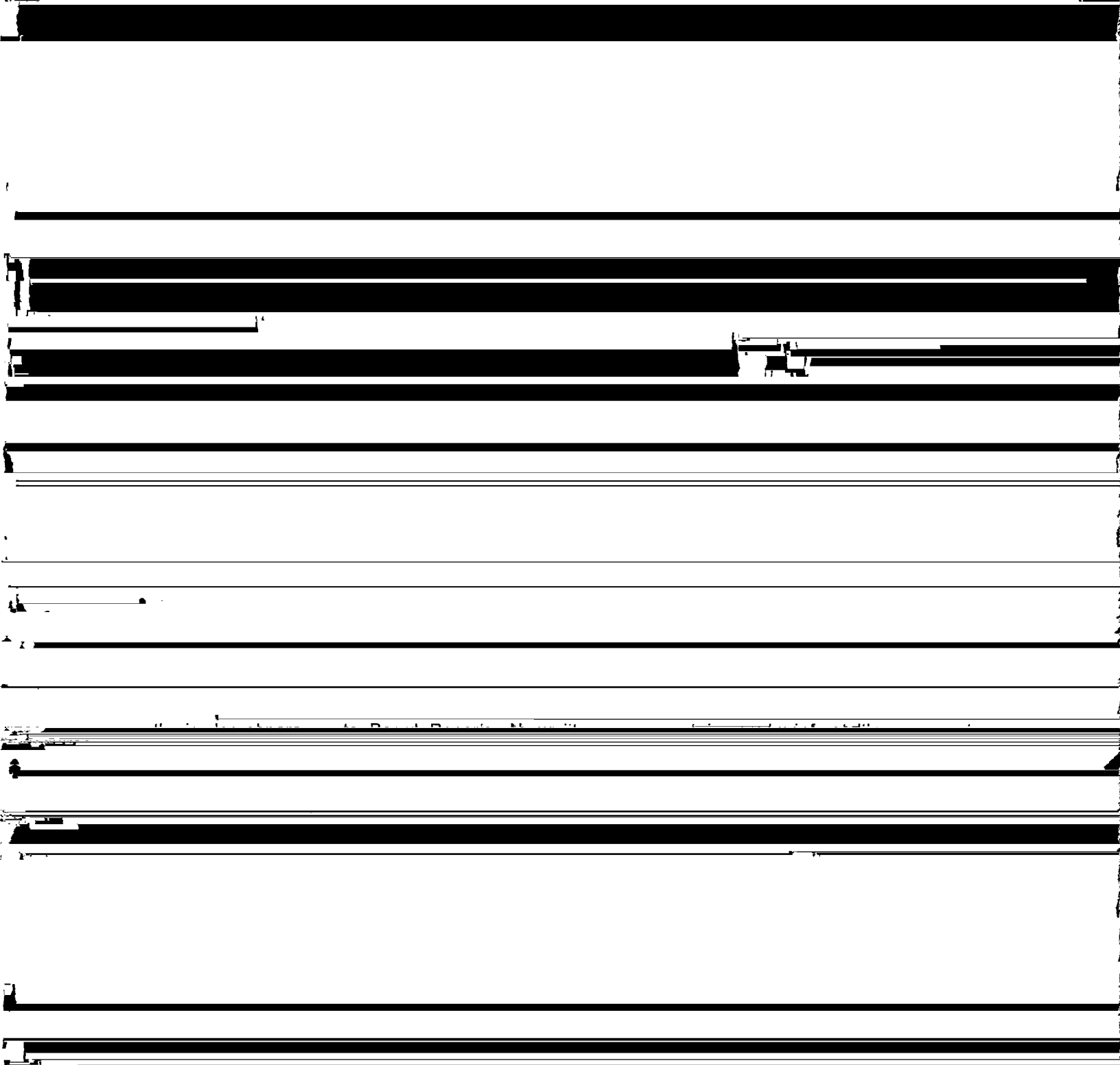


**APPROVE TUITION PAYMENTS TO NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOR COURSEWORK LEADING TO ESL AND/OR BILINGUAL ENDORSEMENTS**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Approve tuition payments to Northeastern Illinois University for ESL and bilingual coursework at a cost not to exceed \$354,000 in eighteen (18) months for all participating universities. Northeastern IL University is one of three universities participating in this program that were selected based on the quality of the coursework described in their proposals and the cost effectiveness of the partnerships. Each university is giving a discount with the remainder split between the Board of Education and the university provider. The other participating universities, National Louis University and Concordia University, are



In addition, the ESL/Bilingual Endorsement Initiative is aligned to our district goals of ensuring that every child has access to high quality teaching and learning in alignment with the Common Core State Standards. All teachers who enroll in these courses will benefit by having opportunities to become expert in using instructional strategies and providing support to ELs, thus ensuring that they gain access to

rigorous content and meet the ambitious new standards.

**OUTCOMES:** The ESL/Bilingual Endorsement Initiative Coursework program will result in an increased number of educated and properly endorsed teachers of ELs in our district. This creates increased opportunities for students to learn more rigorous content and not only expand the ELs' opportunities to learn English, but will also support the development of bilingualism and biliteracy.

**COMPENSATION:** Tuition payments to all these (2) universities during the payment period shall not

