

JOSEPH B. HENNING, IOM, CAE

President and CEO

Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce

Aurora, IL

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Joseph Henning, IOM, CAE, has served as president and chief executive officer of the Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce since August 2005.

He is a 2009 graduate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Institute for Organizational Management. He holds a bachelor's degree in public relations and a master's degree focusing on organizational development from Northern Illinois University as well as a certificate in not-for-profit management from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

He has served as chair of the Midwest Board of Regents in 2012 and 2013. In 2017, he served as chair of the national Board of Trustees for the program and continues to serve as a faculty member.

In 2007, the Aurora Chamber received its first accreditation through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation with four-star distinction. In 2012 and 2017, he led the re-accreditation efforts and successfully achieved consecutive five-star distinction. In 2015, the Chamber received Chamber of the Year from the Illinois Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives as well as three-star Chamber of Valor by Hiring Our Heroes/U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

In 2010, he received his Accredited Chamber Executive credentials from the IACCE and served as chair of the Board of Directors in 2012. In 2012, Henning successfully sat for and received his Certified Association Executive designation from ASAE. In 2014, he was named Chamber Executive of the Year by the Illinois Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.

Henning completed the Basic Economic Development Course through Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in 2008. In 2013, he completed the Economic Development Essentials course through University of Oklahoma.

In addition to serving on a number of boards and committees throughout the Aurora region, Henning serves on the River Valley Workforce Investment Board, Aurora Regional Pathways to Prosperity, and leads the Mayor's Taskforce on Workforce Development. He currently serves on the advisory board for ACCE's Education & Talent Development Division and is a member of the U.S. Chamber Foundation's Business Leads Fellowship Program's inaugural session.

He was appointed by Gov. Pat Quinn to serve on the Illinois 21st Century Workforce Development Fund Advisory Committee in 2012.

His background includes business development, strategic planning, and organizational development.