**Section 2400.30 ICEOP Program Guidelines**

a) An ICEOP participating institution shall:

1) be an institution of higher education as defined in the Act;

2) actively recruit students who will be eligible for ICEOP awards and verify to the Consortium Board that applicants for ICEOP financial assistance meet all eligibility requirements;

3) maintain records for award recipients including program application materials, contracts and records of award payments;

4) provide award recipients with academic and support services, such as mentoring, counseling, and other activities that would enhance the chances for degree completion and success in achieving the goals of the program;

5) supervise payment of awards from the funds awarded by the Consortium Board;

6) collect, process and forward to the Consortium Board by March 1 of each year all new applications and renewal forms from eligible students; and

7) assist award recipients who complete their program of study in seeking a position in teaching or administration in an Illinois institution of higher learning or on an Illinois higher education governing board staff or a position as an employee of this State in an education related capacity which the Consortium Board determines to be education related. Such positions may include but shall not be limited to administrative positions in State elementary/secondary and higher education agencies.

b) For the applicant student to be eligible to participate in the ICEOP, the student shall establish and the applicable institution shall verify that the student applicant meets the following criteria:

1) *he or she is an Illinois resident;*

2) *he or she is a citizen or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States;*

3) *he or she is a member of a racial minority identified in the Act;*

4) *he or she has earned a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher learning;*

5) he or she has been admitted as a student pursuing a doctoral, master's, or postbaccalaureate professional degree and will pursue this degree objective at least as a half-time student, as defined by the institution;

6) he or she has signed an agreement to meet the Act's employment conditions if an ICEOP award is accepted;

7) *his or her financial resources are such that in the absence of a ICEOP grant the individual will be prevented from pursuing a graduate or professional degree at the institution; and*

8) *he or she has above-average academic ability to pursue a graduate or professional degree,* as evidenced by the following:

A) *completion of a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher learning* (Section 7 of the Illinois Consortium for Educational Opportunity Act (the Act), Ill. Rev. Stat. 1989, ch. 144, par. 2307);

B) minimum grade point average of C+ (2.75 on a grade scale of 4.00 = A) in the last 60 hours of undergraduate work; and

C) admission to a post-baccalaureate degree program at an ICEOP participating institution.

c) In order to maintain eligibility in the program and in order to be considered for subsequent ICEOP grants, an awardee must meet scholastic requirements and eligibility for financial assistance as required by the institution in which she or he is enrolled as an ICEOP participant.

(Source: Amended at 15 Ill. Reg. 10069, effective June 24, 1991)