



The Illinois Innovation Network is a system of connected university-community-industry-based hubs throughout the state that will work together to drive innovation along with economic and workforce development across Illinois.

Hubs will utilize a combination of research, public-private partnerships, entrepreneurship and workforce training programs to spur economic development in their region and across the state.

IIN hubs will both power and leverage the Chicago-based Discovery Partners Institute.

IIN PRINCIPLES

- Drive innovation, workforce development and economic growth throughout the state of Illinois
- Assess and meet regional needs through a combination of collaborative research, public-private partnerships, and entrepreneurship and training programs
- Collaborate with hubs across the state and share best practices
- Advocate for the value of higher education at the state and national levels

POTENTIAL IIN ACTIVITIES

- Collaborative research efforts or educational programs in conjunction with local businesses
- Access to resources like UI Extension or the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs based at WIU that can help grow and improve communities
- Collaborative courses and student boot camps on crucial topics like data science, artificial intelligence and entrepreneurship
- Joint efforts to secure research and outreach funding from external groups, leveraging the network's resources
- Workforce development initiatives including adult education, retraining and credentialing programs



ANNOUNCED IIN HUBS

- Discovery Partners Institute
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Illinois at Springfield
- Northern Illinois University
- Peoria Innovation Hub

Discussions are ongoing with all public universities in the state to become IIN hubs