



WHEREAS, Illinois' universities are nationally ranked in the top 20 for Higher Education Research & Development in computer science; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is in the top five in the nation for the number of pre-baccalaureate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) completions; and,

WHEREAS, Chicago has been selected by the United States Economic Development Administration for the creation of a first-in-the-nation quantum information sciences tech hub; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is home to four of the ten national quantum centers, including two United States Department of Energy National Quantum Information Science Research Centers and two National Science Foundation Quantum Leap Challenge Institutes, and endeavors to develop a highly trained workforce capable of filling future quantum-based jobs in globally competitive companies and industries; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, announced in 2024 and located at the former US Steel South Works plant on Chicago's southeast side, will serve as a key driver in positioning Illinois as a global hub for quantum innovation, creating up to \$60 billion in economic impact and thousands of regional jobs; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT) promotes programming and outreach for the expansion of STEM-related initiatives, encourages STEM career exploration, and supports the delivery of free high-speed broadband for K-12 public schools through the Illinois Century Network; and,

WHEREAS, DoIT delivers statewide information technology and telecommunication services to more than 90 state government entities and is advancing the delivery of innovative tools, including the use of artificial intelligence and data analytics to support Illinois state agencies and residents;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as **Innovation and Technology Month** in Illinois to celebrate the work done by IT professionals statewide and to encourage communities and schools to explore this sector as a contributor both to the economy and workforce, for the growing opportunities in both innovation and technology.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-SEVENTH day of MARCH, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-FIVE, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and SIXTH.

Alexi Giannouch
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR