

For immediate release.

Benedictine extends deadline for “Illinois Back to Work” registration

Lisle, Illinois ~ Illinois residents 25 years of age and older who have been unemployed for at least 18 months and have not already earned a bachelor's degree may qualify for Benedictine University's "Illinois Back to Work" program, which provides a free college education for the nation's hardest-hit unemployed.

Applications are being accepted until September 1 for select tuition-covered adult format undergraduate programs which begin in fall 2011.

“Benedictine University is taking an innovative approach to putting ‘Illinois Back to Work’ and I commend them for their effort to make college affordable for Illinoisans trying to retrain and return to the workforce,” U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) said. “I hope this program is a great success and can serve as a model for other states and universities.”

Tuition for adult undergraduate programs can cost as much as \$515 per credit hour depending on the program. However, after all eligible state and federal student aid is applied, Benedictine's "Illinois Back to Work" program will cover any remaining tuition and fees.

The program will be offered on the main campus in Lisle, at Benedictine's Moser Center for Adult and Professional Studies in Naperville and at the branch campus in Springfield.

Eligible Lisle adult undergraduate programs include a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance. Eligible Naperville programs include an Associate of Arts in Business Administration, a Bachelor of Arts in Management and a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership.

Eligible Springfield programs include an Associate of Arts in Business Administration, a Bachelor of Arts in Management, a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management and Organizational Behavior.

“We believe this program will give many people who are currently unemployed and who have little prospect for returning to work in their current situation greater job opportunities in the future,” said William J. Carroll, Ph.D., president of Benedictine University. “We want to help people get back to school and back to work.”

For more information or to get started, contact the Enrollment Center at admissions@ben.edu or (630) 829-6300.