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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2012

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**CITY COUNCIL APPROVES NEW PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR HIRING
OF CITY COLLEGES GRADUATES**

Inter-Governmental Agreement With City Colleges Will Augment College to Careers Program

CHICAGO - The Chicago City Council today approved an innovative program introduced by Mayor Emanuel that will encourage the hiring of City Colleges graduates. The jobs will be created in conjunction with the City Colleges ambitious College to Careers program, and will help students in Health IT and other key fields – such as transportation, distribution, and logistics – enter the workforce.

“City Colleges will help train the next generation of workers who will carry Chicago’s economy to future successes,” said Mayor Emanuel. “This program will help us create jobs that are available immediately for graduates of the City Colleges.”

The first group of jobs through this program is scheduled to come from Allscripts, which provides electronic healthcare record solutions. Allscripts intends to add 40 more jobs to its Chicago office at the Merchandise Mart to help City Colleges graduates find immediate, consistent employment.

Allscripts has committed to train 40 new graduates from the City Colleges of Chicago and equip them to achieve their Health Information Technology (HIT) certification. At the same time, Allscripts will transition the employees to full-time employment – working in roles within the company’s services, support, and development organizations.



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The entry-level positions will allow students to transition directly into the workforce at the end of their studies. The City of Chicago has agreed to pay the salaries of the 40 employees for the first six months of their tenure using TIF surplus resources; after that Allscripts will take over their salaries.

“These are exactly the sort of jobs we are looking to create for Chicagoans,” said Mayor Emanuel. “These positions are on the front line of the growing field of Healthcare IT, and I am pleased that we can train Chicagoans and help them get these jobs of tomorrow.”

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