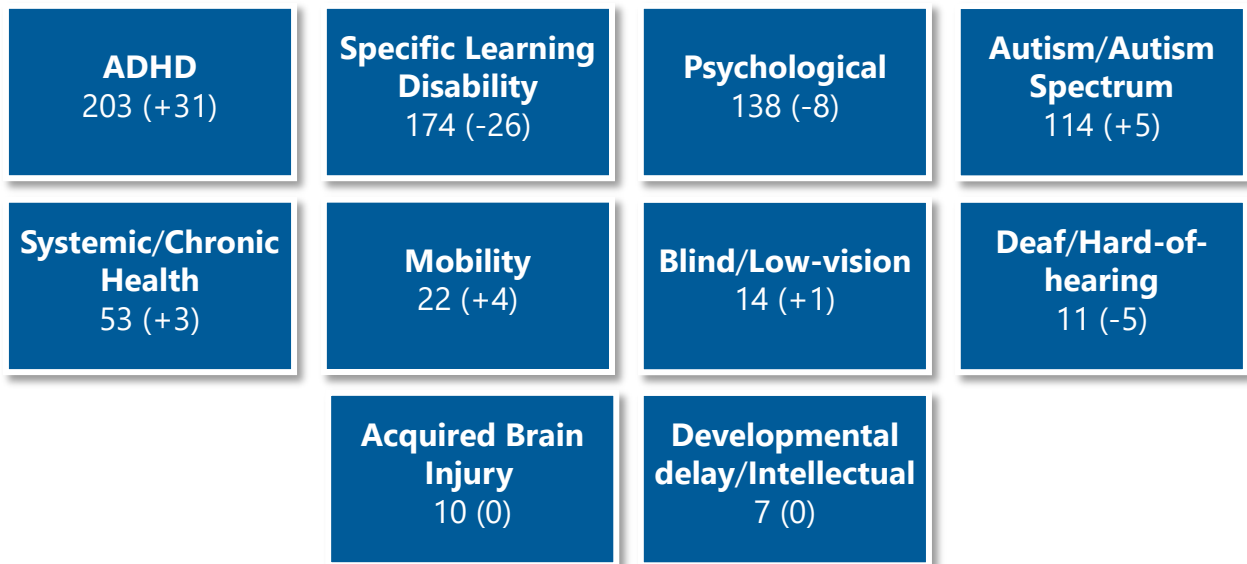
Increase in the Number of Students

81+
Registered Students
since 2017

Since FY 2017, the total number of students with disabilities who are registered with the Student Access and Disability Services office has increased from 669 in FY 2016-2017 to 750 in FY 2022-2023. This growing number of students receive accommodations based on their needs, including accessible textbooks, sign language interpreters, note taking services, extra time on testing, readers/scribes for testing, minimum-distraction testing environment, assistive technology, etc. In response to the increasing number of students requesting accessibility accommodations, the College has adopted a 5-year accessibility plan to improve communications, enhance learning, and review accessibility standards.

Primary Diagnosis Category

There has been an increase in almost every disability category for FY 2022-2023. Following is the number of students with each diagnosis, followed by the change from the previous year.



Accessibility Specialist/Success Coach Program

133
Appointments

their success.

Our Accessibility Specialist/Success Coach met 133 times with students to provide coaching on college success skills (e.g., time management, study strategies, self-advocacy, etc.). Survey data revealed that 80% of coached students agreed or strongly agreed that the coaching positively impacted their experience at ECC, and 80% of coached students utilized the appropriate resources for

ADAPT Club Events



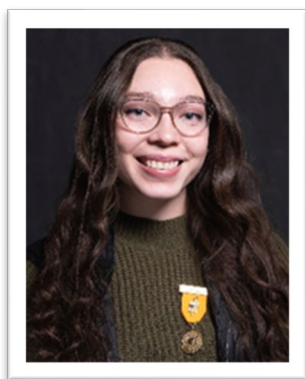
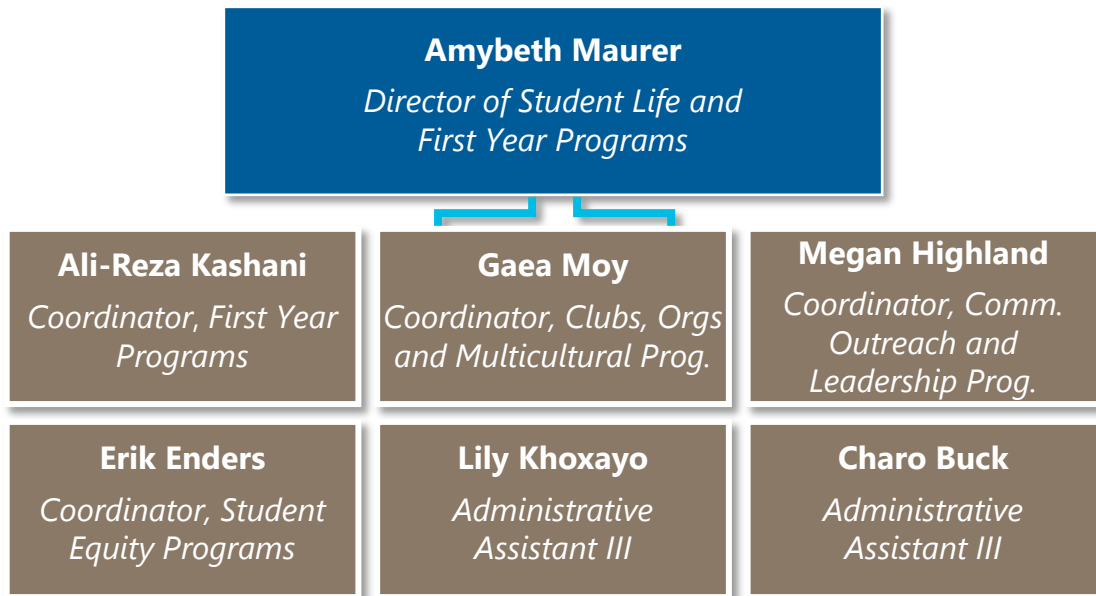
The ADAPT Club—a student club dedicated to building a community of students with and without disabilities, creating a culture of inclusion, and advocating for accessibility—hosted the Smiles for Seniors event at which students created over 100 Valentine’s Day cards that were distributed to senior citizen centers in the community.

In collaboration with the LatinX Heritage Committee and the ADAPT Club, the Student Access and Disability Services office invited author Pascuala Herrera to share her experiences as a Mexican immigrant woman with a physical disability for the “Not Always a Valley of Tears” event, which attracted over 50 attendees.

Student Life and First Year Programs

Student Life offers and organizes various clubs and organizations and events to bring students together and help foster a sense of community. Through clubs, students connect with like-minded individuals who share similar interests and passions. In addition, Student Life offers leadership development programs to help students grow personally and professionally. Overall, Student Life strives to create a supportive and engaging environment where students can feel connected, develop leadership skills, and actively participate in the community around them.

Our Team



"By getting involved on campus through Student Life, I was able to make valuable connections with others and build strong leadership skills. Since joining an organization at ECC, I was selected as a silver PTK Coca-Cola academic team scholar and earned a full-tuition scholarship to my dream university at Elmhurst through the honors program. Involving myself in student life opportunities at ECC has allowed me to branch out and achieve goals I didn't think were possible in the short time I was a student there."

-Elizabeth Barnes

Our Results

19,027
Student interactions

Our team seeks qualitative and quantitative feedback from students to ensure our programming is meeting their needs. We measure satisfaction, attendance, and how outcomes are being met. In the 2022-2023 academic year, there were 19,027 student interactions with Student Life and First Year Programs. Our impact:

22.5% Completed Online Orientation

4.8% Participated in a Multicultural Activity

2.3% Participated in a Service Activity

6.3% Received general assistance

64% Participated in a Student Life Activity *not inclusive of Multicultural and Service activities*

**The number of participants may reflect a duplicated head count.*

MyECC Experience Mobile Application

In an effort to engage more students and serve their interests better, Student Life and First Year programs spent a good portion of FY23 developing an Engagement Mobile



Application, MyECC, for student use which launched in June 2023. **MyECC Experience** is Elgin Community College's official mobile app. Connect to all things ECC anytime, anywhere! This app is designed to enrich student's education and provide you with a personalized experience that provides access to student activities, events, and resources you use most often. We have had 686 installs as of July 2023.

Student Clubs and Organizations

Students who join a club/organization develop leadership skills, networking opportunities, build a sense of community enhance resumes and explore new interests. We are proud to have a vibrant Student Life where students explore their interests, develop important skills and connect with a diverse community. (% change is from last year to this year.)



Spartan Pantry



The Spartan Pantry continues to be a valuable resource for students to utilize whether they need a quick snack/lunch or groceries for the week. The Spartan Pantry’s strong relationships with the Sherman Hospital Community Garden and Northern Illinois Food Bank has helped provide fresh produce for the pantry and its patrons, resulting in a 71% increase in visits for the fiscal year, up to 4,536 in 2023 from 1,282 in 2022.

Board of Trustee Scholarships

ECC Board of Trustees provide a scholarship for students graduating in the top 10% or 20% of their high school graduating class. To renew their scholarship each semester, scholarship recipients must maintain a certain GPA and credit enrollment requirements, in addition to completing a certain number of civic engagement and leadership opportunities on campus.

Fall 2022 Trustee Scholar Data	Spring 2023 Trustee Scholar Data
49 Trustee Scholars	41 Trustee Scholars
375 Civic Engagement Experiences	315 Civic Engagement Experiences

Student Success Coaching

ECC Student Success Coaches serve as dedicated support specialists, offering personalized, proactive, and comprehensive support to students. Their primary goal is to enhance student persistence and retention rates by nurturing supportive relationships aimed at guiding students towards the attainment of their educational goals. Success coaches play a crucial role in addressing equity gaps

Our Team

Peggy Gundrum

Associate Dean of Student Success

Evelyn Lozano

Success Coach



Victor Brito

Success Coach

Our Highlights

758 Appointments ▲ +63%

In-person: 87%, Virtual 10%, Phone 3%

Student Success Coaches helped students most often with...

**Academic Skill
Development**

**Identifying and
Leveraging Resources**

Time management

(% change is from last year to this year.)

Demographics of Who We Served

Gender	Race/Ethnicity
• 35% Male	• 3% Asian/Pacific Islander
• 65% Female	• 1% American Indian or Alaskan Native
Age Range	• 15% Black/African American
• 82% 17-22 y.o.	• 60% Hispanic/Latino
• 10% 23-29 y.o.	• 9% White
• 8% 30 y.o. and above	• 9% Unknown/Two or More

Workshops and Tabling Events

ESL Confidence Building Support Group

This group provided a secure and welcoming space for students to overcome their fear of being judged and improve their English language skills by engaging in discussion and interactive activities. - 8 Students in attendance.

Tabling Events

- Time Management (two events) – 0 and 2 Students in Attendance
- How to Read a Syllabus – 2 Students in attendance
- Staying Organized – 1 Student in attendance
- Stress Management and Midterm Review – 2 Students in attendance
- Preparing for Finals and Test Anxiety – 0 Students in attendance

Desire2Learn (D2L) Modules on this Online Learning Platform

Learning modules were created on ECC's learning management system, Desire2Learn (D2L) to provide resources for students who are unable to meet face-to-face with a success coach. Modules are available 24/7 and include: Goal setting, time management, motivational Ted talks, transfer, FAQ's, Cornell Note Taking, Google calendar, transportation, and other resourceful information. Of the 665 students who had access to the D2L Modules, 467 students actively made use of the available resources.

College Collaboration -LTC 099

Success coaches were embedded in three sections of LTC 099 College Literacy course, where they offered support to students. LTC 099 is a pre-college level course that teaches students literacy skills using literacy tasks (reading, writing, thinking, speaking, and listening) to make meaning of college level texts. Faculty members have emphasized the tremendous value of the support provided by the coaches. Through a combination of class presentations and small group sessions, coaches assist students with time management, organizational skills, study strategies, security appropriate resources, building self-efficacy and general stress and coping skills.

Student Feedback:

I never really focused on managing my time I just like doing things as they came and never really wanted to pay attention to it but now that college started and we have been reading all these articles all of them are helpful in different aspects but for me that has been very helpful because now I write the things i have to do in the day sometimes not everything but I keep in mind those things but i try to set like little timers for everything i do whether is to do homework or do something like cut the grass little things throughout the day and so far it can become a little complicated at times because like i said before this was very new to me but I think time management is the biggest one.

First thing I want to talk about is time management and how it has changed my entire life. In my opinion time management is very important to have in our lives. Time management changed me and my life. Now I am so organized and I follow my schedule so that I can get through my day successfully.

Testing Services

The Testing Center is responsible for administering and overseeing various tests and assessments for incoming and current students. Overall, the testing department plays a crucial role in ensuring fair and accurate assessment for all students at ECC.

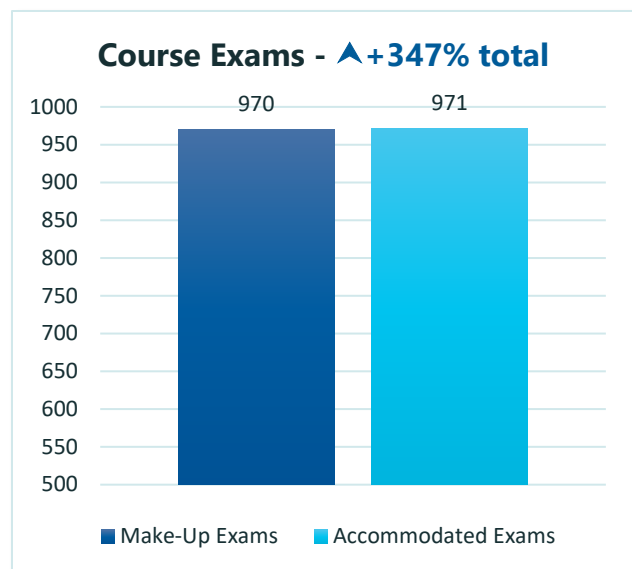
Our Team



Tests Offered in FY 2022-2023

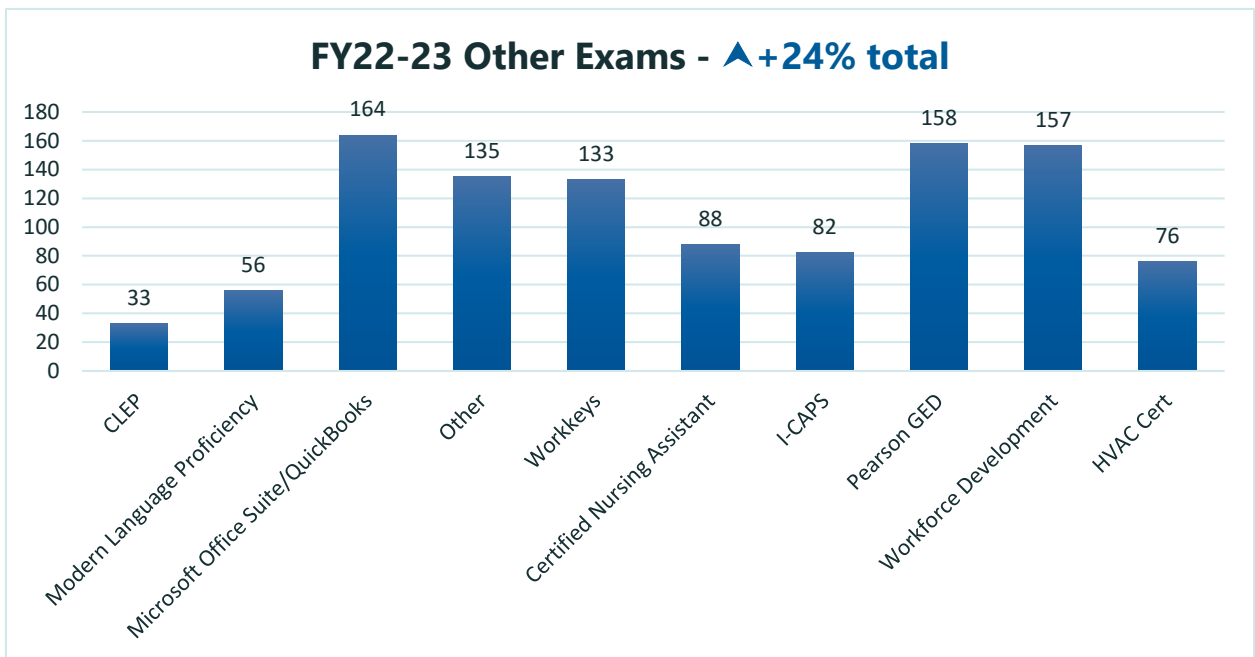
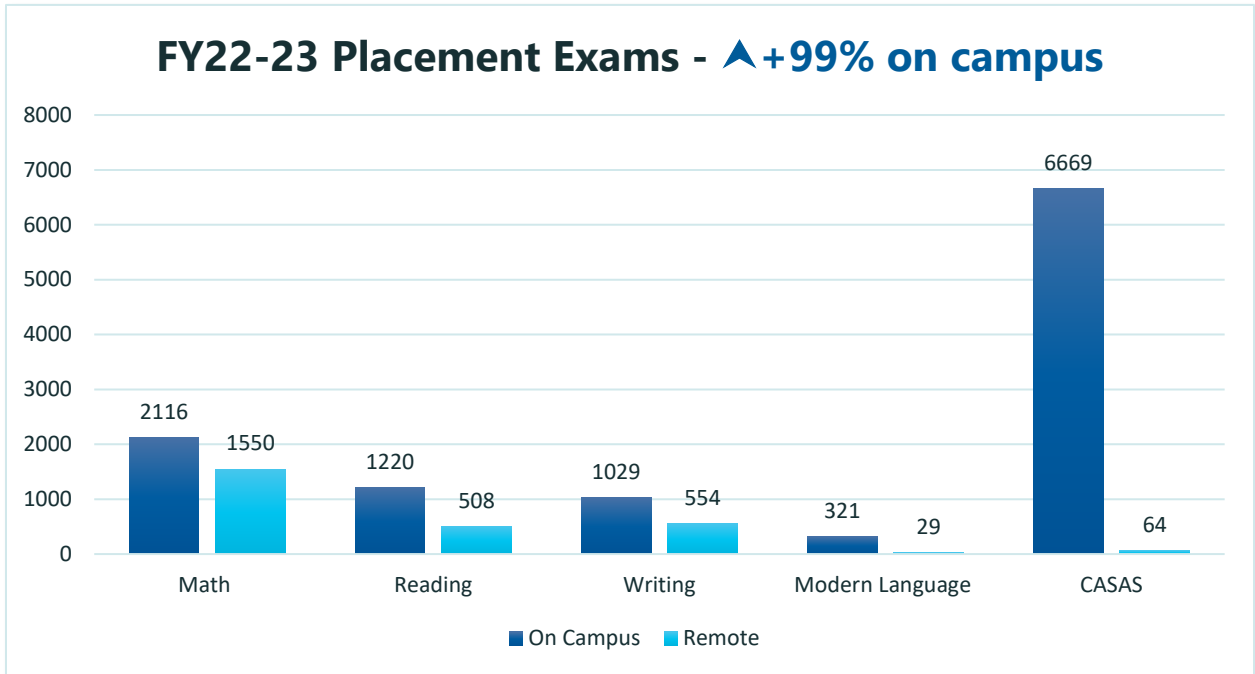
Testing Services provides a variety of tests for students and community members, including:

- Placement Testing
- CASAS Testing, for ABEC, I-CAPS and WIOA programs
- Course Exams: The office provides proctoring for ECC student course exams for students who are unable to take their exams during class time and for those that have



accommodation needs. These exams are administered as paper-based and/or computer-based exams.

- PearsonVUE GED and other subjects of certification
- Certification and Proficiency
 - The Testing Center offers a variety of certification exams for both students and the public as well as proficiency examinations for college credit. This includes the proctoring and score maintenance for the CLEP exam.



Changes and Initiatives in 2022–2023

Staffing

- Samantha D'Alessandro onboarded in August 2022 as the new Director.
- Laura Aleman Guzman onboarded in May 2023 as an Enrollment Services Coordinator.
- Weekly staff meetings were revamped by the new director with a focus on collaboration and ongoing training. This has resulted in less error in test administration and score reporting as staff are trained and informed regularly and consistently.
- Staff use of Microsoft Teams to communicate with each other from various parts of the Testing Center. This has enhanced the flow of communication and ease of check-in/out, scheduling breaks, etc.

Innovative Enhancements

- The Testing Center implemented voice-to-voice language translation for students with the aid of a smart-device as a replacement for computer-typed and displayed translation. This has increased accessibility for testers.
- Elimination of the PSB exam for health professions/emergency management admissions requirements as the exam was nationally closed.
- The Writing Placement exam has been reconfigured, with additional prompts and a new essay process for students. This new process has increased student satisfaction and has reduced technical issues.
- Increased outreach specifically to encourage students to retest on math placement exams.

Cross-Departmental Collaborations

- A shared calendar and monthly meetings have strengthened the partnership between the Testing Center and Adult Basic Education Center.
- Administrative Procedure 4.404- Placement Test Appeals has been revised. The recommended change would call for departmental admins/deans to make decisions

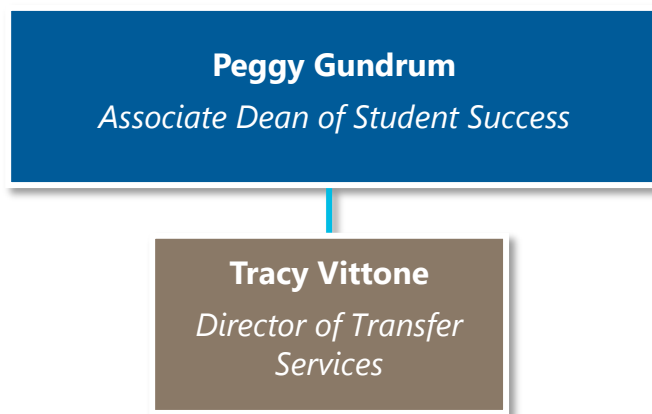
regarding placement test appeals instead of just the instructional coordinators in that division. This will minimize decision delays when coordinators are unavailable.

- The Testing Center partners with the ECC Dual Credit program to provide both on-campus and virtual placement testing for Dual Credit applicants/students. In FY 2022-2023, testing increased with the increase in dual credit enrollment and saw a desire for schools to return to on-campus testing for applicants. The Testing Center assists with scheduling these students as well as procuring BPOs from Facilities Rental for the visiting schools to have space for the large groups.
- The Testing Center created accounts for the staff of Student Access and Disability Services Department (ADS) to have their own access to RegisterBlast, which is the software used for scheduling an exam. This has allowed the ADS office to schedule more quickly and accurately without having to request that the testing staff does all scheduling, reducing wait times and access barriers. Weekly appointments with the ADS office are reviewed for special testing arrangements, such as the scheduling of private rooms
- The ADS department and Testing Services gained a doorway between the two offices and direct computer access to the ADS private testing room computer. This allows the testing center staff to proctor exams in the ADS private testing room, which in turn makes the room more available for use at times that the ADS staff is unavailable, further reducing barriers for testers with accommodations.
- ADS and Testing have a shared space on Microsoft Teams for chat and file sharing. The chat feature allows quick communication between departments, which is especially important for ADS as their staff is located in various areas of the college. Shared files allow staff from both offices to track real-time information for students, eliminating most clerical errors and round-about processes for students.

Transfer Services

[Transfer Services](#) provides resources to assist students interested in continuing their education beyond the Associate's degree. Resources include developing partnerships with four-year institutions, providing campus visits to many of ECC's top transfer destinations, organizing college fairs and workshops, and collaborating with Academic Advising to share updates and resources to available ECC students.

Our Team



New Partnerships

- ECC has **two** new [University Transfer degree](#) partnerships for students to choose from when planning to transfer. Students who meet academic and admission requirements are guaranteed admission to Beloit College, located in Beloit, WI, and Trinity Christian College, located in Palos Heights, IL. Additional incentives for each partnership include transfer scholarship opportunities and access to transfer resources prior to transferring.
- ECC has formed **five** new four-year [Career & Technical degree partnerships](#) with Eastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University, North Park University, Roosevelt University, and Southern Illinois University. These partnerships enable ECC students who earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in the areas of Accounting, Business, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts and Hospitality, Fire Science and Safety, Medical Imaging, Music Production, Paralegal, and Supply Chain Management to seamlessly transition into bachelor's degree programs.

Continuing Partnership with Northern Illinois University (NIU)

- In 2023, The [Partnering to Lead and Empower District-Grown Educators \(PLEDGE\) program](#) had another 100% graduation rate with 18 new graduates (13 from underrepresented populations), earning their Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education with an ESL or Bilingual endorsement.
- A total of 64 students are currently enrolled in NIU’s Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education programs.

NIU PLEDGE Early Childhood Program, 2022-2023
17 Students First Year Cohort

NIU PLEDGE Elementary Education Program, 2022-2023
14 Students Fourth Year Cohort

Engineering Guaranteed Transfer

- Four ECC students completed the [Guaranteed Transfer Admission program](#) to the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign’s Grainger College of Engineering. This is the second graduating cohort to complete a prescribed Engineering Program of Study at ECC, earning a 3.5 cumulative GPA and all A’s and B’s in required technical courses.

Campus Visits

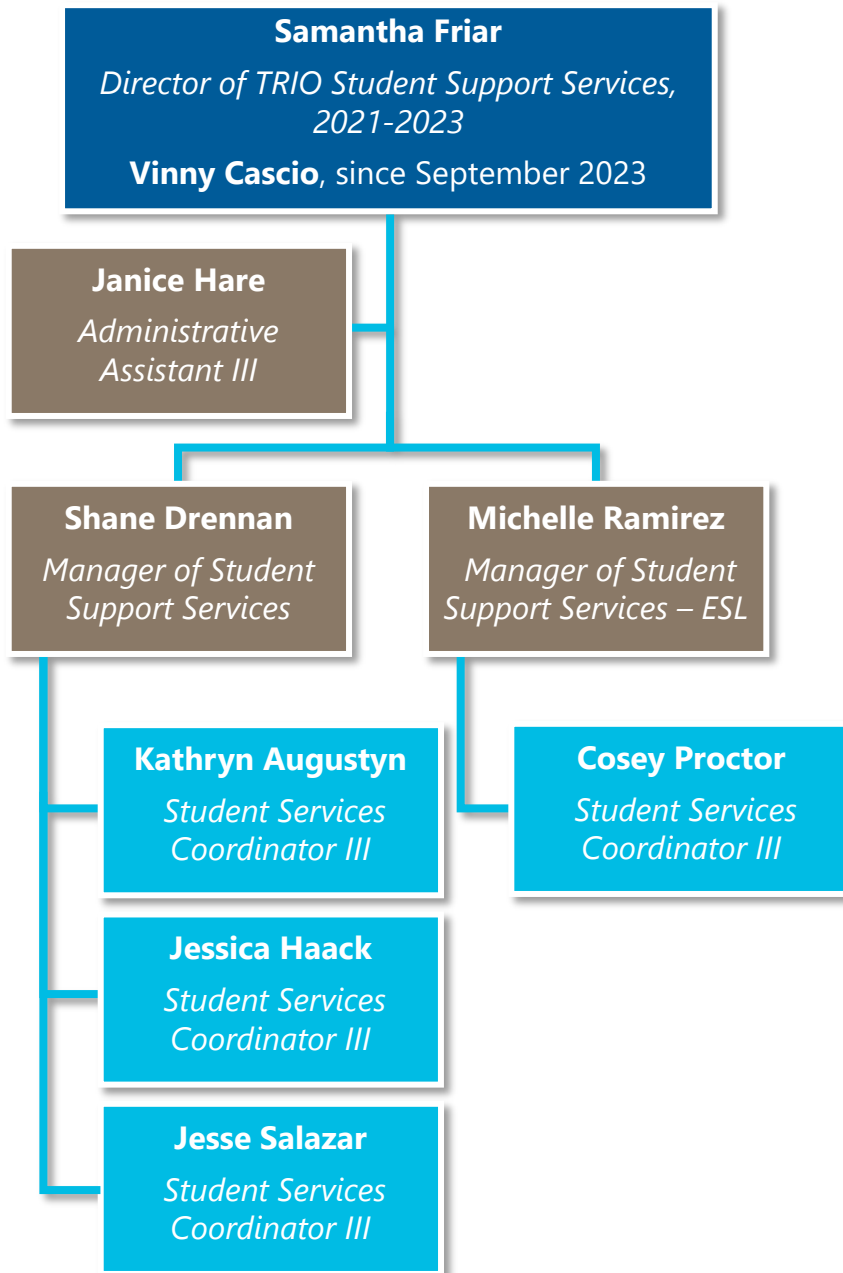
Transfer Services offered **two** campus visits to ECC’s top two four-year transfer destinations; Northern Illinois University and Illinois State University. Campus visit opportunities had been unavailable due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each campus visit included a presentation from the Admissions office, a student-led walking tour of campus, and lunch at an on-campus dining center. Chaperones for the campus visits included Academic Advisors and Student Success Coaches.



TRiO SSS and ESL

TRiO supports traditionally underrepresented students in their pursuit of a college education. TRiO SSS/ESL also supports eligible students whose second language is English and who are enrolled in college classes.

Our Team



Participant Highlights

TRiO Student Support Services SSS and ESL has made a significant impact on our program participants in FY 2022-2023. We have strategically designed campus tours locally and out of state to meet the academic needs of participants, while providing exposure to higher education institutions. These tours allow TRiO students to experience university environments outside of their communities. Participants in this space are able to connect with university staff and students to learn about the institution admission policies, financial aid supports, and the student experience.

Student Support Services	ESL Participants
39 Continuing	63 Continuing
161 New Participants	78 New Participants

Lion King in Chicago

In Fall of 2022, TRiO participants attended the Lion King Play at the Cadillac Theatre-Chicago, where over 30 participants were able to enjoy a theater and dining experience.

Student Feedback

"Just wanted to say thank you again to everyone, especially staff because I was in a rush. But thank you so much for the trip and taking care of all of us especially with specific dietary restrictions because it is a lot especially at this scale. And just wanted to say thank you to everyone!! Made a lot of new friends and beyond grateful to have an opportunity like this!! Thank you!!" -Yash Patel

"Trio helped me so much figuring out what path I wanted to take at ECC and to the next university. All staff made me feel supported and well guided. Thanks to everyone I was able to accomplish more than I expected." – Maricarmen Zuniga

"I recently received the Trio certificate of academic achievement in my mail and wanted to thank you and the Trio organization for the impact it had on me. Although it was short lived I really did enjoy our talk together and was proud to join the organization." - Sam Bonilla



Program Staff Highlights

This academic year, TRiO Student Support Services committed to an intentional 8-month professional development with the College's Professional and Organizational Development area (POD) to elevate our student services practices while meeting the academic needs of TRiO program participants. Additionally, the department director and managers engaged in a professional development opportunity with the POD, grounded in Peter Lencioni's Five Dysfunctions of a Team text. Following this, the department leadership team remains engrossed in monthly check-ins with the POD director on how the training components enhanced our leadership skills.

Veterans Services

ECC is proud to serve students who serve or served our country. Our Veteran Services Department is designed for military-connected students and it strives to provide academic support and resources. Our department provides personalized guidance and support to ensure our students are successful in their academic journey. Our goal is to create a supportive community where military-connected students are successful, have a sense of belonging, feel included and part of the college community. In addition, our staff connects students with veteran community care services.

Our Team



Service Highlights

Vet Chat

To improve student access to vital support services, the department launched a live chat option for students to utilize, allowing quick answers to questions or guidance to other resources. Our marketing and promoting efforts have been successful. Live chat usage increased in FY 2022-2023.

S.A.L.U.T.E. Veteran Honor Society

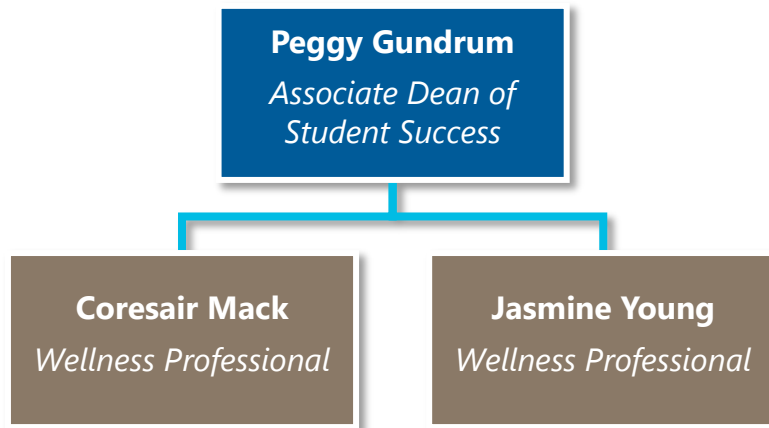
Service. Academics. Leadership. Unity. Tribute. Excellence. S.A.L.U.T.E is a national veterans honor society which seeks to acknowledge student veterans who continue to demonstrate the qualities consistent with United States military service. In May 2023, the Veteran Services Department inducted three (3) new members into the ranks, providing S.A.L.U.T.E. graduation cords and pins to be worn at ECC's graduation ceremony. Also, each of the inductees received a handmade Quilt of Valor donated by the Ladies from the Land of Lincoln organization.



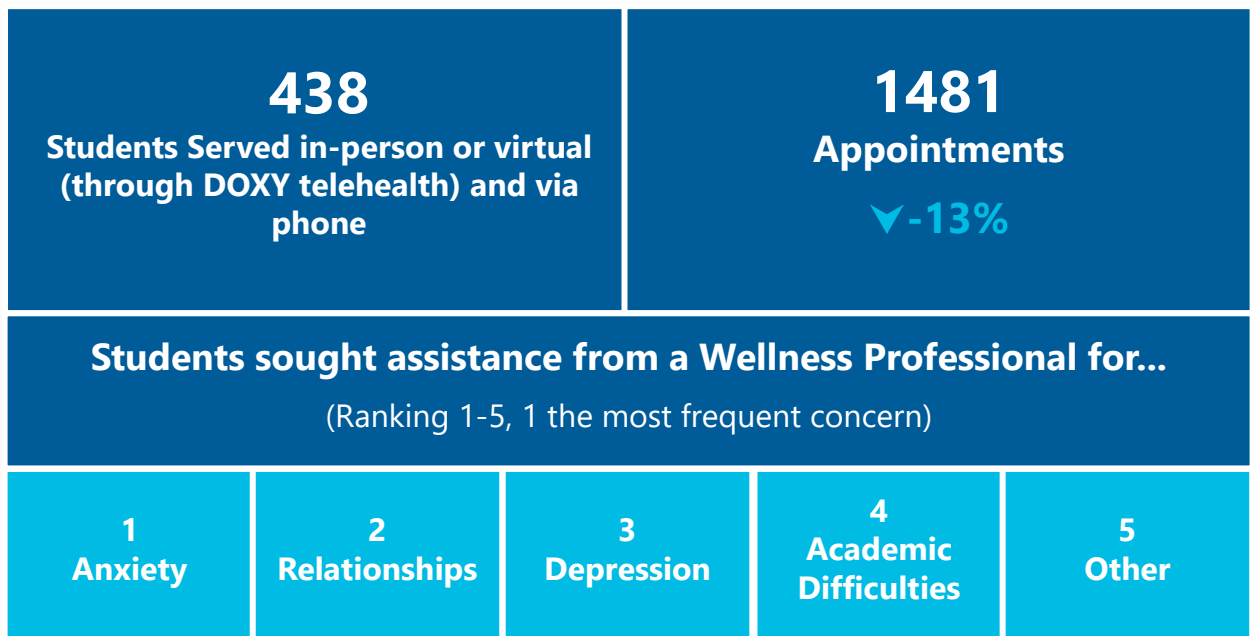
Wellness Services

Wellness Services supports students' learning and academic success by providing services that promote healthy attitudes and behaviors focusing on the eight dimensions of wellness: Environmental, emotional, financial, intellectual, occupational/academic, physical, social, and spiritual.

Our Team



Wellness Student Appointments



Student who seek Wellness Services fall into these demographics...

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • 49% Hispanic/Latino | • 8% Asian |
| • 26% White | • 2% American Indian or Alaskan Native |
| • 8% Black/African American | • 7% Unknown/Two or More |

Mental Health Screenings Available to Students

276
Screenings
▼ -27%

Accessible to students 24/7 via elgin.edu, Mindwise provides students access to confidential and clinically-validated screenings for a diverse array of behavioral health concerns. Upon completing an online assessment, students are guided towards tailored mental health support resources. (*% changes from last year to this year.*)

Raising Mental Health Awareness on Campus

Wellness Presentations

139
Presentations
▲ +5%

To address the prevalence of mental health concerns among college age students, Wellness Services extends an invitation to faculty to arrange



classroom presentations with the goal of informing students about the wide range of resources offered by Wellness Services. In addition to classroom presentations, faculty have the option to share a video presentation on their D2L page.

Library Collaboration

In partnership with the ECC library, a Wellness kiosk was prominently showcased to provide students access to a wide range of mental health and wellness resources.

CampusWell

Students receive CampusWell, a free online magazine, in their email inbox on a monthly basis. The fact-based informational content includes the latest updates on health and wellness for college students. Monthly topics range from substance use, study strategies, mental health, wellness, financial advice and much more.



Elgin Community College Student Services and Development embraces equity, diversity and inclusion. We are committed to work together to address barriers to success and promote a culture of inclusivity, compassion and mutual respect.

The design choices in this report were made to align with international accessibility standards.



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