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Illinois Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon begins tour of all 48 community colleges

By Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Illinois Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon is beginning a tour of all 48 community colleges in the state to promote college completion.

Simon observed a "college and career readiness" course at John A. Logan College in Carterville Thursday. It prepares local high school students for college-level work to reduce the amount of time students spend in remedial math and reading courses.

The Democrat announced last week that Illinois should work to increase its working-age population with college degrees to 60 percent by 2025, up from 41 percent today.

She says that will help Illinois retain a highly skilled workforce for future jobs.

Simon is Gov. Pat Quinn's education point person.